



LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

ETHICS COMMISSION

April 18, 2010
JERRY E. ABRAMSON
MAYOR

LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY
METRO GOVERNMENT ETHICS COMMISSION
REQUEST FOR AN OPINION 10-D-001

Authority granted by the Ordinance

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

Note: Metro Council approved Ethics Ordinance revision unanimously on March 11, 2010 and by the Mayor on March 25, 2010.

Background information of the request

On March 19, 2010, Mr. Wayne Zelinsky, Interim Director of Metro Animal Services, submitted a Request for an Opinion on whether it would be a violation to award a professional services work contract to Dr. Kerry Garrity who is a board member of SPOT. SPOT is a non-profit organization that supports Metro Animal Services. Dr. Garrity was previously awarded a professional services contract by Metro Government to spay/neuter stray cats. This contract was awarded through a public, open bidding process, based on price, availability and services. Mr. Zelinsky had previously discussed this matter with the County Attorney's Office. He was advised there did not appear to be a conflict of interest but suggested this matter be deferred to the Metro Ethics Commission.

Applicable Rules

As written in 21.02 STANDARDS OF CONDUCT Section (B) and (E)

Ethics Commission Discussion

Due to the complexity of Mr. Zelinsky's request, he was invited to attend and address questions for clarification at the scheduled Ethics Commission meeting on April 15, 2010. Mr. Zelinsky attended the meeting and answered all questions presented by the Commission members. Based on the information received, the Ethics Commission unanimously voted to approve the awarding of the work contract to Dr. Garrity.

Larry Grant
Acting Chair
Metro Louisville/Jefferson County Ethics Commission