QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION



Queen
Anne's
County

The Ethics Commission Robert Mueller, Esquire, Chairman Kendall Ruffatto, Esquire Reverend Nanese A. Hawthorne Benjamin C. Tilghman, Jr. Harold O. Wilson The Liberty Building 107 North Liberty Street Centreville, Maryland 21617

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Advisory Opinion Issued June 16, 2008

The Ethics Commission reviewed a request for an Advisory Opinion regarding the Ultra Filtration System Site Tour being subject to the Ethics Law Conflicts of Interest § 8-12. Because of the timeliness of the request, information was provided prior to the Commission meeting that the general consensus of the Ethics Commission members was that it would be a conflict but that formal vote and discussion would be held at their meeting on June 16, 2008. At their meeting on June 16th the Commission reviewed the documents that were provided and determined that the acceptance of the meal and hotel accommodations which would be in excess of \$20.00 in value is a violation of § 8-12 C (2) as improper gift that would give the appearance of a conflict of interest that would impair the impartiality in determining which system would be appropriate for the County. It is suggested that the County pay for the trip, instead of the manufacturer to avoid the conflict.

Advisory Opinion 08-16