

2016 Board Opinions

Advisory Opinion No.	Date Issued	Brief Description	Key Words
			Citations
2016-002 Public Advisory Opinion	07/26/16	<p>Advised the Philadelphia Land Bank regarding application of City ethics and lobbying laws to the Land Bank, its board members, and staff. The requirements and prohibitions of the City Lobbying Law apply to efforts by lobbyists and principals to lobby the Land Bank. Ethics Code provisions apply to Land Bank board members in the manner they apply to members of a City board or commission. Ethics Code provisions apply to Land Bank staff members in the manner they apply to City employees. The Opinion also addressed six specific questions posed by the Land Bank regarding: (1) board members' conflicts of interest with respect to former employers; (2) post-service restrictions for board members; (3) whether decisions made under an established policy are official action subject to conflict of interest disqualification; (4) permissibility of blanket disclosure and disqualification letters for board members; (5) obligations of board members who work for City Council; and (6) obligations of board members who are members of an outside agency or organization.</p>	LAND BANK; UNCOMPENSATED BOARD MEMBER; LOBBYING; FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE; CONFLICT OF INTEREST; PRE-SERVICE EMPLOYMENT RELATIONSHIP; POST-EMPLOYMENT; OFFICIAL ACTION; BLANKET DISCLOSURE AND DISQUALIFICATION LETTER; REPRESENTATION RESTRICTION; MEMBERSHIP IN OUTSIDE AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION; DISCRETIONARY DECISION; MINISTERIAL; CITY COUNCIL STAFF-MEMBER; TRANSACTION INVOLVING THE LAND BANK
			Code Chapter 16-700 (Land Bank Ordinance), 20-1200 (Lobbying Code); Code §§ 20-601(17), 20-602; 20-607(a)&(c), 20-608, 20-609; Board Reg. 9
2016-001 Non-public Advisory Opinion	04/21/2016	<p>Advised City employee that it is permissible under the Charter political activity restrictions to perform non-City, part-time paid work as an usher at the Wells Fargo Center during the Democratic National Convention. Although the proposed work would involve the employee providing event support for the Democratic National Convention, the</p>	POLITICAL ACTIVITY; POLITICAL PARTY EVENT SUPPORT; DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION; OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT; VOLUNTEER; USHER; STAFF; PAID WORK; SPECTATOR AT POLITICAL EVENT

		<p>situation presented does not involve the City employee volunteering to assist a political party with its event. Rather, in providing this event support, the requestor would be carrying out the ushering duties typically performed as part of paid work regardless of the entity conducting an event at the Wells Fargo Center.</p>	<div></div> <div> <p>Charter § 10-107(4); Regulation 8, ¶¶ 8.1(n), 8.11, 8.14(e); Board Opinion 2012-002; Board Advisory Alert: <i>Guidelines for City Employees Regarding Off-Duty Volunteering Related to the Upcoming Democratic National Convention</i> (Mar. 28, 2016)</p> </div>
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