

## REPORT ON INFORMATION COLLECTED CONCERNING APPLICANT

Under section 60835 of title 2 of the California Code of Regulations, the Bureau of State Audits is responsible for collecting information concerning applicants for the Citizens Redistricting Commission that is needed by the Applicant Review Panel to perform its responsibilities. This is a report by Bureau staff in compliance with that responsibility.

Name of Applicant: M. Andre Parvenu # 20225

Information: Research conducted by bureau staff revealed that that Applicant was involved in various community and service events. Staff requested and received the following additional information from the Applicant about those activities:

Bureau staff asked for more information about the Community Coalition's "Take Back the Night." Applicant informed bureau staff that he volunteered at the Community Coalition's "Take Back the Night" events, which were in response to a crack cocaine epidemic, proliferation of liquors stores, homelessness, and gang violence in South Central Los Angeles.

Bureau staff asked for further information on applicant's work as a Community Relations Officer at the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA). Applicant stated that he was a Community Relations Officer for the MTA in the 1990's and would drive vanloads of youth who had been ordered by a court to do community service through a graffiti abatement program, which involved cleaning up trash, covering up graffiti, and cleaning MTA buses. Applicant further stated that he would talk to the youth about improving their lives, getting off drugs/alcohol, etc.

Bureau staff asked the applicant about his service as a board member of the KRST Unity Church/Community Center (KRST). Applicant stated that he is a board member of the KRST Unity Church/Community Center (KRST) and serves in many capacities, including tutoring 1-12 grade students, planting organics gardens in member's backyards in exchange for the church paying the owner's water bill. Produce is then given away or sold for a nominal fee.

Bureau staff asked the applicant why he did not finish is PhD at the University of Michigan, as indicated on his application. Applicant stated that he did not complete his PhD because he was a Ford Foundation Fellow and was in jeopardy of losing his grant because of the recession and also did not like living in Michigan.

Bureau staff asked the applicant about a break in employment, as reflected on his application. Applicant stated that he had a break in employment while he was in graduate school in Wisconsin and worked part-time. He did not list the part-time job because it wasn't relevant to ARP work. Also, it should be noted that the break in employment was

over 20 years old and Applicants are only required to provide 10 years of employment history.

Bureau staff asked why the applicant did not list any family members. The applicant stated that he thought he only needed to provide information on family members with whom he had a bona fide relationship. The applicant provided additional information about his family members, and was advised to amend his application, which he did immediately.

Bureau staff contacted the Reverend Richard Meri Ka Ra Byrd, the author of one of the Applicant's letters of recommendation, to confirm the information provided in the letter and receive any additional information that may be relevant. Rev. Byrd confirmed the information in the letter and added that the Applicant is very active with their spiritual center doing outreach for their various programs: "no child left behind"; onsite alternative high school, etc., and as a board member. Rev. Bird also stated that the Applicant always tries to understand people or issues based on principles rather than appearances. He also stated that the Applicant is involved with many diverse organizations and is very active in the community. Rev. Byrd wishes Applicant had more time to devote to the center.

Recommendation: None.

Name and Title of Person Submitting Report: Sharon Reilly, Chief Counsel

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Report Date: September 20, 2010