

FY 2022 Formal Advisory Opinions

Date	Source	Case	Case Type	Issue	Opinion/Response
September 13, 2021	22-0018	Official	Conflict of Interest	Whether it is permissible for an agent within Official's brokerage firm who is working with organization based in Maryland to locate a site to lease in Southern Prince George's County, Maryland, and another agent in Official's brokerage firm who is working with a business located in Upper Marlboro of Prince George's County, Maryland who wishes to lease space at Southlake, a mixed-use development in Bowie, Maryland.	Section 2-293(a) of the Ethics Code prohibits a County official from participation in any matter in which they have an interest, including a financial interest; or in matters where a business entity in which they have an employment interest, applied for employment, or a direct financial interest, is a party to the matter. It is not permissible for an agent within Official's office to work with business to locate a site to lease in Southern Prince George's County, Maryland and another agent in Official's office to work with business who wishes to lease space at Southlake.
January 14, 2022	22-0131	Official	Conflict of Interest	Whether the Mayor of District Heights ("Mayor") can serve on the Authority in a Prince George's County Council ("Council") appointed position while being Mayor of a local jurisdiction.	The Mayor's participation as a member of the Authority may present potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Section 2-293(b) of the Ethics Code. The BOE believes it is essential for the Authority to have appropriate safeguards in place to ensure there are no conflicts of interest present or the appearance of a conflict of interest.

<p>January 14, 2022</p>	<p>22-0145</p>	<p>Official</p>	<p>Conflict of Interest</p>	<p>Whether it is a conflict of interest under the County's Code of Ethics with your private accounting firm doing business with a municipality that may have business or projects with the Authority. Specifically, your private accounting firm seeking to do business with the Town of District Heights, while the Mayor of District Heights ("Mayor") is a member of the Authority.</p>	<p>Section 2-293(C) provides that "an official or employee may not intentionally use the prestige of his office for his own private gain or that of another." you and the Mayor of District Heights serving on the Revenue Authority, you cannot use your position with the Board for your own private gain or that of another. Also, it is a conflict of interest if your accounting firm is doing business with any municipality doing business with the Revenue Authority. In the event a conflict of interest presents itself or the appearance of a conflict of interest, you must recuse yourself from any matter before the Revenue Authority involving a municipality that is engaged in business with your accounting firm.</p>
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