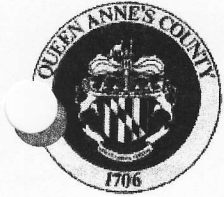


QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION



*Queen
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County*

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Harold O. Wilson

Advisory Opinion from October 20, 2008

The Commission considered the facts that were provided regarding an individual's service on the County Planning Commission and his participation in the review of the Queenstown Comprehensive Plan. The inquiry into whether there could be a conflict of interest and a violation of the County Public Ethics Law was related to the fact that the individual owned land that abuts a particular piece of real estate that the Ethics Commission inferred may be affected by the Queenstown Comprehensive plan.

The Ethics Commission first determined that the County Planning Commission is such a Commission or Board designated by the County Ethics Law under §8-5 to be subject to all of the provisions of the Ethics law (conflicts of interest, gifts, and financial disclosure). Further, the Ethics Commission determined that there is an appearance of a conflict under §8-11 (A) (1) in that an informed member of the public could reasonably believe that the individual could receive a direct financial impact from the adoption of Queenstown Comprehensive Plan, and therefore he must recuse himself from participating in the review, discussion and adoption of the plan.

Advisory Opinion 08-26