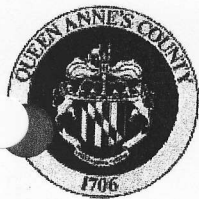


QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION



*Queen
Anne's
County*

The Liberty Building
107 North Liberty Street
Centreville, Maryland 21617

Telephone 410-758-4406
Facsimile 410-758-6913

Tina Miles, Clerk
Lynn Knight, Attorney

The Ethics Commission

Robert Mueller, Esquire, Chairman
Kendall Ruffatto, Esquire
Reverend Nanese A. Hawthorne
Benjamin C. Tilghman, Jr.
Harold O. Wilson

Advisory Opinion from on May 18, 2009

The Commission considered the facts were provided regarding a possible perception of a conflict of interest regarding a gift to a county employee who was the secretary to the Council of Governments.

The Commission determined that there would not be a violation of the County Public Ethics Law, specifically §8-12 A and C, in that the Code does not prohibit a gift from a body like the Council of Governments, and the gift was from the individual members and not the governmental body. There is also no suggestion that the gift, as appreciation for her work, would affect the employee's "impartiality and independent judgment." Under those facts, the Ethics commission could not find that the receipt of the gift would be a violation of the Ethics law.

Advisory Opinion 09-03