

PALM BEACH COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS

300 North Dixie Highway, Suite 450, West Palm Beach, Florida 33401 Hotline: 877-766-5920 or 561-355-1915

SELF-INITIATED COMPLAINT

As a self initiated complaint, this matter is deemed as LEGALLY SUFFICIENT under Section 2-260(b)(2), Procedure on Complaints Filed, Legal sufficiency of complaints, of the PBC Commission on Ethics Ordinance.

1.	Ordinance a	and	section	(s)	for	offense	(s)	alleged:
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Code of Ethics

Section 2-443(d) Prohibited Conduct: Contractual Relationships

2.	Complaina	nt – Commission o	n Ethics Executive	e Director			
	E-Mail:	ethics@palmbead	chcountyethics.co	Phone No #:	561-355-1915		
3.	Responder	nt					
	Name:	Gordon Eaton		E-Mail:			
	Address:	50 NW 1st Avenue					
	City:	Delray Beach			Zip Code:	33444	
	Home #:		Work #:	561-243-7250	Cell #:		
	Title/Office	e Held or Sought:	Employee-Parks an	nd Recreation Departmen	t		
3.	✓ Allegation	CHECK THE BOX (on is against person i on is about County/M on is against a Vendo	in County/Municipa Iunicipal Whistleblo	al Government			
4.	STATEMEN	IT OF FACTS ATTA	CHED				
	Exhibit 1 – N	Memorandum of Inqu	iry				

5. OATH

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF PALM BEACH

Exhibit 3 – Supporting Documentation

Exhibit 2 - Affidavit

Personally known to me and appeared before me, Mark E. Bannon, Interim Executive Director of the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics, whose signature appears below, being duly sworn, says that the allegations set forth in this complaint are based upon facts which have been sworn to as true by a material witness or witnesses and which if true would constitute the offenses alleged and that this complaint is instituted in good faith. Signed and sworn to on this 4th day of December, 2015.

GINA LEVESQUE
MY COMMISSION # EE 207356
EXPIRES: July 17, 2016
Bonded Thru Budget Notary Services

Mark E. Bannon, Interim Executive Director

(Signature of Notary Public, State of Florida)

(Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)

PALM BEACH COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS

MEMORANDUM OF INQUIRY

To: Mark Bannon, Interim Executive Director

From: Anthony C. Bennett, Investigator

Re: AN15-024 – Gordon Eaton, Parks and Recreation, City of Delray Beach

Background

This matter came to the attention of the Commission on Ethics (COE) staff via a letter dated May 19, 2015 from Mr. Donald Cooper (Complainant), City Manger of Delray Beach (the City), addressed to the COE Executive Director. According to the letter, the City tasked external auditors with comparing City employee contact information to City vendor contract information to see if there were possible employee conflicts. The audit reviewed those vendors who conducted business with the City from 2011 to present.

A separate document was attached which listed a number of names of individuals that were apparently employees of the City. City Employee Gordon Eaton (Respondent), Delray Beach Parks and Recreation, was listed as being employed by Tropical Landscapers, Inc., a company determined to be a vendor of the City from 2010 through 2014. A total of \$1,364.00 was paid to this vendor during this period. Complainant alleges due to Mr. Eaton being employed by Tropical Landscapers, Inc. he may be in violation of Section 2-443(d) of the PBC Code of Ethics Ordinance as he is also an employee of the City.

The following documents were provided with the letter and submitted to the file:

Documents provided by Complainant

- 1. Complainant Letter outlining the allegation(s) made. (1 page)
- 2. Spreadsheet of City employees working as alleged vendors of the City. (13 pages)

Applicable Law

The Following section of the PBC Commission on Ethics Ordinance establishes jurisdiction in this matter:

Sec. 2-254. Creation and jurisdiction.

The Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics (hereinafter "commission on ethics") is hereby established. The jurisdiction of the commission on ethics shall extend to *any person required to comply with the countywide code of ethics*, the county lobbyist registration ordinance, and the county post-employment ordinance... (Emphasis added)

The following portions of the PBC Code of Ethics ordinance are relevant to this matter:

Section 2-442. Definitions.

Official or employee means any official or employee of the county or the municipalities located within the county, whether paid or unpaid. The term "employee" includes but is not limited to all managers, department heads and personnel of the county or the municipalities located within the county... The term "official" shall mean members of the board of county commissioners, a mayor, members of local municipal governing bodies, and members appointed by the board of county commissioners, members of local municipal governing bodies or mayors or chief executive officers that are not members of local municipal governing body, as applicable, to serve on any advisory, quasi judicial, or any other board of the county, state, or any other regional, local, municipal, or corporate entity. (Emphasis added)

Vendor means any person or entity who has a pending bid proposal, or offer or request to sell goods or services, sell or lease real or personal property, or who currently sells goods or services, or sells or leases real or personal property, to the county or municipality involved in the subject contract or transaction as

applicable. For the purposes of this definition a vendor entity includes an owner, director, manager or employee.

As a an employee of the City of Delray Beach within the Parks and Recreation Department, Gordon Eaton is under the jurisdiction of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics and the COE.

Sec. 2-443. Prohibited conduct.

(d) Contractual relationships. No official or employee shall enter into any contract or other transaction for goods or services with their respective county or municipality. This prohibition extends to all contracts or transactions between the county or municipality as applicable or any person, agency or entity acting for the county or municipality as applicable, and the official or employee, directly or indirectly, or the official or employee's outside employer or business. Any such contract, agreement, or business arrangement entered into in violation of this subsection may be rescinded or declared void by the board of county commissioners pursuant to section 2-448(c) or by the local municipal governing body pursuant to local ordinance as applicable. This prohibition shall not apply to employees who enter into contracts with Palm Beach County or a municipality as part of their official duties with the county or that municipality. This prohibition also shall not apply to officials or employees who purchase goods from the county or municipality on the same terms available to all members of the public. (Emphasis added)

Inquiry:

Respondent has been an employee of the City of Delray Beach since 2007 within the Parks and Recreation Department. This was verified by documents forwarded by Complainant which listed him as an employee. In the submitted spreadsheet, Respondent is also listed as the representative for the City vendor, Tropical Landscapers, Inc. The spreadsheet shows the following payouts to this company between the dates of June 2010 through May 2014:

P.O. Number	Vendor No.	Amount	Check Date	Check Number	Approved
667139	22580	\$375.00	6/4/2010	450745	Karch
684107	22580	800.00	8/3/2012	477463	Karch
698313	22580	189.00	5/16/2014	497888	Davis
Total	3	\$1,364.00			

The amount totaled \$1,364.00 over the course of three (3) payments between 2010 and 2014.

I researched the business name Tropical Landscapers Inc. on the Florida Department of State Division of Corporations website and found the company was in an "Inactive" status as of 9/25/2015. The Registered Agent was listed as Jason Kleinrichert. Respondent's name was not listed in this section.

Within the Articles of Incorporation, again Mr. Jason Kleinrichert was listed as the President and Registered Agent and Catherine Kleinrichert was listed as the Vice President. These documents were signed and dates on 5/24/1995. Respondent's name was not found to be listed on these documents. However, based on the documents received from the City, Respondent was found to be listed as employed by the company Tropical Landscapers Inc.

Documents submitted by Investigator

- 1. Articles of Incorporation Florida Department of State Division of Corporations. (8 pages)
- 2. 2012 Florida Limited Liability Company Annual Report. (1 page)
- 3. 2014 For Profit Corporation Reinstatement. (1 page)
- 4. Florida Department of State Division of Corporations Company Listing. (2 pages)

Recommendation

After reviewing the background information, the documents submitted by Complainant, witness statements, and the applicable law, I believe that there is sufficient evidence that would indicate, Respondent may have violated PBC Code of Ethics §2-443(d), *Contractual Relationships*.

Therefore, it is my recommendation that the COE Executive Director file a sworn complaint on Gordon Eaton pursuant to Section 2-260(a)(2), **Procedure on Complaints Filed** of the PBC Commission on Ethics Ordinance and request that a the formal investigation begin.

Submitted by:

Anthony C. Bennett, Investigator PB County Commission on Ethics

Date

Reviewed by:

(Initials)

PALM BEACH COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS

AFFIDAVIT

Re:

AN 15-024 - Gordon Eaton

Commission on Ethics (COE) staff received copies of various documents from Mr. Donald Cooper, City Manger of Delray Beach, alleging Gordon Eaton possibly violated Section 2-443(d) *Prohibited Conduct: Contractual Relationships*, of the PBC Code of Ethics.

Based on the information obtained, the City of Delray Beach (the City) tasked external auditors with comparing employee contact information to vendor contract information to see if there were possible employee conflicts. The audit reviewed those vendors who conducted business with the City dating from 2011 to the present. Names of individuals that were employees of the City included Gordon Eaton.

In a spreadsheet submitted by the City to COE staff, Gordon Eaton is listed as the employee of City vendor Tropical Landscaper's, Inc. The spreadsheet shows a total of \$1,364 being paid out to this company from 2010 through 2014.

However, Section 2-260.8, Statues of limitations, of the COE Ordinance states: "No action may be taken on a complaint filed more than two (2) years after the violation is alleged..." (Emphasis added). Due to the length of time in which the possible violations may have occurred, the allegations will only include the time period of December 03, 2013 through December 3, 2015.

Based on the information submitted and obtained during the Inquiry, Gordon Eaton is an employee of the City and an employee of Tropical Landscapers, Inc., which was a vendor of the City during the included time period.

