



EMUS

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[REDACTED]

CONFIDENTIAL

[REDACTED]

Re: Case No. 96017.Q
Chicago Abandoned Property Program

Dear Alderman [REDACTED]

At your request I am forwarding this letter to confirm our telephone conversation of March 26, 1996. In that conversation you stated that your [REDACTED], an employee of the Department of [REDACTED] informed you that he was seeking to purchase through the CAPP program a piece of property located in your ward. Because the individual chosen to participate in the program is required to have the alderman's support, he has asked you to forward to the Department of Housing a letter stating you support his participation in the program. If he is chosen, you believe his development proposal will benefit your ward. You wanted to know if there was anything in the City's Ethics Ordinance that would prohibit you, as alderman, from sending such a letter.

As an elected City official, you have a responsibility to act in the best interests of your constituents. Under § 2-156-090, so long as an alderman does not accept compensation for support the alderman gives while acting in an official capacity, he or she is not precluded from providing such support. Under the circumstances you describe, the Ordinance does not preclude you from lending your support to this individual before the Department of Housing.

I appreciate your contacting this office for guidance. Kindly note, my opinion in this matter is based solely on the facts you related to me and which I have presented in this letter. If the facts are incomplete or incorrect, please advise immediately, as any change could alter my conclusion.



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Thank you again for contacting us. If I can be of any further assistance, please let me know.

Very truly yours,


Dorothy J. Eng
Executive Director

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