Gifts

December 23, 1998

CONFIDENTIAL

[Mary]
[Office]
[ ]
[ ]

Re: Case No. 98068.Q

Dear [Mary],

On December 23, 1998 you faxed a memorandum to the Board of Ethics requesting guidance relating to a holiday gift which your department had received. You stated that a vendor who does printing and copying work for the
[Office] sent a box of candy valued at thirty dollars to the department. The gift was lost in transit by the shipping company. The shipping company then arranged to send another box of candy to the department, at no charge to the vendor, to make up for its mistake. In the meantime, the shipping company found the original box of candy, and both boxes of candy were delivered to the department at the same time. The total cost to the vendor was thirty dollars. You have asked whether the Office may accept both boxes of candy or whether one must be returned.

It is staff's conclusion that, under the facts presented, the City's Governmental Ethics Ordinance does not prohibit the [Office] from keeping both boxes of candy. Staff's conclusion is based solely on the application of the City's Governmental Ethics Ordinance to the facts presented, and other laws, rules, regulations or policies may apply to the situation. If any of the facts stated in this letter are inaccurate or incomplete, please inform us immediately, as any change could alter the conclusion.

Very truly yours,
[Signature]

Michael Haggerty
Deputy Director

Approved by:
[Signature]

Dorothy J. Eng
Executive Director