



AGENDA MEMORANDUM
City Council Meeting of July 15, 2025

DATE: July 15, 2025

TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager

FROM: Miles Risley, City Attorney
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Oak View Group matters involving Arena in Austin

CAPTION:

Briefing on the news released by the Department of Justice (DOJ) related to the former Global Spectrum, LP, d/b/a Oak View Group (OVG) Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Timothy Leiweke.

BACKGROUND:

On July 9, 2025, the DOJ issued a press release titled “Live Entertainment CEO Indicted for Orchestrating Conspiracy to Rig Bidding Process for Public University Arena.” The DOJ has accused Timothy Leiweke of “orchestrating a conspiracy to rig the bidding process for an arena at a public university in Austin, Texas.” He has been charged with violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act, which carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and a \$1 million criminal fine.

According to the press release, Mr. Leiweke had engaged in unfair business practices related to a contract for entertainment services, circumventing an open and competitive bid process to secure that contract. In exchange for receiving the subcontracts for the arena, the CEO of Legends Hospitality agreed to “stand down” from the bidding process to ensure that OVG was the “sole, qualified” bidder.

The City Attorney will review the facts of the Austin case and discuss how the case may or may not impact the existing management and operation services contract OVG 360 has with the City for the Convention Center Complex, and/or the naming rights process.