

October 24, 2000  
Re: IO-00-157

You inquired whether there would be any ethical issues involved in an arrangement between local cable television franchisees and the county, whereby the franchisees would fund the services of a temporary clerical position in the Department of Public Works in order to process the additional public space permits needed for upgrading the cable services.

Although specific ethics issues may arise in this situation, there do not appear to be any ethical questions involved at this point. If the Office of Law determines that this type of contract is permissible, the contract will most certainly cover issues of supervision and work assignment of employees.

The ethics commission will be glad to provide advice about specific issues that involve the ethics law, but it cannot advise you as to the legality or propriety of the type of contract you propose.

Thank you for your inquiry.

Sincerely,

Betsy K. Dawson  
Executive Director

c: Walter Chitwood  
Victor A. Sulin