Section 2-443(d), *Prohibited Conduct: Contractual Relationships* states: "No official or employee shall enter into any contract or other transaction for goods or services with their respective county or municipality. This prohibition extends to all contracts or transactions between the county or municipality as applicable or any person, agency or entity acting for the county or municipality as applicable, and the official or employee, directly or indirectly, *or the official or employee's outside employer or business."* (Emphasis added) If true and Eaton is an employee of the City while being an employee of a vendor of the City, he would be in violation of this section of the Code of Ethics.

Therefore, substantial relevant evidence exists to show that Gordon Eaton, while an employee of the City of Delray Beach during 2013-2015, entered into contracts with the City as an employee of a vendor that accepted \$189 in payments for work rendered.

By:

Anthony C. Bennett, Investigator
PBC Commission on Ethics

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF PALM BEACH

The foregoing instrument was sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this 3rd day of December, 2015 by Anthony C. Bennett, who is personally known to me.

GINA LEVESQUE
MY COMMISSION # EE 207356
EXPIRES: July 17, 2016
Bonded Thru Budget Notary Services

Signature of Notary Public

CITY OF DELRRY BERCH

DELRAY BEACH

HIGH IVALEST AVESTURE

DITHAY BEACH FLORIDG 33411

56 1/243 7000

All-America City May 19, 2015

1993

Steven P. Cullen
Executive Director
Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics
300 North Dixie Highway, Suite 450
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Dear Mr. Cullen:

The City of Delray Beach had requested our external auditors compare employee contact information to vendor contact information to see if there were any employee conflicts. The attached list shows vendors with the same address or similar data point as an employee who have done business with the city since 2011, in apparent violation of Palm Beach County Code of Ethics Ordinance Section 2.443(d). One of the venders, American Traffic Products, is currently under investigation by the Public Corruption Unit of the State Attorney.

For any additional information, please contact me by phone (561-243-7015) or email (cooperd@mydelraybeach.com).

Sincerely,

Donald Cooper

City Manager, City of Delray Beach

C: D. Burfield, Office of the State Attorney (dburfield@sa15.org)

John A. Carey, Palm Beach County Inspector General (inspector@pbcgov.org)

Noel Pfeffer, City Attorney

Jack Warner, Chief Financial Officer

1
Last Name Lancaster Lang Irizarry Swanson Eaton Devery Mcalley Lynch Ulysse Wintemute
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5,071.54 5,071.54 25,191.98 230,313.39 10,033.00 1,364.00 2,245.00 625.00 755.00 1,429.25 19,845.30
Last Date Conflict 05/11/2015 Yes Ac 02/13/2015 Yes Ac 02/13/2014 Yes Ac 07/25/2014 Yes Sa 05/16/2014 Yes Sa 02/07/2014 Yes Ac 4/19/2013 Yes Sa 03/15/2013 Yes Sa 03/15/2013 Yes Sa 03/15/2012 Yes Ac 05/11/2012 Yes Sa
Addresses the same Addresses the same Addresses the same Addresses the same Same name Same phone number Addresses the same Same phone number Addresses the same Same name Addresses the same

Vendor Name: TROPICAL LANDSCAPERS INC

Employee Name: Gordon Eaton Hire Date: 3/19/2007

Department: Parks and Recreation

Type: Plants

Total	0.
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ယ	Or No Am 22580 22580 22580 22580
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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS



Detail by Entity Name

Florida Profit Corporation

TROPICAL LANDSCAPERS, INC.

Filing Information

Document Number

P95000043624

FEI/EIN Number

65-0591065

Date Filed

05/30/1995

State

FL

Status

INACTIVE

Last Event

ADMIN DISSOLUTION FOR ANNUAL REPORT

Event Date Filed

09/25/2015

Event Effective Date

NONE

Principal Address

8917 116TH TERRACE SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33472

Changed: 03/30/2009

Mailing Address

8917 116TH TERRACE SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33472

Changed: 03/30/2009

Registered Agent Name & Address

KLEINRICHERT, JASON 11187 90TH STREET SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33472

Address Changed: 03/30/2009

Officer/Director Detail

Name & Address

Title PD

KLEINRICHERT, JASON 11187 90TH STREET SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33472

Title VPS

KLEINRICHERT, CATHERINE 11187 90TH STREET SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33472

Annual Reports

Report Year	Filed Date
2012	06/08/2012
2013	12/11/2013
2014	10/22/2014

Document Images

10/22/2014 REINSTATEMENT	View image in PDF format
12/11/2013 REINSTATEMENT	View image in PDF format
06/08/2012 ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
02/24/2011 ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
02/18/2010 ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
03/30/2009 ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
03/06/2008 ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
07/09/2007 ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
01/27/2006 ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
06/30/2005 ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
01/07/2004 ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
02/17/2003 ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
02/05/2002 ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
03/19/2001 ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
07/17/2000 ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
03/09/1999 ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
07/07/1998 ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
04/29/1997 ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
07/01/1996 ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
05/30/1995 DOCUMENTS PRIOR TO 1997	View image in PDF format

PSOODS TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Department of State Division of Corporations P. O. Box 6327 Tallahassee, FL 32314

SUBJECT: __

(Proposed corporate name - must include suffix) Enclosed is an original and one (1) copy of the articles of incorporation and a check for: \$70.00 \$78.75 \$122.50 X \$131.25 Filing Fee & Cordicate Filing Fee, Certified Copy & Certificate Filing Fee & Certified Copy Filing Fec Additional Copy Required FROM: Jason Kleinrichert Name (printed or typed) 3545 Marlow Avenue Address Boynton Beach, Fl. City, State & Zip -05/31/95--01060--011 (407) 369-2899 ****131.25 Daytime Telephone number

Tropical Landscapers, Inc.

NOTE: Please provide the original and one copy of the articles.

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

The undersigned incorporator(s), for the purpose of forming a corporation under the Florida Business Corporation Act, hereby adopt(s) the following Articles of Incorporation.

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of the corporation shall be:

Tropical Landscapers, Inc.

ARTICLE II PRINCIPAL OFFICE

The principal place of business and mailing address of this corporation shall be:

3545 Marlow Avenue Boynton Beach, Fl. 33436

ARTICLE III SHARES

The number of shares of stock that this corporation is authorized to have outstanding at any one time is:

5,000

ARTICLE IV INITIAL REGISTERED AGENT AND STREET ADDRESS

The name and address of the initial registered agent is:

Jason Kleinrichert

3545 Marlow Avenue

Boynton Beach, Fl. 33436

ARTICLE V INCORPORATOR(S)

See instructions for officers/directors

The name(s) and street address(es) of the incorporator(s) to these Articles of Incorporation is(are):

Jason Kleinrichert - President 3545 Marlow Avenue Boynton Beach, Fl. 33436

Boynton Beach, F1. 33436

Catherine Kleinrichert - V.President & Secretary 3545 Marlow Avenue Boynton Beach, F1. 33436

The undersigned incorporator(s) has(have) executed these Articles of Incorporation this

Signature

1/1

Signature

NOTE: Affixing an officer title after a signature of an incorporator does not constitute the designation of officers.

CERTIFICATE OF DESIGNATION OF REGISTERED AGENT/REGISTERED OFFICE

PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 607.0501, FLORIDA STATUTES, THE UNDERSIGNED CORPORATION, ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, SUBMITS THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT IN DESIGNATING THE REGISTERED OFFICE/REGISTERED AGENT, IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA.

1,	1. The name of the corporation is:	2.
2.	2. The name and address of the registered agent and office is:	
	Jason Kleinrichert (NAME)	
	3545 Marlow Avenue (P.O. Box or Mail Drop Box NOT ACCEPTABLE)	_
	Boynton Beach, Fl. 33436 (CHY/STATE/ZIP)	

Having been named as registered agent and to accept service of process for the above stated corporation at the place designated in this certificate, I hereby accept the appointment as registered agent and agree to act in this capacity. I further agree to comply with the provisions of all statutes relating to the proper and complete performance of my duties, and I am familiar with and accept the obligations of my position as registered agent.

Janking 5-29-95 (SIGNATURE) (DATE)

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Department of State Division of Corporations P. O. Box 6327 Tallahassee, FL 32314

	Landscapers, Inc. corporate name - must include s	uffix)
Enclosed is an original and or for:	ne (1) copy of the articles	of Incorporation and a check
\$70.00 \$7		\$131.25 Filling Fee, Certified Copy & Certificate
FROM:	Additional Cor	oy Required
3545	Name (printed or typed) Marlow Avenue Address	
Boyr	City, State & Zip	36
	(407) 369-2899 Daytime Telephone number	

NOTE: Please provide the original and one copy of the articles.

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

The undersigned incorporator(s), for the purpose of forming a corporation under the Florida Business Corporation Act, hereby adopt(s) the following Articles of Incorporation.

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of the corporation shall be:

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The number of shares of stock that this corporation is authorized to have outstanding at any one time is:

5.000

ARTICLE IV INITIAL REGISTERED AGENT AND STREET ADDRESS

The name and address of the initial registered agent is:

Jason Kleinrichert

3545 Marlow Avenue

Boynton Beach, Fl. 33436

ARTICLE V INCORPORATOR(S)

See instructions for officers/directors

The name(s) and street address(es) of the incorporator(s) to these Articles of Incorporation is(are):

Jason Kleinrichert 3545 Marlow Avenue - President

Boynton Beach, Fl. 33436

Catherine Kleinrichert - 3545 Marlow Avenue Boynton Beach, Fl. 33436

V. President & Secretary

The undersigned incorporator(s) has(have) executed these Articles of Incorporation this

24 day of May , 19 95

Signature

Signature

Signature

NOTE: Affixing an officer title after a signature of an inco: porator does not constitute the designation of officers.

