



EMUS

CONFIDENTIAL

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Re: Case no. 96026.Q
Gifts/travel

Travel

Dear [REDACTED]:

This letter will confirm our telephone conversation of [REDACTED]. You have been invited by X [REDACTED] to attend two consecutive conferences it is sponsoring in and around P [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] through [REDACTED], and have asked whether the City's Governmental Ethics Ordinance prohibits you from accepting certain travel and lodging expenses from X [REDACTED]. You will leave Chicago [REDACTED] and return [REDACTED]. X [REDACTED] has offered to pay for your roundtrip airfare to and from P [REDACTED] (by paying the "least costly fare"), as well as your lodging and food expenses, so that you can participate in the conferences. You will not receive any consultant's or other fees for attending, and will be responsible for paying for personal charges such as telephone, fax, room service, and beverages.

At the first conference, near P [REDACTED], you and the four other conference participants from the Chicago area will meet with participants from five other world cities to discuss work completed to date on a project of X [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] called [REDACTED].

You will also help prepare presentations to be made at the second conference you will attend: [REDACTED].

[REDACTED], which will follow in P [REDACTED] immediately. The focus of these conferences is the productive coordination of the activities and strategies of government and volunteer community-based groups. You have been invited to both conferences as an urban planner and a representative of local government.

Under Section 2-156-040(d) of the Ethics Ordinance, City employees are permitted to accept hosting



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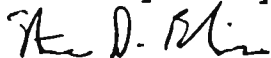
expenses, including travel and entertainment expenses, if:

- (1) the expenses are not paid anonymously;
- (2) the expenses are not paid to influence the employee's official actions in his or her City job;
- (3) the expenses are reasonable;
- (4) the expenses are furnished in connection with public events, appearances or ceremonies related to official City business; and
- (5) the expenses are furnished by the sponsor of the public event.

Based on our review of the invitation materials you sent us on [REDACTED], and on previous Board decisions, staff concludes your acceptance of these expenses to attend the conferences is permitted under §040(d) of the Ordinance.

We appreciate your inquiry and willingness to comply with the standards of the Ordinance. If you have any further questions, please contact us.

Yours very truly,



Steven I. Berlin
Deputy Director

Approved:


Dorothy J. Eng
Executive Director

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