



met

City of Chicago
Harold Washington, Mayor

December 1, 1986

Board of Ethics
Rev. Donald Benedict
Chair
Janet Malone Morrow
Vice-Chair
Rev. Harry Gibson
Nola Hicks
Vennie Lyons
Beatrice Pizana
Carl Shier

City Hall, Room 1107
121 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, Illinois 60602
(312) 744-7334

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Case Number: 86011.A

The Board of Ethics has considered your request for an advisory opinion concerning your membership on the board of the [REDACTED] Association, a non-profit social service agency, from which you derive no income. You inform the Board that 1) [REDACTED] is receiving grants from the Department of Human Services to provide a variety of services to those in need, and 2) in your role with the City you have had no involvement in these decisions, nor do you have any responsibility over the contracting, approval or monitoring processes.

Section 4 of Executive Order 86.1 states:

"No official or employee shall make, participate in making or in any way attempt to use his position to influence any governmental decision or action in which he knows or has reason to know that he has an interest."

Section 9 states:

"Any official or employee who has a financial interest (as defined in Section 2 (i)) in any matter pending before any City agency shall publicly disclose the nature of such interest to the City Board of Ethics and, when appropriate, to his immediate superior. An official or employee is prohibited from making or participating in the making of a government decision with respect to any matter in which he has an interest (as defined in Section 2 (k)). The obligation to report a potential conflict of interest under this section arises as soon as the official or employee is aware of such conflict."

Section 12 of Executive Order 86.1 states:

"No official or employee shall have a financial interest in his own name or in the name of any other person in any contract, work or business of the City or in the sale of any article, whenever the expense, price or consideration of the contract, work, business or sale is paid either from the City treasury or authorized by any ordinance."

In the Board's view, your participation on this non-profit board, from which you derive no compensation of any kind, does not constitute a financial interest as defined in Section 2(i), but does constitute an interest as defined in Section 2(k).

The circumstances presented do not invoke Section 4 or the second sentence of Section 9 because you have no involvement of any kind in governmental decisions concerning **■**A.

Because your board membership does not constitute a financial interest, the first sentence of Section 9 is not applicable, nor is Section 12.

Please continue to exercise caution to keep your governmental and **■**A activities entirely separate.

The Board appreciates your presentation of this matter for an advisory opinion.

Sincerely,



Robert C. Howard
Chair
Board of Ethics