

AUDITOR JANSSEN FILES DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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LINCOLN, NE – Nebraska State Auditor Charlie Janssen announced today that he has filed a statement with the Accountability and Disclosure Commission (NADC) regarding state contracts held by the small business Janssen founded.

“I believe elected officials are rightly held to a high standard,” Janssen said. “Filing these statements now exceeds what is required by the NADC and should further demonstrate my commitment to transparency on this issue.”

Janssen is owner of RTG Medical, a medical staffing company located in Fremont. The company holds contracts to provide the state with needed temporary medical personnel.

The Political Accountability and Disclosure Act does not prohibit a state elected official from having an interest in companies awarded public contracts. Janssen requested an opinion from the NADC to clarify the conflict of interest issue.

In a written response to an inquiry from Janssen, the Commission reiterated findings from previous advisory opinions¹, stating that a conflict of interest exists for a public official when it is “reasonably foreseeable” that any action or decision would create a “financial benefit or detriment,” and that no conflict exists if that benefit or detriment is speculative, remote, or uncertain.

“Since taking office in January, we have fought for legislation to increase efficiency and accountability in the Auditor’s office,” Janssen said. “I will continue working with the NADC to ensure no conflict exists between my responsibilities as a small business owner and my obligations to Nebraska taxpayers.”

¹ *Nebraska Accountability Advisory Opinions 077 & 194*