

Advisory #1996-1

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STAMFORD DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS

**Board of Ethics
City of Stamford
888 Washington Boulevard
PO Box 10152
Stamford, CT 06904-2152**

January 25, 1996

Jack Petkus, P.E.
Department of Traffic and Parking
888 Washington Boulevard
PO Box 10152
Stamford, CT 06904-2182

Dear Mr. Petkus:

DUPLICATE

You have requested an advisory opinion, on behalf of yourself and Ernest Orgera, regarding your respective attendance at a seminar. You have represented to the board that the seminar is being conducted by a corporation (3M) that is or may be a vendor of the City of Stamford. You have also represented that the seminar is directly related to your present responsibilities and duties. The sponsoring corporation will waive any tuition or fees for meals or overnight accommodations. It has been represented, and the sponsoring corporation's literature confirms, that the seminar is being conducted at a training facility and/or corporate headquarters that cannot be considered a resort. It is the further understanding of the Board that the sponsoring organization conducts these seminars as a matter of routine. The seminar is informational in nature focusing on Transportation Safety issues involving Signing and Pavement Markings and will be attended by a multitude of officials and employees from a variety of municipalities.

The board understands that your responsibility to the City of Stamford includes participation in the procurement of certain services and goods. The Board also understands that there is no obligation to the 3M Company and that all such acquisitions shall be subjected to competitive processes such as bidding or RFP's.

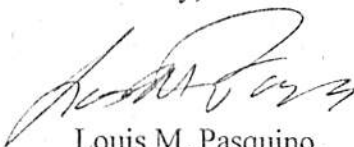
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The Board has noted that the seminar is open to officials from a multitude of municipalities. In light of the fact pattern described and the representations you have made, the Board is of the opinion that your participation in the seminars described would not result in a violation of Ordinance 706 Supplemental.

In accordance with Section 14C(1) of Ordinance 706 Supplemental, this opinion is binding upon the Board and yourself unless amended or revoked and reliance on this opinion in good faith is an absolute defense in any action or proceeding brought under the provisions of the Code of Ethics.

The Board thanks you for taking the time and effort to request an advisory opinion in advance of undertaking the transaction.

Sincerely,



Louis M. Pasquino
Chairman

cc: Lois Pont-Briant, Town Clerk