CERTIFICATE OF DESIGNATION OF REGISTERED AGENT/REGISTERED OFFICE

PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 607,0501, FLORIDA STATUTES, THE UNDERSIGNED CORPORATION, ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, SUBMITS THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT IN DESIGNATING THE REGISTERED OFFICE/REGISTERED AGENT, IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA.

1.	The name of the corporation is:
2.	The name and address of the registered agent and office is:
	Jason Kleinrichert (NAME)
	(P.O. Box or Mail Drop Box NOT ACCEPTABLE)
	Boynton Beach, Fl. 33436 (City/State/Zip)

Having been named as registered agent and to accept service of process for the above stated corporation at the place designated in this certificate, I hereby accept the appointment as registered agent and agree to act in this capacity. I further agree to comply with the provisions of all statutes relating to the proper and complete performance of my duties, and I am familiar with and accept the obligations of my position as registered agent.

January 5-29-95 (DATE)

DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, P. O. BOX 6327, TALLAHASSEE, FL 32314

2012 FOR PROFIT CORPORATION ANNUAL REPORT

DOCUMENT# P95000043624

Entity Name: TROPICAL LANDSCAPERS, INC.

FILED Jun 08, 2012 Secretary of State

Current Principal Place of Business:

New Principal Place of Business:

8917 116TH TERRACE SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33472

Current Mailing Address:

New Mailing Address:

8917 116TH TERRACE SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33472

FEI Number: 65-0591065

FEI Number Applied For ()

FEI Number Not Applicable ()

Certificate of Status Desired ()

Name and Address of Current Registered Agent:

Name and Address of New Registered Agent:

KLEINRICHERT, JASON 11187 90TH STREET SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33472 US

The above named entity submits this statement for the purpose of changing its registered office or registered agent, or both, in the State of Florida.

SIGNATURE:

Electronic Signature of Registered Agent

Date

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:

Title:

PD

Name: Address: KLEINRICHERT, JASON 11187 90TH STREET SOUTH

City-St-Zip: B

BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33472

Title:

VPS

Name: Address: KLEINRICHERT, CATHERINE

City-St-Zip:

11187 90TH STREET SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33472

I hereby certify that the information indicated on this report or supplemental report is true and accurate and that my electronic signature shall have the same legal effect as if made under oath; that I am an officer or director of the corporation or the receiver or trustee empowered to execute this report as required by Chapter 607, Florida Statutes; and that my name appears above, or on an attachment with all other like empowered.

SIGNATURE: CATHERINE KLEINRICHERT

VPS

06/08/2012

Electronic Signature of Signing Officer or Director

Date

2014 FOR PROFIT CORPORATION REINSTATEMENT

DOCUMENT# P95000043624

Entity Name: TROPICAL LANDSCAPERS, INC.

Secretary of State

Current Principal Place of Business:

New Principal Place of Business:

8917 116TH TERRACE SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33472

Current Mailing Address:

New Mailing Address:

8917 116TH TERRACE SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33472

FEI Number: 65-0591065

FEI Number Applied For ()

FEI Number Not Applicable ()

Certificate of Status Desired (X)

Name and Address of Current Registered Agent:

Name and Address of New Registered Agent:

KLEINRICHERT, JASON 11187 90TH STREET SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33472 US

The above named entity submits this statement for the purpose of changing its registered office or registered agent, or both, in the State of Florida.

SIGNATURE: JASON KLEINRICHERT

Electronic Signature of Registered Agent

Date

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:

Title:

PD

Name: Address:

KLEINRICHERT, JASON 11187 90TH STREET SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33472

City-St-Zip:

Title: VPS

Name: Address: City-St-Zip: KLEINRICHERT, CATHERINE 11187 90TH STREET SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33472

I hereby certify that the information indicated on this report or supplemental report is true and accurate and that my electronic signature shall have the same legal effect as if made under oath; that I am an officer or director of the corporation or the receiver or trustee empowered to execute this report as required by Chapter 607, Florida Statutes; and that my name appears above, or on an attachment with all other like empowered.

SIGNATURE: CATHERINE KLEINRICHERT

VP

10/22/2014

PALM BEACH COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

To: Mark E. Bannon, Executive Director

From: Anthony C. Bennett, Chief Investigator

Re: C15-029 – Gordon Eaton, Parks and Recreation, City of Delray Beach

The information provided in the Memorandum of Inquiry including all documentary and other evidence from the initial Inquiry completed in case number AN 15-024 is incorporated by reference into this Report of Investigation.

Investigation

I began this investigation by obtaining additional background information on Gordon Eaton (Respondent), who is an employee with the City of Delray Beach (City) in the Parks and Recreation Department. Respondent has been a City employee since March 19, 2007. He is not listed in any supervisory role within the department nor does he have any authority to make purchasing or approval decisions.

On Monday, December 21, 2015, Respondent sent an email to the Commission on Ethics (COE) office stating that he was concerned he had been the victim of a possible identity theft. His email came in response to the email notification that after a preliminary inquiry, COE staff found there was reasonable and trustworthy information to believe he may have violated the Code of Ethics and filed a self initiated Complaint against him. In the email, Respondent stated he has "Never worked for Tropical Landscapers" or any other company since he began work for the City in 2007.

Respondent also questioned whether the address for Tropical Landscapers matched his home address, which he listed in the email. He then advised that he filed a Police Report with the Palm Beach Gardens Police Department (PBGPD) alleging that he had been a victim of identity fraud under Case# 15-329477. I scheduled a meeting with Respondent to provide a sworn statement and requested a copy of the police report.

Interview: Gordon Eaton (Respondent), Delray Beach:

On Tuesday, February 16, 2016, at 4:09 pm, I conducted a sworn audio recorded interview with Mr. Gordon "Flash" Eaton, Parks and Recreation Employee, Delray Beach, at the COE Conference Room – 300 North Dixie Highway Suite 447, West Palm Beach, FL 33401. Below are the details of that interview:

Respondent stated he works for the City in the Parks and Recreation Department (Parks & Rec.) as a Maintenance Worker. He stated he has held this position for approximately nine (9) years, and his normal working hours are 6:30 am to 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday. He said he reports to Tim Simmons, Superintendent for Parks & Rec. and is an hourly employee, meaning he gets paid based on the actual number of worked hours.

Respondent stated during the course of his daily duties, he utilizes various lawn maintenance equipment to include mowers, weed eaters, edgers, blowers, ect. He stated he works only in the City parks conducting lawn and brush maintenance and nowhere else. He stated he occasionally supervises one or two people who are also City employees and that some are newer employees while others have worked for the City for a long time.

When I asked Respondent if he worked another job in conjunction with his current City job, he said "No, I have never had another job while working for the City of Delray." Respondent was asked if he ever completed an Outside Employment Form and submitted it to Human Resources and the COE, and he said "No".

When Respondent was asked if he was familiar with the company Tropical Landscapers, Inc., he stated he was aware of the company, and said the first time he learned of the company was through an investigation that was

conducted by the City. He advised "they" (investigators) were asking questions of him pertaining to that company. He stated he told them he did not know the company or the people who owned the company.

I showed Respondent the Articles of Incorporation for Tropical Landscapers, Inc. from the Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations, website (www.sunbiz.com) and ask him if he was familiar with it. Respondent read the names and addresses on the document as, Registered Agent: Jason Kleinrichert, Title President and Director: Jason Kleinrichert, Title Vice President and Secretary: Catherine Kleinrichert, and Principle Address: 8917 116th Terrace South, Boynton Beach, FL 33472. He advised he has never seen the document and was not familiar with any of the persons listed as President, Director, Registered Agent, Vice President or Secretary. He also advised he was not familiar with the address listed as the Principle Address for the company. In addition, he stated he has never been to the address listed.

Respondent stated he told the City investigators that he did not work for, never has worked for, and did not own the Company Tropical Landscapers, Inc. He thought once this was explained the issue surrounding the City thinking he worked for the company would have gone away. A few months later, he stated he received a note at his work complex to call a number. When he called the number, he was told by the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics that he was under investigation. He advised he was not sure why he was being investigated because he explained himself to his supervisors with the City and thought this issue had been resolved.

Respondent stated after he got the call that the COE was looking into this issue, he went to the PBGPD to try and file a report about a possible identity theft. He stated he did that because he was absolutely sure that he had nothing to do with Tropical Landscapers, and that someone had to have been using his name and information to work for this company. Respondent and his spouse, Shelly Ann Eaton, contacted the police department for help. He stated PBGPD took their information and statement, and gave them case number 15-329477 as reference for the report. The statement was similar to the statement Respondent gave during the interview.

Respondent advised the police had looked into his issue, but told him they could not get in touch with anyone at Tropical Landscapers, Inc. Respondent stated he would provide a copy of the filed police report and the name of the Investigator looking into the complaint. Respondent stated in addition to filing a police report, he took steps to contact Tropical Landscapers as well. He said when he called the number (561-369-2899), it was out of service.

Respondent was shown a spreadsheet which was provided by Complainant that listed the City vendor as Tropical Landscapers, Inc. with an employee name of Gordon Eaton. The document also listed Hire Date: March 19, 2007; Department: Parks and Rec.; and Type: Plant. He stated the hire date and department listed was his hire date and department, but **again** he was not an employee of Tropical Landscapers, Inc.

Respondent was given another document to review which he identified as a Purchase Order (PO). He read the PO number as 667139, Vendor number as 22580, Amount as \$375, and Check Date as 6/4/2010. He stated he did not receive a check on 6/4/2010 in the amount of \$375 from the City or from Tropical Landscapers.

Respondent was provided with another document to review which he identified as PO number 684107 with Vendor number 22580 for \$800 dated 8/3/2012. He stated he did not receive a check on 8/3/2012 in the amount of \$800 from the City or from Tropical Landscapers.

