

7/24



MEMORANDUM

To: [REDACTED]

From: Dorothy J. Eng, Deputy Director
Board of Ethics *DE*

Re: Case No. 89145.Q

Date: October, 9 1990

City of Chicago
Richard M. Daley, Mayor

Board of Ethics

J. B. DeWilde
Executive Director

Albert F. Hofeld
Chair

Angeles L. Eames
Vice Chair

Margaret Carter
Russell Hardin
Marlene O. Rankin
Catherine M. Ryan

Suite 530
205 West Randolph Street
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 744-9660

On September 27, 1989, you wrote to the Board of Ethics in regard to an employee in your department [REDACTED] who was working with a community organization that was trying to implement the passage of REFERENDUM A [REDACTED] on the next regular election. This is a statewide proposal and your employee was not being compensated for his/her efforts, which consisted of soliciting signatures on petitions to be submitted to the Election Board. You asked whether this employee was in violation of § [REDACTED] of the Municipal Code of the City of Chicago.

At that time, § [REDACTED] of the Municipal Code prohibited employees of DEPT. Q [REDACTED] from engaging in political activity as defined in the Governmental Ethics Ordinance (26.2). Currently, § [REDACTED] (prior code § [REDACTED] similarly prohibits all employees of DEPT. Q [REDACTED] from engaging in political activity as defined in the Ethics Ordinance (2-156).

The definition of political activity, as stated in § 2-156-010 (prior code § 26.2-1), covers a wide range of activities engaged in as part of or on behalf of a political party or on behalf of a candidate for elected office. However, there is no reference to activities as a member of a non-partisan community organization working on behalf of a referendum [REDACTED]. Therefore the Dept. Q [REDACTED] employee was not in violation of the prohibition against political activity as stated in § [REDACTED] of the prior code or § [REDACTED] of the current code.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

89145.M2

