



Office of the Lobbyist Registrar
Linda L. Gehrke, Lobbyist Registrar

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PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

BY CANADA POST

November 24, 2014

Howard Paskowitz
970 Lawrence Avenue West
Suite 304
Toronto, ON M6A 3B6

Dear Mr. Paskowitz:

RE: Possible Contravention of the Lobbying By-law

I am writing to you in my capacity as Inquiries & Investigation Counsel for the Office of the Lobbyist Registrar (the "OLR") of the City of Toronto. This letter is prompted by information received by the OLR alleging that you purchased two thousand and thirty four dollars (\$2,034) worth of tickets on behalf of Medallion Corporation ("Medallion") to an event presented by [REDACTED] on May 22, 2013 at the [REDACTED] (the "Event") for Giorgio Mammoliti.

According to Corporate Profile Report (CPR) from the Ministry of Government Services a Mr. Nathan Bleeman is a Director and an Officer of Medallion which according to the CPR has its registered office address at Suite 304, 970 Lawrence Avenue West, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

A review of the City of Toronto's Lobbyist Registry (the "Registry") shows Medallion to have three in-house and seven consultant lobbyist subject matter registrations; the three in-house subject matter registrations SM15504, SM12292 and SM12293 specify a Mr. Howard Paskowitz as the senior officer for Medallion Corporation and a Mr. Nathan Bleeman as an in-house lobbyist. The seven consultant lobbyist registrations and the corresponding consultants are as follows SM 20816, SM13184 (Alan J Slobodsky), SM 20448 (Michael G. Stewart), SM11232 (Catherine Biesma), SM11235 (Michael G. Stewart), SM11907 (Susan N Crisp), SM19841 (Adam J. Brown).

Information in my possession confirms that on May 22, 2013 [REDACTED] hosted an event for Giorgio Mammoliti; tickets to this event were five hundred dollars (\$500) each or five thousand dollars (\$5000) for a table of ten. Evidence in my possession confirms that money raised from the purchase of these tickets was provided by [REDACTED] to Giorgio Mammoliti in the form of a gift.

I am in possession of a copy of a cheque for \$2,034 issued on April 25, 2013 by a Medallion Corporation with the same address as that found for Medallion in the CPR and the Registry, enclosed for your reference, made payable to the order of [REDACTED]

Chapter 140 of the Toronto Municipal Code, Lobbying (the "Lobbying By-law") includes a Lobbyists' Code of Conduct, which sets out mandatory standards of behaviour for lobbyists and the conduct of lobbying.

§ 140-42 A of the Lobbyist Code of Conduct provided as follows:

Lobbyists shall not undertake to lobby in a form or manner that includes offering, providing, or bestowing entertainment, gifts, meals, trips or favours of any kind.

§140-45 of the Lobbyist Code of Conduct provided as follows:

- A. Lobbyists shall avoid both the deed and the appearance of impropriety.
- B. Lobbyists shall not place public office holders in a conflict of interest or in breach of the public office holders' codes of conduct or standards of behaviour.
- C. Lobbyists shall not propose or undertake any action that would bestow an improper benefit or constitute an improper influence on a public office holder.

The *Code of Conduct for Members of Council* ("*Code of Conduct*") Article IV (Gifts and Benefits) provides that no member shall accept a fee, advance, gift or personal benefit that is connected directly or indirectly with the performance of his or her duties of office, unless permitted by the exceptions listed in that Article. However, except for political contributions allowable by law these exceptions do not apply where such gifts or benefits are provided by lobbyists or their clients or employers.

Your purchase of tickets to this event therefore raises the following allegations: you undertook to lobby in a form that included providing a gift in contravention of § 140-42 A.; you failed to avoid the deed and appearance of impropriety in contravention of § 140-45 A; you placed a public office holder in a conflict of interest or in breach of the public office holders' code of conduct in contravention of § 140-45 B; and you undertook an action that bestowed an improper benefit or constituted an improper influence on a public office holder in contravention of § 140-45 C.

Contravention of the Lobbying By-law is an offence under the *Provincial Offences Act* of Ontario.

Please be advised that the Lobbyist Registrar in furtherance of this inquiry and in accordance with her powers under §33(3) of the *Public Inquiries Act, 2009* has issued a summons in your name, enclosed with this letter, requiring you to provide the documents and things requested therein to this office by December 1, 2014. Be further advised that in the course of this inquiry you may also be summonsed to provide evidence under oath.

In accordance with our inquiry procedures and in addition to the information you are required to produce in the attached summons, you are being provided with an opportunity to respond to the information contained in this letter. Please provide the response to me on or before December 1, 2014. You may provide additional documents, information and evidence under oath as part of your response, in person or in writing. You may seek legal advice and be represented by legal counsel, if you wish. When this inquiry is complete, the Registrar may provide you with her proposed findings and sanctions, together with a further opportunity to respond. For a more detailed explanation of our inquiry process, please go to the following link:

http://www1.toronto.ca/city_of_toronto/lobbyist_registrar/files/pdf/compliance_investigations_procedures.pdf

The Lobbying By-law and COTA, s. 169, require the Registrar and every person acting under the Registrar's instructions to preserve secrecy with respect to all matters coming to his or her knowledge in the course of this inquiry, except as may be disclosed in a criminal proceeding, as required by law, or otherwise in accordance with COTA. The Registrar may report to Council, and in doing so, may disclose such information as is necessary for the purposes of the report. In addition, there may be times when it is necessary to disclose some information in furtherance of the inquiry process. In accordance with COTA, s. 169, you are requested not to disclose the contents of this letter to anyone, with the exception of your legal counsel.

If you have any questions about the contents of this letter or wish to discuss this matter further, please contact me at (416) 338-6620 or slittle@toronto.ca.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this inquiry.

Yours truly,

Original Signed By:

Stephen Littlejohn
Inquiries and Investigations Counsel

Copy to: Linda Gehrke, Lobbyist Registrar (by email only)
GG/SL/kh

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