

340-X-1-.04    Policy for Informal Opinions Relating to the Alabama Ethics Act

- 1) In order to facilitate the work of the Alabama Ethics Commission and to serve the public, the Director and General Counsel of the Alabama Ethics Commission are authorized to issue informal opinions to those covered and regulated by the Alabama Ethics Act as to the meaning and application of the Act and that individual's or entity's compliance with the Act.
- 2) Requests for informal opinions shall be in writing and shall state all of the facts relating to the request. A request contained in an email satisfies the requirement that the request be "in writing".
- 3) All requests for informal opinions and the opinions themselves are confidential and will not be disclosed unless authorized by the individual or entity requesting the opinion.
- 4) The effect of an informal opinion is prospective only and is based only on the facts presented.
- 5) Informal Opinions do not have the force and effect of Formal Opinions issued by the Alabama Ethics Commission and do not provide legal immunity to the requesting party.

**Author: John L. Carroll**

**Statutory Authority: 36-25-4(a)(11), Code of Alabama, 1975**

**History: New rule - filed 1/21/15**

**Certified 4/1/15**

**Effective 5/5/15**