



ETHICS COMMISSION
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

GREG FISCHER
MAYOR

TO: Mr. John Walczak, Director, Metro Louisville Zoo

FROM: Louisville Metro Ethics Commission

DATE: September 27, 2013

RE: Advisory Opinion 13-D-001

Dear Mr. Walczak:

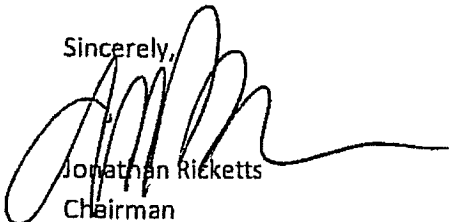
At its September 19, 2013 regular meeting, the Metro Ethics Commission considered your request for an opinion regarding acceptance of a gift from the Louisville Zoo Foundation Board for your leadership as Director of the Louisville Zoo. It is the Commission's opinion that the controlling section of the Ethics Ordinance is §21.02(F), which allows acceptance of an award publicly presented in recognition of public service.

Provided that the gift is publically presented to you in recognition of your public service, and is not in violation of other sections of the Standards of Conduct found in §21.02 of the Ethics Ordinance, you would be permitted to accept the gift.

I hope this opinion is of assistance to you, and appreciate your willingness to engage the Commission on this question. An open and frank dialogue on these matters being necessary to maintain the public's trust in government and the integrity of our public officers, I encourage you to approach us in the future should any question arise relative to the Metro Louisville Ethics Program.

If you have any more questions relative to this or any other issue, please call me at 896-2303 or Janet Black at 574-6426.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Ricketts
Chairman