Respondent was given another document to review which he identified as PO number 698313 with Vendor number 22580 for \$189 dated 5/16/2014. He stated he did not receive a check on 5/16/2014 in the amount of \$189 from the City or from Tropical Landscapers.

I advised Respondent the total amount for all three POs was \$1,364. Respondent advised he did not receive a check from the City or from Tropical Landscapers for that amount "outside his normal work schedule for the City". He reiterated he has never seen those numbers or amounts before.

Respondent stated when he works his normal City job he is paid by direct deposit into his bank account. He advised he has gotten paid in the same manner for the entire nine (9) years he has worked for the City. He stated he does not get cash or checks from the City, supervisors, or any representative of the City. He also stated he has never worked for any vendor of the City, nor has he ever received any money or checks from a vendor of the City. He also stated he does not have another job outside of his regular current City job. Respondent advised he believes he is a victim of identity theft, but he has not told his supervisors that he filed a police report.

The interview was concluded at 4:25 pm.

On February 16, 2016, Respondent forwarded a scanned copy of the Palm Beach Gardens Police Report and the name of the assigned officer via email. The report was filed on December 21, 2015 at 1:50 pm by Shelly Ann Eaton. The information provided in the report and given to the police department is consistent with the statement given by Respondent. In addition to the report, a copy of a business card for PBG Police Officer F. O'Brien and a copy of Respondent's Florida Drivers License was included. I compared Respondent's address to the address listed for Tropical Landscapers, Inc. and they did not match. This information has been added to the file.

To gather further information on the process that began this Complaint, I contact Mr. Donald Cooper, City Manger of Delray Beach, who is listed as Complainant. Mr. Cooper agreed to provide a taped statement to assist with this investigation.

Interview: Donald Cooper, City Manager, Delray Beach:

On Wednesday, February 24, 2016, at 3:08 pm, I conducted a sworn audio recorded interview with Mr. Donald Cooper, City Manager of Delray Beach at Delray Beach City Hall – 100 NW 1st Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33444. Below are the details of that interview:

Mr. Cooper was sworn in and advised that his statement was being recorded. He acknowledged and agreed to being recorded. He advised that he is the current City Manger for the City hired on January 5, 2015. He stated he supervises approximately 850 city employees in various departments, to include the Purchasing Department.

Mr. Cooper said when he became City Manager there was one individual in charge of Purchasing, which was part of the Finance Department. As of date of this interview, he has moved Purchasing out of the Finance Department and made it into a standalone department that consists of seven (7) employees. He advised the change was made due to some procurement issues that were discovered early during his tenure with the City. He stated the Purchasing Department currently has an Interim Chief Purchasing Officer named, Mr. Steven Chapman, who reports directly to him. Prior to Mr. Chapman, Ms. Holly Vath held the position for ten (10) months. Prior to Ms. Vath, a woman named Ms. Nadal held the position for a long period of time. During Ms. Nadal's tenure, Purchasing was still structured within the Finance Department. Mr. Cooper reiterated that both Ms. Nadal and Ms. Vath were no longer City employees.

Mr. Cooper advised he was familiar with the City's procurement process, which is outlined within Chapter 36 of the City's Municipal Code (A copy of the section of the City's Code has been added to the file). Mr. Cooper explained when a vendor or possible vendor wants to do business with the City the process is divided into various dollar amounts, which are as follows: Purchases valued at under \$2,500 can be approved at the department level; Purchases between \$2,501 and \$10,000 must be approved by the department supervisor, purchasing officer, and three (3) quotes for service; Purchase of any goods or services valued at between \$10,001 and \$25,000 must be approved by the City Manager; and Any purchase over \$25,001 must be approved by the City Commission.

Mr. Cooper stated he conducted an audit of the City's procurement process based on a comment in a report completed by the Palm Beach Office of the Inspector General (OIG) noting some discrepancies within the City's Environmental Services Department (ESD), which involved the purchasing of signs, sign posts, sign poles and other related materials. He stated it was essentially, "People doing business with themselves." As a result of that one discrepancy, he ordered an external audit of all City purchasing processes to determine if there were others.

Mr. Cooper advised the audit found that a number of City employees had current contracts, or had been under contract, to provide goods or services for the City. These employees had not disclosed, or did not appear to have disclosed, their employment relationship with the City while fulfilling the contracts. He went on to say that he immediately turned the information over to the Commission on Ethics to request a formal investigation. Mr. Cooper affirmed the audit was conducted "in-house" pursuant to his direction and began roughly February or March of 2015 and ended in April of 2015.

Mr. Cooper stated a number of issues were discovered, which included possible violations of City rules and administrative procedures. Also, there were possible violations of criminal law, which were referred to the State Attorney's Office (SAO). In addition, there were also possible violations of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics. In essence, he stated there were multiple parties with multiple violations that may have been relevant to multiple agencies, and he forwarded all of the information to each of the agencies.

Mr. Cooper stated the City also conducted their own investigation to discover if Administrative or City polices had been violated. He stated all of the employees outlined in the audit were notified of the investigation, to include the possibility of some form of discipline if the allegation(s) had proven true. He stated this notification process is guided by City rules and current union contracts.

Mr. Cooper stated he was sure that all of the employees that were highlighted by the audit had taken the Ethics training and signed an Acknowledgement Form. He stated that confirmation of training was part of audit process used to determine if a violation had occurred. Employee names were matched against signed Acknowledgement Forms as verification. Mr. Cooper said he took the same Ethics training taken by the identified employees. He referenced a statement within the training which outlined, "Employees could not enter into contracts with the City that employs them." He said he is familiar with the statement and advised he signed the same Acknowledgement Form that the employees signed, so he was confident they were trained on that section. Mr. Cooper advised that the audit revealed that some of the contracts were only one-time contracts. There were also some contracts where multiple goods or services were purchased from the same vendor or vendors on various occasions.

At 3:26 pm, Mr. Cooper was asked if he was familiar with a City employee named Gordon Eaton (Respondent), and stated he was not sure if he knew him personally. I showed Mr. Cooper a copy of the Delray Beach audit report which listed several names and monetary amounts, which included the name of the Respondent. Mr. Cooper advised the page was consistent with the formal Audit Report completed by the City. He read Respondent's name on the document as Gordon Eaton, the Department as Parks and Recreation, and the monetary amount of \$1,364 dollars.

When asked if Respondent submitted an Outside Work Form with City, Mr. Cooper stated he did not directly recall; however, based on the investigation, the COE would not have received notice of a possible violation if Respondent had submitted one. During the review process prior to contract procurement, it would have been realized that Respondent was an employee, thus it would not have been approved, or should not have been approved.

Mr. Cooper was asked if he was aware Respondent filed a stolen identity police report with PBGPD. He stated that he was not aware of that filing, and advised Respondent never came to him to make him aware of the identity situation. When Mr. Cooper was shown a copy of the PBGPD report and read the statement which referenced Respondent's account of the stolen identity issue, he also noted the report was filed by Ms. Shelly Eaton (later identified as the Respondent's wife). Within the statement Mr. Cooper read that Mr. Eaton does not work for nor has he ever worked for Tropical Landscaper's. He advised that an Investigator was sent to make contact with all individuals referenced, but had no knowledge on this particular instance of identity fraud or verification of the Tropical Landscaper's issue.

Mr. Cooper stated the majority of the contracts paid by Finance to this individual were by check. He advised he never saw the checks or who endorsed them. He stated a requisition is made by the individual department. From there the requisition goes to the Finance Department where it is billed and approved. Finance then cuts the check to the entity or contact person for the entity.

In review, Mr. Cooper reiterated this practice of employees contracting with the City had been going on for approximately ten (10) years and included various employees in different departments within the City. He advised when an employee is hired, in addition to the Ethics Training, they also receive additional City Introduction Training by the Human Resources Department. Since he has come on board, he has placed more emphasis on contractual issues with the City during the training in an attempt to ensure no more violations occur. The information is also available in an employee handbook.

Mr. Cooper stated this has been an ongoing problem in the City for some time, which includes a lack of awareness of County and State laws, and City ordinances and procedures by senior management relevant to this issue. He advised there was an improper reliance on past practices where this type of behavior was allowed. In many instances, the approver only consisted of one person who showed they were not informed of proper procedures, and tried to give the employee what they wanted.

The interview was concluded at 3:33 pm.

On February 25, 2016, I went to the principal address listed for Tropical Landscapers, Inc., on the Florida Department of State Division of Corporations website. I made contact with Mr. Jason Kleinrichert at the business, and he identified himself as the owner of Tropical Landscapers, Inc. Mr. Kleinrichert stated he did not believe his company was a vendor for the City of Delray Beach. He advised he knew he was a vendor of other cities within Palm Beach County, but could not recall Delray Beach as being one of them.

Mr. Kleinrichert advised Tropical Landscapers, Inc. is a plant and tree nursery. They supply plants, flowers and trees to a variety of cities, private companies, housing developments, and private home owners. He stated some of the items are supplied via contract, while others come in and pay cash for a one-time item(s). He stated his company has been in existence since 1995, but they've only been in their current location in Boynton Beach since 2009.

When I showed Mr. Kleinrichert the Articles of Incorporation document for Tropical Landscapers, Inc. from the sunbiz website, he stated the documents were valid and that he and his wife, Catherine Kleinrichert, had filed them. Mr. Kleinrichert stated he did not know Respondent, and that Respondent was not one of his employees and definitely not one of the owners. He again reiterated the Company is owned solely him and his wife, Catherine.

