



BOARD OF ETHICS
CITY OF CHICAGO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Board of Ethics Issues Probable Cause Notices For Unregistered Lobbying, and Retaining
an Unregistered Lobbyist**

January 25, 2017

At its special meeting held on January 25, 2017, the Board of Ethics issued two (2) notices that there is probable cause to determine that: (i) an individual; and (ii) the company that hired that individual, **each** violated the Governmental Ethics Ordinance's lobbying laws*: the individual, by engaging in lobbying on November 20, 2015, but then failing to register for that activity until nearly 5 months after that activity, on April 13, 2016; the company, for retaining this individual as an unregistered lobbyist.

By law, the names of the individual and company that hired the individual shall remain confidential until the matter is either settled or otherwise finally disposed of by the Board.

Also, by law, the fines to which both the individual and company are subject are substantial: \$2,000 for the company, and \$90,000 for the individual. Both the individual and lobbyist have been afforded a chance to respond to these probable cause notices.

*Specifically, §§2-156-245 (entitled "Failure to Register") and -305 (entitled "Retaining and employing lobbyists who have failed to register").