



COOK COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS

69 W. WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE 3040
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602
312/603-4304 Office 312/603-9988 Fax

COOK COUNTY CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS REGULATIONS FOR PERSONS DOING BUSINESS WITH THE COUNTY

In addition to any campaign contribution limits that may apply to your contributions to any candidate for office under federal or state law, doing business or seeking to do business with the County imposes additional campaign contribution limits with respect to contributions to all candidates for elected County offices, including the elected officials currently holding County offices. Persons who have done, are doing or are seeking to do business with the County cannot give more than \$750 in any nonelection year to a candidate for County office (or a local, state or federal campaign committee controlled by or established in support of a candidate for County office). During an election year in which the intended recipient is a candidate for County office, persons who have done, are doing or are seeking to do business with the County may make a maximum contribution of \$750 to a candidate for County office during the primary election and another maximum contribution of \$750 to the same candidate during the general election even if both elections take place in the same calendar year.

A person is considered to *“have done”* or be *“doing”* business with the County for the purpose of these campaign contribution regulations if the *person* currently or during any consecutive 12-month period during the previous four years had more than \$10,000 in aggregate County leases, contracts, purchases or sales. A person is *“seeking”* to do business with the County if, in the previous six months the person pursued leases, contracts, purchases or sales that, if successful, would meet the qualifications for doing business with the County. If the *“person”* on the County lease or contract or purchasing from or selling to the County is a business entity, then this portion of the Ethics Ordinance also limits the campaign contributions of the entity’s affiliated companies and its employees, officers, directors and partners if those entities or individuals receive reimbursements from the restricted entity for their campaign contributions. Contact the Board of Ethics about additional regulations that apply to firms and employees of firms contracting with the County to provide financial audits or to act as counsel or a financial manager in connection with a County bond issuance. Knowing violations of any of these campaign contribution regulations can result in a fine of \$500 to \$5,000 for any single offense.

Remember that even lawful political contributions to County officials and candidates for County office are never a prerequisite to doing or continuing to do business with the County. If any County official, candidate for County office or any person purporting to represent such an official or candidate tells you otherwise, notify the Board of Ethics, the Office of the Independent Inspector General or law enforcement immediately.

For more detailed information on campaign contribution limits, access section 2-585 of the Cook County Code of Ordinances online at:
<http://library.municode.com/index.aspx?clientId=13805>.