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Board of Ethics

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Executive Director

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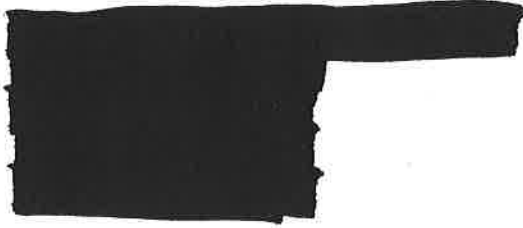
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July 29, 1998

CONFIDENTIAL



Re: Case No. 98035.Q
Travel

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of July 16, 1998, which this office received on July 20.

In your letter, you indicated that you have been invited to be a panelist at the **Conference,** an industry-wide product marketing conference sponsored by the [REDACTED] Association ("A"). The Conference will be held in [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] You asked the Board of Ethics whether any provisions of the Ethics Ordinance would prohibit you from participating in the Conference and being reimbursed for certain expenses you incur in connection with it. After reviewing the facts you presented and considering past Board cases, Board staff has concluded that the Ethics Ordinance does not prohibit you from participating in the Conference or accepting reimbursement for the expenses you described.

You indicated that you have been asked to be a panelist in a panel discussion entitled "[REDACTED]" to be held on [REDACTED]. The panel will include [REDACTED] administrators from other U.S. cities, such as [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. The panel discussion moderator, "M", of "L", an Illinois law firm, asked you to be a panelist because your experience with "the problems and issues surrounding [REDACTED] over the last few years" in Chicago would be of value to Conference participants and attendees. "A" has offered to reimburse you, as a Conference participant, for coach airfare and one night's hotel accommodations, and has offered you complimentary admission to the Conference.

You also indicated to Board staff that neither "A" nor "L" has any business with or matter pending before your Department.



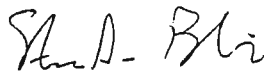
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Based on the facts you presented and previous Board of Ethics cases, Board staff concludes that the Ethics Ordinance does not prohibit you from participating in the Conference or accepting "A's" offer. However, please note that if you receive any gift or honorarium for your participation as a panelist in the Conference, the Ethics Ordinance requires that you report it to the Board of Ethics within five business days (see § 2-156-040[g]).

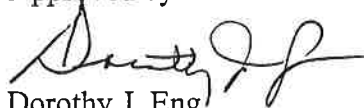
Thank you for contacting us about this matter, and for your willingness to abide by the standards embodied in the Governmental Ethics Ordinance. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Very truly yours,



Steven I. Berlin
Deputy Director

Approved by:



Dorothy J. Eng
Executive Director

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