

**City of Stamford
Board of Ethics
888 Washington Boulevard
Stamford, CT 06901**

December 12, 2003

Mr. John Lindquist
Director of Technology
City of Stamford
888 Washington Blvd.
9th Floor Technology Department
Stamford, CT 06901

Re: Board of Ethics, Request for Advisory Opinion

Dear Mr. Lindquist:

You have requested the Board of Ethics (the "Board") issue an Advisory Opinion addressing whether a conflict of interest exists under the City of Stamford Code of Ethics (the "Code") under the following set of facts and circumstances. You are the Director of Information of Technology for the City of Stamford. You received an invitation from Southern Bell Corporation to serve on a Special Board of Advisors. The Special Board of Advisors would meet two (2) to three (3) times a year. You would be reimbursed for your airfare, hotel and meals, but otherwise receive no compensation for serving on the Special Board of Advisors.

Southern Bell Corporation currently owns SNET. SNET has a three (3) year contract with the City for telecommunication services which expires in June of 2004. The City has re-bid this Contract and decided to enter into a new contract with SNET for services beginning July, 2004 ("the New Contract"). The New Contract must be approved by the Board of Finance and the Board of Representatives before it is finalized. The proposed contract will be for a three (3) year term with several one (1) year renewal options. The New Contract would be administered City employees that are your subordinates.

The Board was very impressed that you received this offer. It is a tribute to your knowledge and skill that you received an invitation to serve with other national leaders in your industry. Unfortunately, the Board feels that serving on the Special Advisory Board would create a conflict of interest under Sections 19-4 and 19-6 of the Code, and create the potential for conflict under Sections 19-5 and 19-8 of the Code.

The Board wishes to underscore that it is convinced of your integrity and commends you for requesting this opinion in advance of the potential for conflict

John Lindquist
December 12, 2003
Page 2 of 2

This opinion is binding upon the Board unless amended or revoked, and reliance on this opinion in good faith is an absolute defense to any action or proceeding under the provisions of the Code of Ethics. This decision was reached unanimously by the members of the Board of Ethics present at the December 3, 2003 meeting (Kaplan, Valdes, Levine, Klein, and LiVolsi).

The best of luck in all your future endeavors.

Very truly yours,

Amy J. LiVolsi
Chairman, Board of Ethics
City of Stamford

cc: Donna Loglisci, Town Clerk
Member of the Board of Ethics (Kaplan, Summons, Anderson, Levine, Klein and Valdes)