



*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 June 21, 2010.

The Commission considered the facts that were provided regarding a County employee's Father's running for and potentially becoming a County Commissioner and that employee being a Director of a County Agency and whether his abstaining from a vote would cure a violation of the County Public Ethics Law.

The Commission determined that from the information that was provided, that this relationship is prohibited by the Conflict of Interest section of the Ethics Law, as defined in § 8-11 (A) 1 and an appearance of a Conflict of Interest by § 8-11 (A) 7. The remedy for the Conflict would be for the Father, as County Commissioner, to recuse himself from a vote on any matter before the Commission regarding that particular County Agency, including any budget matters. There may need to be additional remedies if more facts or a particular situation occurs that implicates the Conflict of Interest section of the Ethics Law.

Advisory Opinion 10-08