

February 15, 2012

Elizabeth Perino, President Accurate Steel Installers, Inc. 14631 S. New Avenue Lockport, Illinois 60441

Subject: Notice of Interim Suspension

Dear Ms. Perino:

This letter serves as notice, from the Chief Procurement Officer ("CPO") for the Illinois Department of Transportation ("Transportation"), placing you, Elizabeth Perino, and Accurate Steel Installers, Inc. ("ASI") under an interim suspension from doing business with the Department. The basis for this action is that the CPO and Department discovered that a criminal complaint was filed against you in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, a one count complaint, Case No. 11-CR-492 a copy of which is enclosed, filed on or about July 21, 2011. The complaint charges you with one (1) count of mail fraud violating 18 USC 1341, alleging that you devised and intended to devise a scheme to defraud, and to obtain money and property by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, deposited and caused to be deposited fraudulent documents, including a backdated estimate, a backdated letter of intent, a false bill, and a false certification of work, to be sent and delivered by FedEx, a commercial interstate carrier, to the owner of Prime Contractor B so that Prime Contractor B could use the invoices and other documents to falsely state to the City of Chicago that Perdel Contracting Corporation, a Women's Business Enterprise, had provided \$95,648 in equipment rentals to Prime Contractor B as of June 30, 2011, when, in fact, Perdel Contract Corporation had not provided any such equipment to Prime Contractor B.

All of the aforementioned appears to demonstrate a lack of integrity and honesty in the conduct of business or the performance of contracts and provides cause for suspension under the CPO's procurement rules, 44 Illinois Administrative Code, §6.520. Section 6.530 of the rules of the CPO (44 Illinois Administrative Code, §6.530), provides for the interim suspension of any contractor due to acts or omissions that indicate the contractor lacks integrity and honesty in the conduct of business or the performance of contracts. Section 6.530 specifically provides for interim suspension based upon indictment. A copy of the CPO procurement rules regarding suspension of contractors is enclosed.

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I find that immediate action is necessary to safeguard the public interest in the solicitation, execution, administration and performance of public contracts. Therefore, pending the conclusion of the legal proceedings, you and ASI are subject to an interim suspension. Neither you nor ASI shall be eligible to participate as a contractor, subcontractor, material supplier, or lessor of equipment on or in connection with any contract, or subcontract awarded or approved by the Department, which includes any contract or subcontract in connection with a local agency project that is subject to the approval of the Department.

Further, pursuant to Section 6.590 of the rules of the Department (44 Illinois Administrative Code, §6.590), this interim suspension applies to all executory contracts that you and/or ASI, are currently performing.

Pursuant to Section 6.620(b) of the rules, 44 Illinois Administrative Code §6.620(b), you may submit, within 30 days after receipt of this notice, in person, in writing, or through a representative, information, documentation and argument in opposition to the interim suspension. The CPO will consider your submission in light of the evidence developed, and may modify or terminate the suspension or may leave it in force. The CPO's decision concerning imposition of an interim suspension is final without further hearing. Any submission should be delivered to Mr. Bill Grunloh, Chief Procurement Officer, 2300 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois 62764.

This interim suspension is effective immediately.

Bill Grunloh

Chief Procurement Officer

Illinois Department of Transportation

**Enclosure** 

cc: Ann Schneider, Secretary of Transportation