Then I showed Mr. Kleinrichert a copy of Respondent's Florida Driver's License, which was provided by Respondent along with the police report documentation, and he reiterated that he had not ever seen Respondent nor was Respondent affiliated with his company. Mr. Klienrichert was also shown copies of the Purchase Orders paid by the City to Tropical Landscapers. He advised he did not remember seeing any monies come in from the City, but he would ask his wife as she handles the books. Mr. Kleinrichert had no other relevant information.

On Wednesday, March 30, 2016 I contacted Executive Assistant Ms. Lauren Czencz, Delray Beach Finance Department, via email to request copies of any contracts or agreements for services between the City and Tropical Landscapers, Inc. and/or Respondent. I also requested copies of all checks and invoices between the parties. On April 18, 2016 I received copies of the requested documents via FedEx.

The forwarded documentation included the following:

- 1. Purchase Order 684107 between Tropical Landscapers, Inc and the City for services rendered in the amount of \$800.
- 2. Receipt for payment of \$800 for 400 Spider Lily plants (Time and Date stamped 7/25/12 by the City).
- 3. Confirmation of payment receipt of \$800 paid to Tropical Landscapers, Inc. by the City dated 7/13/12 and signed by Mr. David Boyd.
- 4. Purchase Requisition for plants made by City Parks and Recreation Representative J. Friedman to Vendor Tropical Landscapers, Inc. (Vendor #22580).

- 5. Processed City of Delray Beach Check (#477463), dated 8/3/12, for the amount of \$800 paid to Tropical Landscapers, Inc.
- 6. Purchase Order 698313 between Tropical Landscapers, Inc and the City for services rendered in the amount of \$189, dated 5/1/2014.
- 7. Tropical Landscapers, Inc. Invoice (#2014343) for 7 Neo Chantini 8" and 7 Neo Chantini (7 Gal.) billed to the City for the amount of \$189.
- 8. Confirmation of payment receipt of \$189 paid to Tropical Landscapers, Inc. by the City dated 5/1/14 and signed by Ms. Milena Walinksi.
- 9. Receipt for payment of \$189 for 7 Neo Chantini 8" and 7 Neo Chantini (7 Gal.) plants (Time and Date stamped 5/8/14 by the City.
- 10. Processed City of Delray Beach Check (#497888), dated 5/16/14, for the amount of \$189 paid to Tropical Landscapers, Inc.
- 11. Processed City of Delray Beach Check (#450745), dated 6/4/10, for the amount of \$375 paid to Tropical Landscapers, Inc.

All of documents have been added to the file.

In reviewing three cashed checks that were forwarded and all other documentation sent, I noted the name on the checks was that of the business Tropical Landscapers, Inc. Respondent's name was not listed on any of the checks or anywhere in the other documentation. I noticed all checks were cashed at National City Bank. I searched online for the National City Bank location. I discovered National City Bank was sold a few times over the past few years resulting in several name changes. The current name of the bank is PNC Bank.

On Tuesday, April 19, 2016, I went back to Tropical Landscapers, Inc. attempting to speak with the owner, Mr. Kleinrichert about the cashed checks. Although Mr. Kleinrichert was not available, Mrs. Catherine Kleinrichert, Vice President and Secretary for Tropical Landscapers, Inc., was available and provided information. Ms. Kleinrichert reviewed the checks and requested a copy of one to compare with her records. She stated she remembered possibly having a contract relationship with the City of Delray Beach but was not 100% sure. She said her duties involved the financial side of the business and that her husband, Mr. Kleinrichert, really did not work with that part. She stated her husband probably would not know who comes in to pay for orders unless there is a problem with the payment. Mrs. Klienrichert made a copy of check #477463 (\$800).

On Tuesday, April 19, 2016, I went to a PNC Bank branch located at 3989 Forest Hill Boulevard, West Palm Beach, FL 33406 and made contact with Ms. Gizelle Reyes, VP Branch Manager. Ms. Reyes confirmed PNC Bank was once National City Bank then purchased and renamed to Fidelity Bank, ultimately being purchased again becoming PNC Bank.

Ms. Reyes reviewed the City Check #477463 and confirmed it had been cashed by the bank. However, due to the time frame she could not verify who cashed the check. Based on her knowledge of the banking process, the only persons that could cash the check and receive money would have to be on the authorized account. They would also have to be an authorized account signer. Ms. Reyes also stated that in order to open a business account, you would need Article of Incorporation documents which would have to be filed with a state.

Ms. Reyes advised this particular account was closed, but noted based on the deposit stamp this check could only be deposited not cashed to receive money directly. The deposit stamp read, "PAY TO THE ORDER OF NATIONAL CITY BANK LAKE WORTH, FL 33467-5203 (267084199) FOR DEPOSIT ONLY TROPICAL LANDSCAPERS INC. 0001549618." In this case only the authorized account holders would have access to the monies. When asked owned the account, she advised she could not provide the information without a subpoena. She did, however, say as listed on the back of the check, persons involved with this company (Tropical Landscapers, Inc.) would most likely be the ones that could access it.

On Thursday, April 21, 2016, I received an email from Catherine Kleinrichert, Tropical Landscapers, Inc. as follows:

"Dear Mr. Bennett,

I did some research after you paid a visit to my office and found the following invoices for material that was picked up at our nursery back in 2010 and 2012. Both orders have a PO number at the top and were picked up in person at our nursery.

Thank you, Cathy Kleinrichert Office (561) 369-2899"

Also included in the email was an attachment containing Invoice #2010398 and dated 5/5/2010. The Invoice listed a purchase order (156898) for 100 Crown of Thorn (3. Gal) plants. The invoice was created by Tropical Landscapers, Inc., and billed to the City for the amount of \$375. It should be noted that I did not give Mrs. Kleinrichert a copy of this Invoice, nor did I give her a copy of the \$375 check that was used for payment. These documents coincide with the documents forwarded to me by City Executive Assistant Lauren Czenz. A copy of this email and the documentation has been added into the file documents.

A phone call was made to Tropical Landscapers, Inc. to verify they used PNC Bank (National City Bank) as a bank for their corporate account. Mr. Kleinrichert stated they currently use Wells Fargo Bank as their banking institution, but they have used PNC Bank in the past, and that account is currently closed.

• Summary of the allegations in the Complaint

Complainant alleges that Respondent, an employee of the City since 2007 in the Parks & Rec. Department, may have acted in violation of §2-443(d), *Contractual relationships*, by being an employee of the City and working for Tropical Landscapers, Inc. as an independent contractor or employee. This information was discovered when the City tasked external auditors to comparing City employee contact information to City vendor contract information to determine if there were possible employee conflicts.

The audit found City employee Gordon Eaton (Respondent) as being employed by Tropical Landscapers, Inc., a company determined to be a vendor of the City from 2010 through 2014, and that the company received total amount of \$1,364 during that time.

Additional documents submitted to the File

- 1. Email from Respondent to COE. (2 pages)
- 2. COE Sworn Interview Form 2/16/2016. (2 pages)
- 3. Palm Beach Gardens Police Department Report Case #15329477. (1 page)
- 4. Palm Beach Gardens Police Department Business Card Officer F. O'Brien. (1 page)
- 5. Respondent Florida Driver's License (Personal Information Sanitized). (1 page)
- 6. COE Sworn Interview Form 2/24/2016. (2 pages)
- 7. Emails Ms. L Czencz, Executive Assistant Finance Department. (2 pages)
- 8. Email Exchanges COE and City of Delray Beach. (4 pages)
- 9. Requested Invoices, Receipts and Checks paid to Vendors. (16 pages)
- 10. PNC Bank: VP Branch Manager Reyes Contact Information. (1 page)
- 11. Email from Mrs. Catherine Kleinrichert (Invoice Copy Attached). (2 pages)

Summary of Investigation findings

Based on the information provided by Complainant and information uncovered during the Investigation, the facts do not support a violation of section 2-443(d), *Contractual relationships* by Respondent.

Although Respondent is an employee of the City, it was confirmed that he is not now nor has ever been an employee, owner, or part owner of Tropical Landscapers, Inc. Both Mr. and Mrs. Kleinrichert were confirmed to be the sole owners of the company based on their statements and the Articles of Incorporation filed with the Florida Department of State.

Further, Respondent was not listed on any invoices, purchase orders or checks issued by the City and received by Tropical Landscapers, Inc. Respondent did not have access to any of the National City Bank accounts owned by Tropical Landscapers, Inc. as verified by both Mr. and Mrs. Kleinrichert and PNC Bank (National City Bank) VP Branch Manger Gizelle Reyes.

Therefore, there are no reasonably trustworthy facts and circumstances to conclude that the Respondent, Gordon Eaton, violated §2-443(d), Contractual relationships, of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics by Respondent in this instance.

End of	Investigation
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Submitted by:

Anthony C. Bennett

PB County Commission on Ethics

Reviewed by:

(Initials)

PALM BEACH COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS

PROBABLE CAUSE RECOMMENDATION

To: Commission on Ethics

From: Christie E. Kelley, Advocate

Re: C15-029 –Gordon Eaton, Parks and Recreation, City of Delray Beach

All background information and facts from the Memorandum of Inquiry, Report of Investigation, and supporting documents are adopted by reference into this Probable Cause Recommendation.

Recommendation

A finding of NO PROBABLE CAUSE should be entered in the above captioned matter as to the alleged violation of Sec. 2-443(d).

Probable Cause exists where there are reasonably trustworthy facts and circumstances for the Commission on Ethics (COE) to conclude that the Respondent, Gordon Eaton, violated the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics.

