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City of Chicago
Eugene Sawyer, Acting Mayor

April 11, 1988

Board of Ethics
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Suite 1320
205 West Randolph Street
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 744-9660

[REDACTED]

Re: Ethics Ordinance

CONFIDENTIAL

Case Number 87079.A

Dear [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], the Board of Ethics received a request from [REDACTED] for an advisory opinion to determine whether the owner of a limousine service that catered mainly to tourists was permitted to serve on the Chicago Tourism Council by the Ethics Ordinance. [REDACTED] the Board analyzed [REDACTED] request under Section 26.2-8 of the Governmental Ethics Ordinance (Chapter 26.2 of the Municipal Code). Section 26.2-8 states that:

"No City official . . . shall make or participate in the making of any governmental decision with respect to any matter in which he has an economic interest distinguishable from that of the general public."

This section prohibits persons from taking part in City decisions which will have a foreseeable effect on their private interests. Section 26.2-8 is not intended to bar persons with an economic interest in a general area, such as tourism, from providing their experience and expertise to City agencies with responsibilities in that same area. Therefore, the Board concluded that the limousine service owner in question could serve on the Council, but that [REDACTED] had to recuse herself from any Council decisions that would have a foreseeable effect upon [REDACTED] economic interests (i.e., decisions directed towards [REDACTED] specific business or limousine services generally).



Page Two

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Should you have any questions, please contact the Board of Ethics at 744-9660.

Sincerely,


S. Brandzel
Chairman

[REDACTED]

MA/ma: [REDACTED]