NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2001

Is There a Future for Giuliani At Ernst & Young? He Won't Say

By DIANE CARDWELL

Further fueling speculation about his next step, Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani declined yesterday to say whether or not he was negotiating for positions at the accounting giant Ernst & Young for himself and three administration officials.

"As soon as I make a decision, I'll report it," the mayor said, adding, "But I need a little time to explore maybe seven or eight different possibilities."

While neither confirming nor denying the negotiations, first reported yesterday in The New York Post, the mayor suggested that he was at least in discussions with the company. Responding to a question about whether he might be considering a position at Ernst & Young, the mayor said, "I think I'd rather discuss that privately, but it's, it's still very preliminary."

Lawrence J. Parnell, director of public relations for Ernst & Young, would say only, "Any discussions about the mayor's future plans really have to come from the mayor."

An aide to Mr. Giuliani said that he thought such a move by the mayor was unlikely. But speculation has focused on the fact that Ernst & Young does work restructuring companies, a task the mayor has participated in as a private attorney.

Yesterday, the mayor said that turning companies around is one of the many things he would consider doing, but that he had not yet "had the time to figure out all of the possibilities that exist," and pick what he most wants to pursue. He will do that in the next couple of weeks, he said.

In the months since the attack on the World Trade Center, as Mr. Giuliani's popularity has soared, his post-mayoral possibilities have begun to seem boundless. Friends and associates have floated ideas ranging from celebrity law partner or baseball commissioner to corporate C.E.O. or future political candidate.

There has also been talk of Mr. Giuliani's serving as chairman of the Lower Manhattan Redevelopment Corporation, established by Gov. George E. Pataki to oversee the rebuilding of the area around ground zero.



Don Hogan Charles/The New York Times

The possibilities for Rudolph W. Giuliani often seem boundless.

"As soon as I make a decision, I'll report it," the mayor said.

But only a few of Mr. Giuliani's next steps are currently transparent. He has a $3 million contract with Talk Miramax Books to write a guide about leadership and management, to be published in June, and a memoir, tentatively scheduled for publication in 2003 or 2004. He has also said that he will provide whatever assistance the mayor-elect, Michael R. Bloomberg, requests.

"I've just really begun the process of focusing on what I want to do next year," Mr. Giuliani said yesterday after returning to City Hall from attending three funerals.

"I originally was going to do that in September and October — that was my plan. But as you know, plans all changed when the World Trade Center happened."

CITY_21MC100_011833021

NYC-WTC_000414972