

The Ethics Commission
Robert Mueller, Chairman
Francis Roudiez
Kendell Ruffatto
Nanese Hawthorne

Advisory Opinion from January 28, 2008

The Commission determined that the Queen Anne's County members of a regional Citizens Advisory Committee being formed for the purposes of site selection for the regional detention center would be subject to the County Public Ethics Law, specifically §8-13 (C) in that financial disclosure statements would be required. Even though the group is a regional one and not a Queen Anne's County Board or Commission, it will be making recommendations of land acquisition and zoning, and the Queen Anne's County Commissioners will be selecting three members from this County to serve. The Board concluded that the statute may be ambiguous as to this type of regional group, but in construing the statute as a whole, it concludes that the citizens of Queen Anne's County that are selected to serve will be subject to the County Ethics Law.