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**The Ethics Commission**

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Advisory Opinion from April 16, 2012

The Commission considered the facts that were provided regarding the acceptance by a County Commissioner of complimentary tickets to attend a Shock Trauma Gala and whether that would violate the County Ethics Code, in particular the gifts section.

The Commission determined that from the information provided, there would not be an Ethics Violation to accept the ticket and to attend as County Commissioner, as defined in § 8-12 (B) (5) as a qualified exception. "Tickets or free admission extended to an elected official from the person sponsoring or conducting the event, as a courtesy or ceremony to the office, to attend a charitable, cultural, or political event" would be the nature of this request. While subsection C is implicated, no facts were alleged that would imply that there was any intent to impair the impartiality or independent judgment of the county official but receipt of the gift.

Advisory Opinion 12-02