


**Protocol to Screen
Indiana Department of Environmental Management's
Office of Air Quality's Adrienne Balla
from Any Matters Regarding MasterBrand, Inc.**

Ms. Adrienne Balla is an Environmental Manager within the Office of Program Support's (OPS) Northern Regional Office at the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). Ms. Balla's duties include compliance inspections and report reviews. Previously, Ms. Balla had inspected the MasterBrand, Inc. (MasterBrand) facilities as part of her duties.

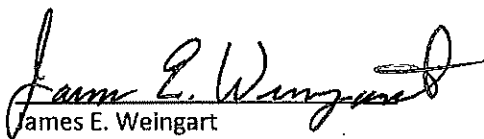
On March 3rd, 2024, Ms. Balla filed a personal injury lawsuit with MasterBrand, stemming from an incident that occurred when Ms. Balla was inspecting the MasterBrand facilities on January 17th, 2024. Though IDEM does not assert this to be a conflict of interest per IC 4-2-6-9, IDEM is instituting the following to ensure Ms. Balla is screened from any potential conflict of interest with MasterBrand.

1. Northern Regional Office Director James Weingart is Ms. Balla's direct supervisor. Director Weingart will not assign any current or future matter that may arise involving the MasterBrand, or any of its clients, to Ms. Balla.
2. Ms. Balla shall recuse herself from the portion of any meeting at IDEM in which discussions specific to MasterBrand, or in which any of its clients or interests are discussed or are expected to be discussed.
3. Ms. Balla shall not discuss any matter involving MasterBrand, or any of its clients, with any other IDEM employee.
4. Director Weingart will notify in writing all employees his supervisory chain that they are not to discuss any matters involving MasterBrand, or any of its clients, with Ms. Balla, nor send her any emails concerning MasterBrand.
5. Ms. Balla shall not participate in decisions regarding or relating to MasterBrand, or any of their clients.
6. Ms. Balla shall not access any correspondence or files relating to or involving MasterBrand, or any of its clients, either during her hours of work at IDEM or by utilizing State equipment. Such documents, if not a matter of public record in IDEM's Virtual File Cabinet, shall be housed with the employee assigned to the matter or kept where Ms. Balla does not have access to alter the documents.
7. Ms. Balla shall immediately inform Director Weingart and IDEM Ethics Officer James French if any provision of this screening protocol is violated.
8. Ms. Balla shall follow IC 4-2-6-9(b) and file a written disclosure statement with the State Ethics Commission.
9. All signatories to this screening protocol shall review it within thirty (30) days from the date of the last signature to assure it has been followed and determine if the circumstances have changed to make the protocol no longer necessary.



Adrienne Balla
Environmental Manager
Office of Air Quality

7-10-2024
Date



James E. Weingart
Director
Northern Regional Office

7/10/24
Date

/s/ James M French

James French
Ethics Officer
Office of Legal Counsel

7/10/2024
Date

Ethics Screen for Adrienne Balla

French, James M <JFrench@idem.IN.gov>

Wed 7/10/2024 4:37 PM

To:Rockensuess, Brian <BRockens@idem.IN.gov>

Cc:Balla, Adrienne <ABalla@idem.IN.gov>;Weingart, James <JWEINGAR@idem.IN.gov>

📎 2 attachments (394 KB)

Disclosure for Balla -- MasterBrand Inc.pdf; Balla Screen - MasterBrand.pdf;

Commissioner Rockensuess,

This email serves as notification to the appointing authority per IC 4-2-6-9(b)(2)(D) that OAQ's Adrienne Balla has a potential conflict of interest. On March 3rd, 2024, Ms. Balla filed a personal injury lawsuit with MasterBrand, Inc, stemming from an incident that occurred when Ms. Balla was inspecting the MasterBrand facilities on January 17th, 2024. Though IDEM does not assert this to be a conflict of interest per IC 4-2-6-9, IDEM is instituting the following to ensure Ms. Balla is screened from any potential conflict of interest with MasterBrand. Ms. Balla and I have discussed IC 4-2-6-9, and I instructed her to file a written disclosure to the Office of the Inspector General and to implement a screening protocol here at IDEM, see attached. Ms. Balla's supervisor, James Weingart, has been notified of the screening protocol. Please reach out if you have any questions, thanks.

Best,
Michael

James Michael French

Attorney | IDEM

Tel: (317) 234-2170

Email: jfrench@idem.in.gov

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