

October 23, 2003
Re: IO-00-27

On February 24, 2000, the ethics commission responded to your inquiry about whether, as the attorney to the personnel board, you could still represent a client before the plumbing or electrical boards of the county. That opinion was based on current §3-105 of the public ethics law, which has been significantly amended by Bill 38-03(www.aacounty.org, click pending legislation, click approved legislation). With the new amendment, now §5-104(a)(1), a county employee may not represent clients before any governmental unit or employee of the county. Since you are, or were, the attorney to the personnel board, you would be considered an employee of the county for purposes of the ethics law so this new provision would apply to you in that capacity.

If you have any questions or comments about this change, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

Betsy K. Dawson
Executive Director