

## City of New Bedford MASSACHUSETTS

## Office of City Council

133 William Street \* New Bedford \* Massachusetts 02740
TEL 508-979-1455 \* FAX 508-979-1451

January 7, 2022

Dennis W. Farias, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council 133 William Street New Bedford, MA 02740

RE: Ward Six Councillor disclosure pursuant to Chapter 268A of the General Laws

Dear City Clerk Farias:

In order to provide full disclosure to the citizens of New Bedford and to assure that no potential violation of General Law Chapter 268A Section 23(b)(3) occurs, I am submitting this letter to you for submittal to the City Council to be received at a public meeting.

The aforementioned Chapter 268A Section 23(b)(3) instructs, in relevant part, as follows: -

No current officer or employee of a...municipal agency shall knowingly, or with reason to know... act in a manner which would cause a reasonable person, having knowledge of the relevant circumstances, to conclude that any person can improperly influence or unduly enjoy his favor in the performance of his official duties, or that he is likely to act or fail to act as a result of kinship, rank, position or undue influence of any party or person. It shall be unreasonable to so conclude if such officer or employee has disclosed in writing to his appointing authority or, if no appointing authority exists, discloses in a manner which is public in nature, the facts which would otherwise lead to such a conclusion...

The facts that I believe could potentially cause a reasonable person to conclude that some improper influence or undue favor might occur in the performance of my official duties as Ward Six City Councillor is as follows:

My father is the owner of Precision Window and Kitchen ("Precision") located at 1111 Acushnet Avenue in New Bedford. I am currently employed at Precision. As part of the business, Precision performs services to customers pursuant to building permits and other permits issued from the City's Department of Inspectional Services ("Department"). In the usual and ordinary course of Precision's business, the Department performs inspections of the work done by Precision. Precision is required to perform pursuant to the Department's requirements and interpretations of all laws, rules and regulations whenever a permit is obtained for a particular job.

As a City Councillor, I may be participating and voting on various matters that involve the Department such as budgets, appropriations, transfers as well as confirmation of the Mayor's appointment of the Commissioner of the Department and other issues involving the Department.

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Because it is possible that these facts could trigger concern with Chapter 268A, I am filing this disclosure. Additionally, I am stating that I will always perform my duties as the Ward Six Councillor in the best interest of the citizens of Ward Six and the City of New Bedford. Furthermore, Precision will continue to perform as they have always performed without regard to my position as a City Councillor. I fully expect that the Department will carry out its' responsibility with the utmost professionalism and in an objectively fair manner as they have in the past.

Please file this letter for the next meeting of the City Council to be received and placed on file.

Truly yours,

Ryan Pereira

Ward Six City Councillor

/RP

cc: City Council Agenda January 13, 2022