



*Queen
Anne's
County*

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

The Liberty Building
107 North Liberty Street
Centreville, Maryland 21617

Telephone 410-758-4406
Facsimile 410-758-6913

The Ethics Commission
Kendall Ruffatto, Chairman
Robert C. Mueller, Esquire
Reverend Nanese A. Hawthorne
Harold O. Wilson
Jody Schulz
Richard Smith, Alternate Member

Tina Miles, Clerk
Lynn Knight, Counsel

Advisory Opinion from May 16, 2011

The Commission considered the facts that you provided regarding a Factory trip a county employee had been invited to attend and any potential conflict that might exist pursuant to the County Public Ethics Law.

The Commission issued a prior decision in 2008 with similar facts and circumstances, Opinion #8-16. The Commission was unable to determine from the information that was provided if the invitation was to the employee individually or to the County. The Commission determined that if the invitation was to the County government, there would not be a violation of the County Public Ethics Law, because there is no gift violation under any subsection of § 8- 12. The County Administrator could accept the invitation on behalf of the County, and designate a representative to attend and to represent the County. However, if the invitation was directly to the employee, then there is a violation of §8-12 (C) (2), as the trip would be in excess of \$20.00 in value.

Advisory Opinion #11-05