Jurisdiction

The COE has jurisdiction pursuant to Chapter 2, Article V, Division 8, section 2-258(a) of the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics Ordinance which states in pertinent part:

Article V, Division 8, Section 2-258. *Powers and duties*. (a) The commission on ethics shall be authorized to exercise such powers and shall be required to perform such duties as are hereinafter provided. The commission on ethics shall be empowered to review, interpret, render advisory opinions, and enforce the:

- (1) Countywide Code of Ethics;
- (2) County Post-Employment Ordinance, and
- (3) County Lobbyist Registration Ordinance.

Analysis

The investigation revealed that there is insufficient evidence to prove Respondent violated §2-443(d) of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics (Code).

Here, to prove that Respondent violated §2-443(d), *Contractual relationships*, the evidence must show that Respondent or his outside business or employer was a vendor of the City of Delray Beach (City). Based on the information revealed during the investigation, there is no evidence to support the allegation that Respondent was employed by Tropical Landscapers, Inc., a vendor of the City.

When Chief Investigator Anthony Bennett spoke to Respondent, he denied ever receiving any monies from the City, besides his normal paycheck, for services rendered through a second job. Respondent stated that he has never had a second job while employed by the City and that he was not employed by or affiliated with Tropical Landscapers, Inc. in any way. He stated he did not know why his name was listed on a City audit form showing he received a total of \$1,264 from the City. After learning that his name was on the audit form, Respondent filed a police report with the Palm Beach Gardens Police Department claiming he had been the victim of identity theft. Respondent provided copies of the police report.

In addition, the Florida Department of State Division of Corporations website lists Mr. Jason Kleinrichert and Mrs. Catherine Kleinrichert as the owner, vice president, registered agent and secretary of Tropical Landscapers, Inc. Respondent's name was not listed anywhere on the Articles of Incorporation documents. Mr. and Mrs. Kleinrichert verified this information when Chief Investigator Bennett spoke with them. In addition, when Mr. Kleinrichert was shown a copy of Respondent's Florida driver's license, he stated he did not know Respondent,

Respondent was not one of his employees, and Respondent was not affiliated with Mr. Kleinrichert's company in any way. Mrs. Kleinrichert also confirmed that Tropical Landscapers, Inc., had a past contractual relationship with the City of Delray Beach for plants, which were paid for and picked up by the City.

Further, the investigation revealed that Respondent was not listed on any invoices, purchase orders, or checks issued by the City of Delray Beach and received by Tropical Landscapers, Inc. The checks from the City were not made payable to Respondent; they were made payable to Tropical Landscapers, Inc. and were deposited at National City Bank. Mr. Kleinrichert stated that Tropical Landscapers, Inc. previously had a business account with National City Bank. When Chief Investigator Bennett spoke with PNC Bank Vice President Branch Manager Gizelle Reyes, she confirmed that the checks from the City were deposited at a National City Bank branch, which was now operating as PNC Bank. Without a subpoena, Ms. Reyes would not verify whether the account was in the name of Tropical Landscapers, Inc. or Mr. and Mrs. Kleinrichert. However, she stated that based on the deposit stamp, which listed the phrase "For Deposit Only Tropical Landscapers, Inc." the check could only be deposited and accessed by an authorized signer. Ms. Reyes stated that in order to open a business account, the Articles of Incorporation needed to be provided. Based on the Article of Incorporation documents, the Kleinricherts were the only persons authorized to conduct business under the corporate name of Tropical Landscapers, Inc.; Respondent could not have access to any of the National City Bank accounts owned by Tropical Landscapers, Inc.

Conclusion

Based on the facts and circumstances, there is **NO PROBABLE CAUSE** to believe that Respondent violated §2-443(d), *Contractual relationships*, of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics. Therefore, I recommend that a finding of **NO PROBABLE CAUSE** and an **ORDER of DISMISSAL** be entered.

Anthony Bennett

From: Sent: Gordon Eaton [gfeaton73@yahoo.com] Monday, December 21, 2015 7:18 PM

To:

Gina A. Levesque Anthony Bennett

Cc: Subject:

Re: Ethics Complaint C15-029

Good Day,

I reviewed the information provided to me and I am very concerned. In fact, when I was questioned previously at work about this matter, I asked if I should be alarmed that I may be a victim of identity theft. .

Today, my wife went to the Palm Beach Gardens Police Department and filed a report on my behalf regarding this matter. I have never worked for Tropical Landscapers or any other company part time or temporary since I have worked with the City of Delray Beach. I need to know what information is needed. In addition, the officer at PBGPD stated that if there is proof that someone used my information, I should request a copy.

My start date with the City of Delray Beach was 3/19/2007. My previous home addresses since then are 4965 NW 6th Street, Delray Beach, FL 33445 and 4116 Napoli Lake Drive, Riviera Beach FL 33410. My name is Gordon Flash Eaton. DOB 2/7/73, last 4 SSN 0476. Does the information from the company match these information. If so, I believe I am entitled to a copy to give to the Palm Beach Gardens Police Department. I am also alerting the credit bureaus, Social Security and IRS.

I Gordon Flash Eaton have never worked for any other company since employed by the City of Delray Beach. I have never worked for Tropical Landscapers before my employment with the city. I am so disappointed and I am hoping that this is resolved soon.

I look forward to hearing from the advocate that will be assigned to me, so this can be put behind me.

PBGPD case # 15-329477

Regards,

Gordon Flash Eaton

On Monday, December 21, 2015 11:13 AM, Gina A. Levesque < Glevesque@palmbeachcountyethics.com > wrote:

Good morning Mr. Eaton,

I apologize for the error. I attached the wrong item. Attached is the full set of documents you were supposed to receive. Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Thank you,

Gina A. Levesque, Intake Manager Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics

Ph 561-355-1937

www.palmbeachcountyethics.com

From: Gina A. Levesque

Sent: Friday, December 18, 2015 3:21 PM

To: 'gfeaton73@yahoo.com' **Cc:** Anthony Bennett

Subject: Ethics Complaint C15-029

Good afternoon Mr. Eaton,

Once you have read the attached, please contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Gina A. Levesque, Intake Manager Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics The Historic 1916 Palm Beach County Courthouse 300 North Dixie Highway, Suite 450 West Palm Beach, FL 33401 Ph 561-355-1937 Fx 561-656-7100

<u>mailto:scullen@palmbeachcountyethics.com</u> <u>www.palmbeachcountyethics.com</u>

Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing.

COE Sworn Interview Form

This is Arthury Benneth, Investigator with the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics
This will be an interview with Mr. Gardon Faton
Conducted in reference to COE case # <u>£15-029</u>
Today's date is Tuesday feb 16, 2016
The time by my watch is $4:09$ pm
The location of this interview is: 300 Worth Dixie Hawy Sunto 44
West Julin Beach, FL 33401
Please state: Your Full Name Your Occupation/ Title, and the Public Entity you serve Your Work Address Your Work Phone Number An Email Address that you wish to use for COE contact
<u>Oath</u> Please raise your right hand:
Do you swear or affirm that during this interview you will tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?
Do you understand that you are under oath?
Do you agree that this interview is being conducted voluntarily, and that no threats or promises have been made to compel you to talk with me today? Do you understand that this conversation is being audio recorded? A

Anthony Bennett

Subject:

Interview C15-029

Location:

300 North Dixie Highway Suite 447, West Palm Beach, FI 33401 - COE Conference Room

Start:

Tue 2/16/2016 4:00 PM

End:

Tue 2/16/2016 5:00 PM

Recurrence:

(none)

Organizer:

Anthony Bennett

Respondent Interview

February 16, 2016, at 4:09 pm,

COE Conference Room - 300 North Dixie Highway Suite 447, West Palm Beach, Fl 33401

PALM BEACH GARDENS POLICE DEPARTMENT

10500 N. MILITARY TRAIL PALM BEACH GARDENS, FL 33410

STATEMENT. SUSPICIONS INCIDENT

CASE #: 15-32947-7

DATE: 13:50

	-				
NAME: Shelly- And ADDRESS: 4414 Galfus	V tato.			DOB:	t/4/16
ADDRESS: 4419 Golfus	CIE W.	CITY: PBG		STATE:	ZIP 3 3 4 10
HOME#	WORK #		CFLL#	561-6	24-1531
1, Shelly-Clos Eat a	, having been advi	ised of my constitutional	rights and under	erstanding that L	do not have to mak
any statement, do hereby voluntarily mal	ke the following state	ement to	ORGEN		
who has been identified to me as a Police C	Officer, I understand tha	at this statement, or any p	portion thereof,	may be used aga	inst me, or any other
person at any time, in any court, trial or issu	ue. I further state that	I have been subjected to	no threats or d	uress, and have	received no promise
of reward or immunity.					
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		1 1			
do hereby certify that I have read the proceed	eding statement and t	hat it is true and correct,	to the best of r	my knowledge ar	nd belief.
State of Florida					
County of Palm Beach					
Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed being this 12 21 day of 1000, 20				1	1
100	1		+	that land	1
11.15			SIGNED:	BANCE	
NOTARY PUBLIC/POLICE OFFICER	The state of the state of		/		

CITY OF PALM BEACH GARDENS POLICE DEPARTMENT



FRANCINE O'BRIEN

OFFICER ID # 435

Case # 15-329477

10500 N. MILITARY TRAIL PALM BEACH GARDENS, FL 33410 MAIN: (561) 799-4445 FAX: (561) 799-4589 MAILBOX: (561) 804-7264 EMAIL: fobrien@pbgfl.com

for Topical Land up.



