



Queen
Anne's
County

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

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The Ethics Commission

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Reverend Nanese A. Hawthorne ~~(alt. member)~~

Tina Miles, Clerk
Lynn Knight, Counsel

Advisory Opinion Issued on November 19, 2007.

The Commission determined that the receipt of a free or reduced cost trip by an employee of the Queen Anne's County Department of Aging to accompany seniors and community members on a trip sponsored by the Department of Aging and arranged by a contractor travel agency would violate the gift section of the Queen Anne's County Public Ethics law, §8-12A. The gift exceeds the permissible value of a gift that may be accepted by a County employee from an entity that has a contract with the County or is subject to the authority of the employee's agency, as set out in §8-12A. Further, acceptance of this gift may also violate §8-12C(2), as giving the appearance of impairing the impartiality and independent judgment of the employee receiving the gift. The County employee may not accept the free trip.