



LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

ETHICS COMMISSION

JERRY E. ABRAMSON  
MAYOR

LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY  
METRO GOVERNMENT ETHICS COMMISSION  
REQUEST FOR OPINION: 10-C-002

**Authority granted by Ordinance**

The Ethics Ordinance vests in this body the sole authority to determine whether a Metro Officer has violated any of its provisions.

Note: Ethics Ordinance, Section 21.02 (F) (2003)

**Background information of the request**

Councilman Ken Fleming submitted a request for an advisory opinion dated February 23, 2010. Councilman Fleming advises he will be receiving the "Celebrate Freedom Award," at the Galt House, from the "Healing Place Organization." He further advises this is a dinner event and will include complimentary tickets for him, his wife, and his legislative assistant. Councilman Fleming's concern is the \$150 value of this event exceeds the \$25 cap as stated in the Ordinance.

**Applicable Rules**

No Metro Officer, members of his immediate family, or business organization, non-profit entity, or labor organization in which such officer has an interest shall solicit or accept any gift, favor, loan, political contribution, service, economic opportunity, promise of future employment, or any thing of value was given or offered:

1. For the purpose of influencing such officer, directly or indirectly, in the discharge of his/her official duties; or
2. For the purpose of gaining access to the Metro Officer

**Ethics Commission Resolution**

The Ethics Commission requested and received necessary information from Councilman Fleming to issue an opinion on his request. Based on the information provided, the commission determined there would be **no violation of the ordinance**. However, there were considerable questions raised as to why the legislative assistant should be afforded complimentary tickets as well.

Larry Grant  
Acting Chair  
Metro Louisville/Jefferson County Ethics Commission