

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

Advisory Opinion of December 17, 2007

The Commission considered the facts provided regarding the spouse of a County Commissioner serving on the QAC Free Library Board and how that would affect the voting of that County Commissioner. The Commission determined that it would be reasonable to infer that the County Commissioner would be influenced by his spouse's participation on the Library Board. Therefore, under the Public Ethics Law, §8-11 (a) 7, the appearance of a conflict of interest would exist for the County Commissioner in taking any vote on a matter involving the QAC Free Library. If the spouse was elected to the Library Board, and the County Commissioner requested an advisory opinion from the Board, the Board has determined that based on the facts that were presented; the Board would advise the County Commissioner that he/she must recuse himself/herself from voting on matter dealing with the QAC Free Library.