

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

August 16, 2013

Svetlana Mintcheva
Director of Programs
National Coalition Against Censorship
19 Fulton Street, Suite 407
New York, NY 10038

Doug Bonney
Chief Counsel & Legal Director
ACLU of Kansas & Western Missouri
3601 Main Street
Kansas City, MO 64111

Dear Ms Mintcheva and Mr. Bonney:

Thank you for your letter dated August 13, 2013 regarding the expiration of a changing art exhibition contract that has been in place at the University of Kansas Medical Center campus. You ask the Board of Regents to renew that contract so that the exhibition can continue.

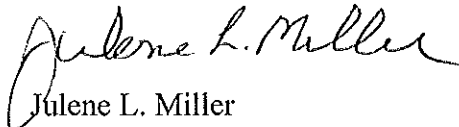
The Kansas Board of Regents is a policy board that coordinates the public higher education system, which is comprised of 32 institutions, as well as governing the six state universities. The Board is not an administrative/management board that involves itself in the day-to-day operations of these institutions. Each institution's chief executive officer, or the chief executive officer's designee, is charged with administering the affairs of their respective institutions, subject to the laws of the State and the policies of the Board. Thus, the Board was not involved in the decision to initiate a changing art exhibit at the Medical Center campus, was not a party to any contracts or arrangements between the Medical Center and any artist or other individual regarding the art exhibit, and was not involved in any decision to not renew such exhibit or contract(s). Additionally, aside from general purchasing provisions, there does not appear to be a Board policy on point with regard to contractual arrangements for exhibiting art or the circumstances you describe.

We are therefore forwarding your letter to Chancellor Gray-Little for her review and any appropriate response. We encourage you to work with the Chancellor and her staff toward a mutually satisfactory resolution. We do note that the 2013 Legislature cut the Medical Center's

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fiscal year 2014 state funding by \$4,247,105.00, and the budget for fiscal year 2015 reflects the same reduced funding. Accordingly, that campus is in the process of determining where it will be able to reduce expenditures in order to manage these severe cuts.

Sincerely,



Julene L. Miller
General Counsel

Cc: Bernadette Gray-Little, Chancellor, University of Kansas
Vince Loffredo, Vice-Chancellor, KUMC Student Services