



Response to DE Employee Request for Consent to Sell

Employee Name and Job Title: Penny Bisignano; researcher

Division, Bureau: Division of PK-12 Education

Date of Request: September 11, 2006

Date of Agency Determination: September 18, 2006

Determination¹: Consent granted without condition

Summary of Request and Rationale for Determination:

Ms. Bisignano seeks permission to sell the service of teaching two graduate-level courses for Iowa State University (ISU). Both courses provide instructor for educators seeking a Master degree in Counselor Education; one course is for elementary guidance counselors and the other for secondary guidance counselors.

As a Regents Institution, ISU is not regulated by the Iowa Department of Education (IDE) with the exception of the teacher and administrator preparation programs offered by ISU, both of which must be approved by this agency. The students are in a graduate program in School Counseling in the college of Human Sciences, and thus could reasonably be expected to be in ISU's teacher preparation program. Ms. Bisignano is not involved in any way with the IDE staff whose responsibility it is to review, assess, and recommend for approval practitioner preparation programs. Her job duties with IDE are exclusively in the area of school improvement, in which capacity she works with IDE school improvement consultants. To the extent that Ms. Bisignano has any professional contact with non-IDE persons, these contacts are solely with school districts and area education agencies (AEAs).

Therefore, the sale of the service of teaching the above course will not cause Penny Bisignano to advocate on behalf of any entity, does not benefit or prejudice any regulated person or entity, and does not result in a conflict of interest per section 68B.2A.

¹ If the determination is a denial or a conditional consent, the employee may file an appeal with the Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board pursuant to rule 351—IAC 6.11(6).