

TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION

The Texas Ethics Commission is authorized by the Government Code, §571.091, to issue advisory opinions in regard to the following statutes: the Government Code, Chapter 302; the Government Code, Chapter 305; the Government Code, Chapter 572; the Election Code, Title 15; the Penal Code, Chapter 36; and the Penal Code, Chapter 39. Requests for copies of the full text of opinions or questions on particular submissions should be addressed to the Office of the Texas Ethics Commission, P.O. Box 12070, Austin, Texas 78711-2070, (512) 463-5800.

Ethics Advisory Opinions

EAO-606: Whether a Texas Limited Liability Company that is a wholly-owned subsidiary of a Master Limited Partnership that is traded on the New York Stock Exchange is prohibited by Chapter 253 of the Election Code from making certain political contributions. (AOR-693).

SUMMARY

A Texas Limited Liability Company that is owned by a partnership whose shares are publicly-traded on an exchange is subject to the Chapter 253 corporate contribution prohibition if any share of the partnership is owned by a corporation.

The Texas Ethics Commission is authorized by section 571.091 of the Government Code to issue advisory opinions in regard to the following statutes: (1) Chapter 572, Government Code; (2) Chapter 302, Government Code; (3) Chapter 303, Government Code; (4) Chapter 305, Government Code; (5) Chapter 2004, Government Code; (6) Title 15, Election Code; (7) Chapter 159, Local Government Code; (8) Chapter 36, Penal Code; (9) Chapter 39, Penal Code; (10) Section 2152.064, Government Code; and (11) Section 2155.003, Government Code.

Questions on particular submissions should be addressed to the Texas Ethics Commission, P.O. Box 12070, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711-2070, (512) 463-5800.

Issued in Austin, Texas, on June 18, 2024.

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Jim Tinley
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Texas Ethics Commission
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EAO-607: Whether an officer or employee of a political subdivision who leases a residence to an employee may allow the employee to place a sign endorsing a candidate or a measure in the yard of the leased residence. (AOR-706).

SUMMARY

Under the facts presented in this opinion, an officer or employee of a political subdivision does not violate Section 255.003(a) by allowing a resident-employee to place political advertising outside of a residence owned by the ISD.

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EAO-608: Whether a PFS filer who owns a law firm that holds settlement funds on behalf of a client must report the settlement funds on the filer's personal financial statement filed under Chapter 572 of the Government Code. (AOR-708).

SUMMARY

Settlement funds held by law firm in trust for client are not the property of the law firm and do not have to be disclosed on a PFS.

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