



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

COMMISSION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

ONE ASHBURTON PLACE, BOSTON, MA 02108-1518

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STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
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Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lieutenant Governor
February 3, 2016

Jamie R. Williamson
Chairwoman

Sunila Thomas George
Commissioner

Charlotte Golar Richie
Commissioner

The Honorable Michael J. Ashe, Jr.
Sheriff of Hampden County
627 Randall Road
Ludlow, MA 01056

Commissioner Carol W. Gladstone
Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance
1 Ashburton Place, 15th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Sheriff Ashe and Commissioner Gladstone:

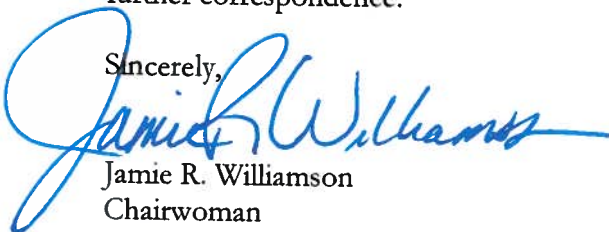
I am writing to inform you of my decision to recuse myself from participating in any and all matters involving the Sheriff of Hampden County and the Division of Capital Asset Management in my official capacity as Chairwoman of the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD).

I anticipate that residents of the Maple Heights / Six Corners neighborhood of Springfield may file a discrimination complaint with the MCAD alleging that the decision of the Division of Capital Asset Management and the Sheriff of Hampden County to site the Western Massachusetts Correctional Alcohol Center (WMCAC) at 149 Mill Street, Springfield is in violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, and M.G.L. c.151B. My husband, William M. Marley, Jr. and I own a condominium in the Crescent Hill Condominiums, which abut the proposed WMCAC site. In light of our financial interest in the property and my husband's interest in joining the anticipated complaint and participating in related litigation alleging violations of the Massachusetts public procurement statute (M.G.L. c.30), the Dover Amendment (M.G.L. c.40A Sec.3), and conspiracy to violate rights (in violation of 42 U.S.C. §1983), I have elected to resolve the appearance of a conflict of interest under M.G.L. c. 268A, § 23(b)(3) by abstaining from participation in cases involving your agencies until this matter is resolved.

The MCAD has developed a procedure to address situations in which a Commissioner cannot participate in a matter due to a conflict of interest. In such cases, another Commissioner will serve as Investigating Commissioner on the matter and renders an investigative determination. Additionally, in some circumstances, the MCAD may defer cases to EEOC and HUD for investigation. In the instant case, one of the Commissioners in our Boston office will serve as Investigating Commissioner on cases involving your agencies.

I anticipate that this recusal may expand to cover additional parties. If it does, I will follow-up with further correspondence.

Sincerely,


Jamie R. Williamson
Chairwoman



The Honorable Michael J. Ashe, Jr.
Commissioner Carol W. Gladstone
February 2, 2016
Page 2

Cc: The Honorable Charles D. Baker, Jr., Governor
Karen L. Nober, Executive Director, Mass. State Ethics Commission
Susan Forward, Regional Director, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity
Commissioner Sunila Thomas George, Mass. Commission Against Discrimination
Commissioner Charlotte Golar Richie, Mass. Commission Against Discrimination
Yaw Gyebi, Jr., Chief of Enforcement, Mass. Commission Against Discrimination
Constance McGrane, General Counsel, Mass. Commission Against Discrimination
Eric J. Bove, Acting Director of Housing and Testing, Mass. Commission Against
Discrimination
The Honorable Domenic J. Sarno, Mayor, City of Springfield