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OFFICE OF THE VICE CHAIR ADMIN

February 23, 2006

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Tonya Brown
 FROM: Francie Frederick
 Barry Burgdorf

SUBJECT: Contracts with La Mansion del Rio and the Watermark Hotel in San Antonio

As you know, Regent Robert Rowling is the president and owner of a company that owns the Omni Hotel chain. To comply with conflict of interest laws, U. T. System institutions are no longer contracting for group, meeting, or conference accommodations or other services, including the direct billing for individual accommodations, with any Omni Hotel property regardless of the location

Effective March 16, 2006, the Watermark Hotel and the La Mansion del Rio Hotel in San Antonio will become part of the Omni Hotel chain and will become subject to the conflict of interest restrictions. Therefore, beginning on March 16, neither U. T. System nor any U. T. System institution will be permitted to contract with those hotels for group, meeting, or conference accommodations or other services, including the direct billing for individual accommodations. Agreements negotiated and signed before March 16 are not affected.

Please note that individuals traveling on official university business may continue to stay at a hotel in the Omni Hotel chain as long as the individual uses any applicable state rate contracted with that hotel by the Texas Building and Procurement Commission. Although TBPC does not currently have a contract with either the La Mansion del Rio Hotel or the Watermark Hotel in San Antonio, it is possible that TBPC will contract with one or both of those hotels in the future. We are advised that a current list of hotels under contract with TBPC is available on the TBPC website.

Would you please ask Travel Coordinator, Nancy Sutherland, to forward this information to the travel representatives and chief business officers at all U. T. System institutions as soon as possible?

FF/BB: lw

xc: Chairman Huffines
 Members, Board of Regents
 Chancellor Yudof
 Dr. Scott Kelley