COE Sworn Interview Form

This is Holling Bennett, Investigator with the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics
This will be an interview with MA Denulch Cooper
Conducted in reference to COE case # $\frac{C15-026}{C15-026}$ $\frac{ C15-026 }{ C15-026 }$ $\frac{ C15-026 }{ C15-026 }$
Today's date is february 24, 2016
The time by my watch is $3!0\%$ pm
The location of this interview is: Delvay Bush City HALL
100 NW 1st Ave Delray Busch, Fl
Please state: Your Full Name Your Occupation/ Title, and the Public Entity you serve Your Work Address Your Work Phone Number An Email Address that you wish to use for COE contact
Oath Please raise your right hand: Do you swear or affirm that during this interview you will tell the truth,
the whole truth and nothing but the truth?
Do you understand that you are under oath?
Do you agree that this interview is being conducted voluntarily, and that no threats or promises have been made to compel you to talk with me today?
Do you understand that this conversation is being audio recorded?

Anthony Bennett

Subject: Location:

Interview

Delray Beach City Hall

Start: End:

Wed 2/24/2016 2:30 PM

Wed 2/24/2016 4:00 PM

Recurrence:

(none)

Organizer:

Anthony Bennett

Donald Cooper - Delray Beach City Hall - 3 pm

Anthony Bennett

From:

Czencz, Lauren [czencz@mydelraybeach.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, March 30, 2016 3:47 PM

To:

Anthony Bennett

Subject:

RE: Records Request from Commission on Ethics

Hi Anthony,

I am in receipt of your request and will forward the information once compiled.

Thank you!

Lauren Czencz
Executive Assistant, Finance Department
City of Delray Beach
561-243-7121

czencz@mydelraybeach.com



PUBLIC RECORDS NOTE: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from local officials, employees, or the general public regarding city business are public records available to the public and media upon request. Your e-mail communications may therefore be subject to public disclosure.

From: Anthony Bennett [mailto:ABennett@pbcgov.org]

Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 3:31 PM

To: Czencz, Lauren

Subject: Records Request from Commission on Ethics

Good Afternoon Ms. Czencz,

I am currently investigating a few issues within your City. Based on statements given and information received from various sources, I am in need a few items that will assist me with this process. I have listed those items below...

- 1. Any contracts/agreements between the City of Delray Beach and the below listed persons/vendors/companies. If it was electronically submitted, please include the electronic signature(s) used if applicable/available.
- 2. Please provide copies of all checks and/or invoices that were made out to the below listed companies, listed individuals, or persons representing those companies. If you have a check number and date(s) of payment, that would be great as well. Also, if you have copies of "canceled" (signature affixed) checks, please provide those as well.
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 - Josephilishandung first Redumen Consumers
 - o final y
 - Staven Swallson Delray's Finest Stans & Graphics & Co.
 - Onto Depart First Response Training

- Gordon Eaton Tropical Landscapers Inc.
- Orlando Serrano American Traffic Business Services In

I am not in a major hurry, so as soon as practical for you would be fine in getting me those items. The items could be scanned or mailed, which ever works better for you and your staff. Also, if you need clarification on anything, please contact me directly. I thank you in advance for your assistance...

Anthony C. Bennett
Chief Investigator
Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics
The Historic 1916 Palm Beach County Courthouse
300 North Dixie Highway, Suite 450
West Palm Beach, Fl 33401

Ph 561-355-1956 Fx 561-355-1904

www.palmbeachcountyethics.com



"Honesty, Integrity, Character"

Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing.

Anthony Bennett

From:

Cooper, Donald [cooperd@mydelraybeach.com]

Sent:

Monday, April 11, 2016 4:59 PM

To:

Anthony Bennett

Subject:

RE: Records Request from Commission on Ethics

Welcome.

From: Anthony Bennett [mailto:ABennett@pbcgov.org]

Sent: Monday, April 11, 2016 4:58 PM

To: Cooper, Donald

Subject: RE: Records Request from Commission on Ethics

Just got word Ms. Czencz that I will have the information by this Wednesday. Mr. Warner stepped in to make sure I got what was asked for. I appreciate you assistance.

Anthony C. Bennett
Chief Investigator
Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics
The Historic 1916 Palm Beach County Courthouse
300 North Dixie Highway, Suite 450
West Palm Beach, Fl 33401

Ph 561-355-1956 Fx 561-355-1904 C 561-951-8139

www.palmbeachcountyethics.com



"Honesty, Integrity, Character"

From: Cooper, Donald [mailto:cooperd@mydelraybeach.com]

Sent: Monday, April 11, 2016 4:57 PM

To: Anthony Bennett

Subject: RE: Records Request from Commission on Ethics

Did you get what was requested?

From: Anthony Bennett [mailto:ABennett@pbcgov.org]

Sent: Friday, April 01, 2016 2:35 PM

To: Cooper, Donald

Cc: Mark Bannon E.; Christie Kelley E.

Subject: FW: Records Request from Commission on Ethics

Good Afternoon Mr. Cooper,

Please read below. Any assistance with Mr. Snyder would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you Sir...

Anthony C. Bennett
Chief Investigator
Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics
The Historic 1916 Palm Beach County Courthouse
300 North Dixie Highway, Suite 450
West Palm Beach, FI 33401

Ph 561-355-1956 Fx 561-355-1904 C 561-951-8139

www.palmbeachcountyethics.com



"Honesty, Integrity, Character"

From: Snyder, Jeff [mailto:SnyderJ@mydelraybeach.com]

Sent: Friday, April 01, 2016 12:25 PM

To: Warner, Jack; Czencz, Lauren; Nubin, Chevelle; Wynn, Kimberly

Cc: Carlson, Barbara; Pfeffer, Noel; Anthony Bennett **Subject:** RE: Records Request from Commission on Ethics

I am wondering if the ethics commission understands that we have already been gigged by the OIG for these issues and the root cause has been corrected?

From: Warner, Jack

Sent: Friday, April 01, 2016 9:45 AM

To: Czencz, Lauren; Nubin, Chevelle; Wynn, Kimberly

Cc: Snyder, Jeff; Carlson, Barbara; Pfeffer, Noel; 'ABennett@pbcgov.org'

Subject: RE: Records Request from Commission on Ethics

Lauren -

I discussed with COE investigator Mr. Bennett. He suggested leaving Irizarry and Serrano off the immediate response until their State Attorney investigation completes.

Pls send what we have on the others. I know that our original document search was some time ago; pls update to catch anything that has occurred since then.

Thanks

Jack Warner, Chief Financial Officer City of Delray Beach 100 NW First Avenue Delray Beach, FL 33444 (561) 243 - 7117 warner@mydelraybeach.com

From: Anthony Bennett [mailto:ABennett@pbcgov.org]

Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 3:31 PM

To: Czencz, Lauren

Subject: Records Request from Commission on Ethics

Good Afternoon Ms. Czencz,

I am currently investigating a few issues within your City. Based on statements given and information received from various sources, I am in need a few items that will assist me with this process. I have listed those items below...

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- 2. Please provide copies of all checks and/or invoices that were made out to the below listed companies, listed individuals, or persons representing those companies. If you have a check number and date(s) of payment, that would be great as well. Also, if you have copies of "canceled" (signature affixed) checks, please provide those as well.
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 - · loseph Lang baily thist hasponse ON Services
 - Gesantrizarry American Traffic Products Sentites Inc.
 - Steven Swansom Dalray's Pinost Signs & Graphies, Lt.C.
 - · Conor Develue-Girst Response Training
 - Gordon Eaton Tropical Landscapers Inc.
 - Orlando Serrano American Traffic Products Services Inc.

I am not in a major hurry, so as soon as practical for you would be fine in getting me those items. The items could be scanned or mailed, which ever works better for you and your staff. Also, if you need clarification on anything, please contact me directly. I thank you in advance for your assistance...

Anthony C. Bennett
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Ph 561-355-1956 Fx 561-355-1904

www.palmbeachcountyethics.com



"Honesty, Integrity, Character"

Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing.

Amount: \$800.00 Sequence Number: 6792030901 Account: Capture Date: 08/30/2012 Bank Number: Check Number: 477463 ORIGINAL CHECK IS PRINTED ON CHEMICAL REACTIVE PAPER City of Delray Beach Bank of America Jacksonville, Florida CHECK NUMBER 100 N.W. 1st Avenue 63-4/630 477463 Delray Beach, Florida 33444 (561) 243-7115 CHECK DATE CHECK AMOUNT \$*******800.00 08/03/2012 VOID AFTER 90 DAYS EIGHT HUNDRED AND 00/100 DOLLARS PAY 22580 VENDOR NO. TROPICAL LANDSCAPERS INC 8917 116TH TERRACE SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH FL 33472 PAY TO THE ORDER 00015496]18 0

Electronic Endorsements:

Date Sequence Bank # Endrs Type TRN RRC Bank Name 08/10/2012 007000657313 Undetermined N PNC BANK, NATIONAL A 08/10/2012 100840000039850 PNC BANK, NATIONAL A Rtn Loc/BOFD 08/10/2012 006792030901 Pay Bank BANK OF AMERICA, NA

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Invoice

8917 116TH TERRACE SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH, FL. 33472 (561) 369-2899 / FAX: (561) 369-7680

DATE	INVOICE #
7/13/2012	2012447

PROJECT

BILL TO

City of Delray Beach Florida 100 N.W. 1st Avenue Delray Beach, FL 33444



P.O. NO.

