



CITY OF KENNER

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

MICHAEL S. YENNI
MAYOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 3, 2011

KENNER MAYOR MIKE YENNI TERMINATES KCVB CONTRACT; NEWS CONFERENCE SET TODAY TO ANNOUNCE STEPS

Kenner, LA- Mayor Michael S. Yenni announced today that the City of Kenner is terminating all financial support to the Kenner Convention and Visitors Bureau (KCVB),

In an August 2nd letter, Mayor Yenni authorized the City Attorney to give written notice to the KCVB that the City of Kenner finds the KCVB in breach of contract(s). The City of Kenner is terminating all KCVB agreements and all other financial support to the tourism promotion office effective immediately. Furthermore, the officials and staff of the KCVB have been advised to vacate the office space provided by the City of Kenner.

This action comes on the heels of an audit by the City's Internal Auditor, who uncovered significant, questionable business practices and expenditures at the KCVB. According to the KCVB's by-laws, regular board meetings are where authority for any business transaction is granted. However, the KCVB has not had a valid board meeting for three (3) years.

Without authorization, loans salary advances and bonuses were issued to KCVB employees. Substantial consultant fees were paid without any contract, scope of work, or any evidence provided that work had been performed by the consultant. Furthermore, upon questioning by city officials, the KCVB Executive Director admitted that "little or no work" was performed by the consultant. The audit also found evidence of longstanding misuse of the KCVB's credit card(s).

Additionally, the KVCB's lack of cooperation and responsiveness further complicated the audit process. Mayor Yenni will address the contract termination and KCVB audit findings at a news conference at 10:00am, Wednesday, August 3, 2011 in the Mayor's Conference Room at Kenner City Hall.

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