

PORT OF SEATTLE COMMISSION

**MOTION REGARDING THE FORMATION
OF A TEMPORARY COMMITTEE ON ETHICS AND
THE SELECTION OF AN OUTSIDE ADVISORY PANEL ON ETHICS
TO ASSIST THE COMMISSION IN RE-ESTABLISHING
THE SEATTLE PORT COMMISSION'S BOARD OF ETHICS**

November 27, 2012

Statement in Support of the Motion

The Seattle Port Commission (the "*Commission*") adopted Resolution No. 3583 on September 11, 2007, which established a Code of Ethics for Port Commissioners. Section 9 of the Code of Ethics provides for a Board of Ethics with "the power to: (i) interpret the provisions of this Code and other applicable state law; (ii) investigate and report to the Port Commission on any alleged violation(s) as provided below; (iii) summon witnesses and schedule hearings in connection with any matter under investigation or inquiry; (iv) impose sanctions, including reprimands and monetary penalties; and (v) recommend suspension or removal." The Code of Ethics further provides that Board of Ethics shall be composed of five members selected by the Commission. Currently, there are five vacancies on the Ethics Board.

Pursuant to a Commission motion adopted September 11, 2012, the Commission retained LeeAnn Pelham as an outside ethics expert to "review and provide guidance with respect to the Port's ethics policies on conflict of interest, with recommendations for any general improvements and/or changes specific to the CEO, Port staff and the Commission." Ms. Pelham presented her report, entitled "Independent Review of the Port of Seattle Ethics Policies," to the Commission in public session on October 23, 2012. One of the report's recommendations is that the Commission "should establish a reconstituted, semi-independent panel to advise it on provisions of its Code of Ethics, review Commissioner annual financial disclosure statements, and investigate and sanction transgressions by Commission members, when warranted."

The Commission appreciates the report's thoughtful review of the Commission's and the Port's ethics policies and wishes to act upon the recommendation to reconstitute its Board of Ethics. The Commission plans to review the report's other recommendations after the appointment of a new Board of Ethics.

Motion

The Commission hereby authorizes the formation of a temporary committee of the Commission, as provided by Article III, Section 6 of the Commission's Bylaws, to:

- (1) select and consult with an outside advisory panel to assist the Commission in reconstituting the Board of Ethics and in advising the Commission on any proposed amendments to the Code of Ethics regarding the composition and term of members of the Board of Ethics.
- (2) Commissioner Bryant shall represent the Commission on this temporary committee and shall report their findings and recommendations to the full Commission in public session no later than January 31, 2013.