TERMS

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QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION		RATE	AMOUNT
400	Spider Lily (1 Gal.)		2.00	800.00
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Amount :

8375.00

Sequence Number: 5892696641

Account :

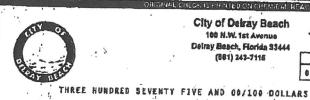
Capture Date:

06/08/2010

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Check Number:

450745



City of Dekay Beach 100 N.W. 1st Avenue Delray Beach, Florida 33444 (861) 243-7115

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Amount:

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Sequence Number: 5892696641

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Capture Date: 06/08/2010

Bank Number:

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THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE AND 00/100 DOLLARS

450745

ORIGINAL CHECK'IS PHINTED ON CHEMICAL REACTIVE PAREN City of Delray Beach 100 N.W. 1st Avenue

Delray Beach, Florida 33444 (561) 243-7115

Bank of America Jacksonville, Florida 63-4/630

CHECK NUMBER 450745

CHECK DATE

CHECK AMOUNT

06/04/2010

\$*******375.00

VOID AFTER 90 DAYS

PAY

VENDOR NO.

TROPICAL LANDSCAPERS INC 8917 216TH TERRACE SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH FL 33472

PAY TO THE ORDER

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

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				X	\$******800.00



TROPICAL LANDSCAPERS, INC.

8917 116th Terrace South
Boynton Beach, FL 33473, Atlantic
(561) 369-2899 W, Atlantic
Fax (561) 369-7680
Median

DRESS CHUCK CONTRACTOR	CUSTOMER'S ORDER NO	. PHONE	DATE	
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	6471	All claims and returned goods MUS	T be accompanied by this bill.	
	01/4			HANK YOU

PURCHASE ORDER

TROPICAL LANDSCAPERS INC

8917 116TH TERRACE SOUTH

BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33472

DATE: 07/23/12

VENDOR:

City of Delray Beach

SHIP TO:

PURCHASING DIVISION 100 NW FIRST AVENUE DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA 33444 561/243-7115

P.O. NUMBEŔ	PAGE
684107	1

THIS NUMBER MUST APPEAR ON ALL INVOICES, PACKING LISTS, LABELS, BILLS OF LADING AND CORRESPONDENCE.

City Of Delray Beach Florida

PARKS MAINTENANCE 320 SW 4TH STREET

DELRAY BEACH, FL 33444

VENDOR	1	DATE NEEDED	FOB			CONFIRM TO	
2.2	580	07/25/12					
REC	UISITIONED	BY	REQ. NO.			TERMS	
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AP

BILL TO: CITY OF DELRAY BEACH ACCOUNTS PAYABLE 100 NW 1ST AVENUE DELRAY BEACH, FL 33444

FLORIDA STATE SALES TAX EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE NO. 85-8012621559C-4 EXPIRATION DATE 08/31/2012 APPROVED:

David Boyd

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

8917 116TH TERRACE SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH, FL. 33472 (561) 369-2899 / FAX: (561) 369-7680

Invoice

DATE	INVOICE #	
7/13/2012	2012447	

BILL TO

City of Delray Beach Florida 100 N.W. 1st Avenue Delray Beach, FL 33444

P.O. NO.	TERMS	PROJECT
173797	Due on receipt	2

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION		RATE	AMOUNT
400	Spider Lily (1 Gal.)	2	2.00	800.0
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8917 116th Terrace South Boynton Beach, FL 33472 (561) 369-2899 Fax (561) 369-7680

CUSTOMER'S ORDER NO. PHONE	DATE 7 13/18		
City of Dellay			
ADDRESS	All the second s		
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SOLD BY CASH C.O.D. CHARGE ON ACCT MDSE. RET'D	PAID OUT	9M	
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RECEIVED HELL X MILL	TOTAL		
6174 All claims are returned goods MUST be accompanie	by this bill. THANK	YOU	

1/11/1 City Of Delray Beach Florida PI610U02 06:59:1 Purchase Requisition 00001737 Number : ss Enter. Type information, p 1 PURCHASE REQUISITION Type (F4) . . PLANTS J. FRIEDMAN Reason Ву 071712 Date . . Vendor number 22580 TROPICAL LANDSCAPERS INC _ B=Begins with, C=Contains Name (F4). Contract nbr (F4) PM PARKS MAINTENANCE Ship to (F4) 072512 Deliver by date . C=Current year, P=Previous year, F=Future year Fiscal year code No line items to display. Total: F6=Add item F4=Prompt F3=Exit F20=Comments F21=Copy F8=Requisition quotes F12=Cancel

SUL 30 2012

Amount:

\$189.00

Sequence Number: 4792941243

Account: Bank Number

Capture Date: 05/22/2014

Check Number:

497888

ORIGINAL CHECK-ISPRINTED ON CHEMICAL REACTIVE PAPER. City of Delray Beach 100 N.W. 1st Avenue

Delray Beach, Florida 33444 (561) 243-7115

CHECK NUMBER 63-4/630 497888 CHECK DATE CHECK AMOUNT

> \$*******189.00 VOID AFTER 90 DAYS

05/16/2014

PAY

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY NINE AND 00/100 DOLLARS

VENDOR NO.

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

TROPICAL LANDSCAPERS INC 8917 116TH TERRACE SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH FL 33472

20140522-003200326944 00100974004

a

Electronic Endorsements:

Date

Sequence

05/22/2014 003200326944

05/22/2014 004792941243

Bank #

Endrs Type

TRN

RRC

Bank Name

Rtn Loc/BOFD Y

PNC BANK, NATIONAL A

BANK OF AMERICA, NA

ADDRESS: 891	PO NO.	ACCOUNT NUMBER	INVOICE NUMBER	PROJECT	AMOUNT
				T KOSECT	
05/01/2014	698313	001-4131-572.52-26	2014343		189.00
					\$******189.00

8917 116TH TERRACE SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH, FL. 33472 (561) 369-2899 / FAX: (561) 369-7680

Invoice

DATE	INVOICE #	
5/1/2014	2014343	

BILL TO

City of Delray Beach Florida 100 N.W. 1st Avenue Delray Beach, FL 33444

P.O. NO.	TERMS	PROJECT
188128	Due on receipt	

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	RATE	AMOUNT
	Neo Chantini 8" Neo Chantini (7 Gal.) REF: PICK-UP TICKET #7592	15.00 12.00	105.0 84.0
		PAID MAY 1 6 2014	
	RECEIVED MAY 0.7 2014 FINANCE		
ank you for	your business.	Total	\$189.0

	TROPICAL LAND 8917 116th T Boynton Beac (561) 36 Fax (561) 3	errace South h. FL 33472 9-2899
NAME ADDRESS	GOADEA NO. PHONE CASS DOLLARS	Boach Brach
SOLD BY	CASH C.O.D. CHARGE ON ACCT. MDSE. F	PRICE AMOUNT
	Chartini 8"	15 105 -
	Des chartini	6-84-
DEC VED BY	City of Delray Be Parks Maintend Purchase Order Co Requisition # 188 Account # 001-9 Signature	Pach MA (18313) 12-8 12-572-572-572-572-572-572-572-572-572-57

PAID MAY 1 6 2014

PURCHASE ORDER

DATE: 05/06/14

City of Delray Beach

PURCHASING DIVISION 100 NW FIRST AVENUE DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA 33444 561/243-7115

P.O. NUMBER	PAGE
698313	1

VENDOR:

TROPICAL LANDSCAPERS INC 8917 116TH TERRACE SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH. FL 33472

SHIP TO:

THIS NUMBER MUST APPEAR ON ALL INVOICES, PACKING LISTS, LABELS, BILLS OF LADING AND CORRESPONDENCE.

City Of Delray Beach Florida PARKS MAINTENANCE 320 SW 4TH STREET DELRAY BEACH, FL 33444

	VENDOR		DATE NEEDED	FOB		CONFIRM TO	
March Commission	22580	0 5	5/01/14				
	REQUISITIO	NED BY	,	REQ. NO.		TERMS	
S.	MATSON (CO	NF)TS	S	188128		NET	
INE NO.	QUANTITY I	UOM		DESCRIPTION		UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
1 2	7.00 7.00	EA (******* * C * D * *******		* * *	15.000 12.000 SUB-TOTAL TOTAL	105.0 84.0 189.0
						PAID MAY 1 6 20	nta
						mA1 10 4	*
		tellinen arprenn arkevel problemen					

AP

BILL TO: CITY OF DELRAY BEACH ACCOUNTS PAYABLE 100 NW 1ST AVENUE DELRAY BEACH, FL 33444

FLORIDA STATE SALES TAX EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE NO. 85-8012621559C-4 EXPIRATION DATE 08/31/2017 APPROVED:

milena L Walinske.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

ORDER SUBJECT TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS ON REVERSE OR ATTACHED.

C15-029



Gizelle Reyes

VP Branch Manager

NMLS ID 576160

T 561-969-3333 F 561-966-3886

gizelle.reyes@pnc.com T 888-762-2265

Member of The PNC Financial Services Group
3989 Forest Hill Boulevard A2-P990-01-1
West Palm Beach Florida 33406

Anthony Bennett

From:

Tropical Landscapers [tropicallandscapers@gmail.com]

Sent:

Thursday, April 21, 2016 2:25 PM

To:

Anthony Bennett

Subject:

Orders

Attachments:

City of Delray Beach.pdf

Dear Mr. Bennett,

I did some research after you paid a visit to my office and found the following invoices for material that was picked up at our nursery back in 2010 and 2012. Both orders have a PO number at the top and were picked up in person at our nursery.

Thank you, Cathy Kleinrichert Office (561) 369-2899



Invoice

8917 116TH TERRACE SOUTH BOYNTON BEACH, FL. 33472 (561) 369-2899 / FAX: (561) 369-7680

DATE 5/5/2010

2010398

BILL TO

City of Delray Beach Florida 100 N.W. 1st Avenue Delray Beach, FL 33444



QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	RATE	AMOUNT
100 C:	cown of Thorn (3 Gal.)	3.75	375.0
	•		
nk you for y	our business.	Total	\$375.00

PAM