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MINUTES OF THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION MEETING

March 24, 2014

Commission Members Participating: Paul M. Vettori, Chairman
Robert G. Blue
Jacob Yosef Miliman
Martin G. Madden

Staff Members Participating: Michael W. Lord, Executive Director
Jennifer K. Allgair, General Counsel
Katherine P. Thompson, Assistant General Counsel

The Commission held a meeting via telephone conference call at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission's office at 45 Calvert Street, 3rd Floor, Annapolis, Maryland. The meeting was closed to discuss one confidential advice matter.

Informal Matter – Informal Advice Matter (14-0118)

Discussion: The Commission met to consider a request from the Governor's Office for advice on the application of the participation exemption provisions of § 15-501(c) to a State employee's ability to participate in a State project notwithstanding a conflict of interest under § 15-501(a) due to her spouse's employer's likely involvement in the State project. The State employee at issue was designated by the Governor as the sole person authorized to act on certain aspects of the State project involved in the request.

Decision: The Commission determined that the State employee at issue was exempt from the participation restrictions of § 15-501(a) of the Public Ethics Law due to her specific designation by the Governor as the sole person authorized to act on the matter at issue. The Commission will advise the State employee to make the disclosures related to the nature and circumstances of the conflict required under § 15-501(c).

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.