

STATE OF CONNECTICUT STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

ADVISORY OPINION NO. 88-19

Restrictions On Contracts Between University of Connecticut and One of Its Employees

The Dean of Extended and Continuing Education of the University of Connecticut has asked whether members of the University coaching staff can enter into contractual agreements with the Division of Extended and Continuing Education ("Division"). Specifically, the coaches are interested in contracting with the University to use its facilities for sports camps.

The availability of University of Connecticut facilities for sports camps is made known nationwide through a listing in a directory. Fees for the use of the University's facilities are negotiated on an individual basis depending on what services the director of the sports camp wants the University to provide.

Subsection 1-84(i), General Statutes, prohibits a state employee or a member of his or her immediate family or a business with which he or she is associated from entering into a contract with the state valued at one hundred dollars or more, other than a contract of employment as a state employee or pursuant to a court appointment, unless the contract has been awarded through an open and public process, including prior public offer and subsequent public disclosure of all proposals considered and the contract awarded. Members of the University coaching staff, as state employees, are bound by the restrictions of subsection 1-84(i), General Statutes.

In order to satisfy the prior public offer requirements of subsection 1-84(i), General Statutes, the listing in the nationwide directory should state that the fee charged depends on what services are provided and that fee guidelines are

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available upon request. Additionally, the terms of any contract negotiated between a member of the University coaching staff and the Division must be subject to public disclosure. Availability of the terms of contract between a member of the University coaching staff and the Division to the public will insure that members of the University coaching staff are not receiving more favorable terms of contract than others wishing to contract with the Division to use the University's facilities for sports camps.

By order of the Commission,

William A. Elric

Chairperson

Dated NOVENZER 7,1988