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Latoya Clark-Forbes, Purchasing Agent
Broward County Purchasing Division
115 South Andrews Avenue, Room 212
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
Via email lclarkforbes@broward.org

Re: your Email regarding a "White Paper" on local preference and the upcoming
Commission meeting re: Award of Contract on Bid PNC2119168P1; Objection

Dear Ms. Clark-Forbes:

Thank you for forwarding the document identified as a "White Paper" to us. We object to the consideration of this "White Paper" which is nothing more than a challenge to this Bid award outside of the proper procurement procedure. Allowing persons to comment and argue against a Bid Award by labeling their late-filed brief as a "White Paper" will turn the procurement process from the present one where the Procurement Department evaluates the bids, and recommends to the Commissioners, into a last minute matter in which Commissioners are given "White Papers" by anyone who wants to challenge the award without following the process. We therefore urge that this document not be distributed until after the agenda item on our bid award to avoid interfering with the proper procurement process.

In the event that you go forward with distribution, however, our earlier submission counters these arguments and demonstrates our compliance, and we urge that the Commissioners be presented with our arguments in our Response and in this objection. To summarize a few of the key points: Calvin Giordano & Associates, Inc. (CGA) employs numerous persons in the Ft. Lauderdale office, making the Broward County location the actual nerve center of our business: CGA employs over 220 persons with their home address in Broward County, over 88% of our staff reports to locations within Broward County, with most of those – well over 150, working with[in] our Headquarters. The facts are clear – we comply with the terms of the bid documents, and there is no credible evidence to the contrary – because the facts are present in those very employees who work and live here. On behalf of those 200 plus employees who reside in Broward County, and who depend on CGA for their livelihood, we urge the Commission to reject these outside considerations and award the contract to CGA as recommended by the Purchasing Division.

For your convenience we have also enclosed a copy of our Response, timely filed in February, which provides additional, incontrovertible, evidence of that compliance.

Sincerely,

Chris Giordano, Vice President & Treasurer
Calvin, Giordano & Associates