

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

**The Ethics Commission**

Stan Ruddle, Chairman  
Karin Salisbury  
Valerie G. Smith Hirsch  
Jerry Jordan  
Patricia J. Jamison

Advisory Opinion from February 6, 2020

The Ethics Commission considered a request from the County Administrator for an Advisory Opinion regarding whether the former political relationship between an elected official and a private citizen would affect that official's ability to vote on potential matters, including easement dedications, infrastructure funding and grants, that the citizen might request for a new project he was undertaking.

Based on the facts that were provided, the Commission determined that the former relationship between the official and the citizen did not present a conflict of interest in itself. However, should any current or future business relationship exist between the two, this relationship would be a conflict of interest, in accordance with County Ethics Code, paragraphs 8-11 (A)(4) and 8-11 (A)(9), and would therefore require the official to recuse himself from discussion and voting on the matters referred to in the request.

Advisory Opinion 20-01

