

September 5, 2001
Re: IO-01-140

You inquired whether you may accept a ticket to attend the Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts fund raiser, called "Arts Alive" from Comcast, Inc. The council member for whom you work will be attending the event as a "celebrity bartender" as in previous years. Since the council member will be "working" the event, you may accept the ticket under §3-106(c)(5), as the council member's representative, unless it would not be permissible for the council member to accept the ticket. If the council member is currently involved in a matter involving the donor of the ticket, the ticket may not be accepted. In the absence of any pending matters, the council member may accept a ticket of free admission to a charitable/cultural event, if the purpose of the ticket is to take part in a ceremony of office. An introduction to the assembled guests would suffice as a ceremony of office.

Remember that since you will be accepting the ticket on behalf of the council member, the gift should be reported by the council member on the next financial disclosure statement.

Thank you for your inquiry. Please call if you have any other questions.

Sincerely,

Betsy K. Dawson
Executive Director