ETHICAL PRACTICES BOARD

First Floor South, Centennial Building . 658 Cedar Street . St. Paul, MN 55155-1603

THE FOLLOWING PUBLICATION DOES NOT IDENTIFY THE REQUESTER OF THE ADVISORY OPINION, WHICH IS NONPUBLIC DATA under Minn. Stat. § 10A.02, subd. 12(b)

RE: Noncampaign disbursements

ADVISORY OPINION #221

SUMMARY

The costs of driver services needed to enable a disabled person to conduct a campaign for public office should be reported as noncampaign disbursements.

FACTS

You request an advisory opinion from the Ethical Practices Board based on the following facts:

- 1. You are considering becoming a candidate for the state legislature.
- 2. You have a disability.
- 3. In order to conduct a campaign for the legislature, your disability requires that you pay for the services of a driver to transport you to various campaign related functions.

ISSUE

Should the costs of driver services for a disabled candidate be reported as noncampaign disbursements?

OPINION

Yes, the costs of such services are reported as noncampaign disbursements¹.

- 27. . .

Based on the facts you present, the costs of services to assist in conducting a campaign are noncampaign disbursements if the services are needed because of the disability.

Issued:

Pleas

Douglas H Sillers, Chair Ethical Practices Board

¹ Minnesota Statutes § 10A.01, subd. 10c