

October 15, 2002
Re: I-02-129

This office recently received an Email from you directed to all county employees. The Email was a solicitation for registrations and tee sponsors for the Emerald Society Golf Tournament, sponsored by the Anne Arundel County Firefighters Emerald Society.

Solicitations that benefit private entities violate §3-104(a) of the Public Ethics Law. Employees are not permitted to use county resources, including Email, to solicit contributions for private charitable organizations, unless the solicitation has been approved by the county executive as part of a county-wide fund raising effort. Employees are also prohibited by §3-106(a), from soliciting gifts from county employees to promote private entities. For additional information about these issues, see AO-02-23, AO-00-42, and AO-98-92, copies of which shall be provided upon request.

Please refrain from using the county's Email or other county resources to solicit registrations or contributions to the Emerald Society. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Betsy K. Dawson
Executive Director