

FILED
AT 10:50 O'CLOCK A M

MAR 21 2018

ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR. COUNTY CLERK
HIDALGO COUNTY TEXAS

CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

These procedures are intended to serve as guidelines for the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction services and professional services for the Texas Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (TxCDBG-DR) Program and Community Development and Revitalization. The regulations related to conflict of interest and nepotism may be found at the Texas Government Code Chapter 573, Texas Local Government Code Chapter 171, Uniform Grant Management Standards by Texas Comptroller, 24 CFR 570.489(g) & (h), and 2 CFR 200.318

CODE OF CONDUCT

As a Grant Recipient of a TxCDBG contract, County of Hidalgo shall avoid, neutralize or mitigate actual or potential conflicts of interest so as to prevent an unfair competitive advantage or the existence of conflicting roles that might impair the performance of the TxCDBG-DR contract or impact the integrity of the procurement process.

For procurement of goods and services, no employee, officer, or agent of the County of Hidalgo shall participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by TxCDBG-DR funds if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. Such a conflict could arise if the employee, officer or agent; any member of his/her immediate family; his/her partner; or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract.

No officer, employee, or agent of the County of Hidalgo shall solicit or accept gratuities, favors or anything of monetary value from contractors or firms, potential contractors or firms, or parties to sub-agreements, except where the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal intrinsic value.

Contractors that develop or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work, or invitations for bids or requests for proposals must be excluded from competing for such procurements.

For all other cases, no employee, agent, consultant, officer, or elected or appointed official of the state, or of a unit of general local government, or of any designated public agencies, or subrecipients which are receiving TxCDBG-DR funds, that has any CDBG function/responsibility, or is in a position to participate in a decision-making process or gain inside information, may obtain a financial interest or benefit from the TxCDBG-DR activity.

The conflict of interest restrictions and procurement requirements identified herein shall apply to a benefitting business, utility provider, or other third party entity that is receiving assistance, directly or indirectly, under a TxCDBG-DR contract or award, or that is required to complete some or all work under the TxCDBG-DR contract in order to meet the National Program Objective.

Any person or entity including any benefitting business, utility provider, or other third party entity that is receiving assistance, directly or indirectly, under a TxCDBG-DR contract or award, or that is required to complete some or all work under the TxCDBG-DR contract in order to meet a National Program Objective, that might potentially receive benefits from TxCDBG-DR awards may not participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by CDBG funding.

Any alleged violations of these standards of conduct shall be referred to the County of Hidalgo's Attorney. Where violations appear to have occurred, the offending employee, officer or agent shall be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to dismissal or transfer; where violations or infractions appear to be substantial in nature, the matter may be referred to the appropriate officials for criminal investigation and possible prosecution.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY COMMISSIONER'S COURT OF THE COUNTY OF HIDALGO, TEXAS on _____, 2018.

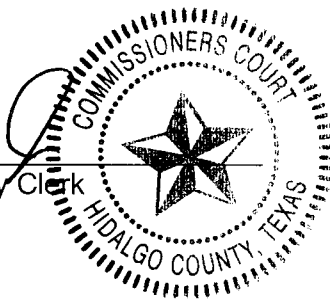
Ramon Garcia

Ramon Garcia, County Judge
Hidalgo County, Texas

Attest:

Arturo Guajardo Jr.

Arturo Guajardo, Jr., County Clerk
Hidalgo County, Texas



APPROVED BY
COMMISSIONERS' COURT
ON: 3/13/18 *gpc*