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Questions About Questions: FAQs About NCOE Advisory Opinions



Nevada Commission on Ethics 1,205 followers



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The Nevada Ethics Law establishes an Advisory Opinion process for the Nevada Commission on Ethics. The Advisory Opinion process allows certain individuals to ask and receive a formal opinion from the Commission about their conduct and the Nevada Ethics Law. The following are some frequently asked questions about Nevada's Advisory Opinion process.

Q. How long does the Advisory Opinion process take?

A. By law, the Commission is required to issue an Advisory Opinion within 45 days of the request. However, if Commission staff determine that additional facts are required from the Requester in order to draft an Opinion, the Requester will receive a notice about the need for additional facts and the 45 time period will reset until those facts are received.

A. Yes. Both the existence of the request and the final opinion are confidential by law. The Ethics Commission will neither confirm nor deny that any Advisory Request has been received. The Requester may waive confidentiality of the Opinion. In that case, the full opinion will be published to the Commission's Opinion Database for others to learn from. If the Requester does not waive confidentiality, an Abstract Opinion may be issued which masks the identity of the requester.

Examples of each can be found here:

Q. Can I ask for an Advisory Opinion about my coworker?

A. No. You may only request an Advisory Opinion about your own past, present, or future conduct.

Q. What types of questions can I ask when I request an Advisory Opinion?

A. In order for the Commission to proceed with an Advisory Opinion, the topic of the request must be about the Nevada Ethics Law. If there is no specific question tied to the Ethics Law, the Commission will decline jurisdiction.

Q. Can I look up previous Advisory Opinions somewhere?

A. Yes. We post recent helpful Advisory Opinions on our Opinions page on our website. You can also look up Opinions in our Opinions Database.

You can tell the difference between an Advisory Opinion and a Complaint Opinion because Advisory Opinions are given an "A" case number. For example, 23-006A.

Q. What types of topics are most frequently asked via Advisory Opinions?

A. Cooling Off and Disclosure and Abstention questions are most frequent.



Issued Advisory Opinion Topics for State Fiscal Year 2022

Q. As a member of the general public, can I ask for an Advisory Opinion?

A. No. In order for the Commission to accept jurisdiction over an Advisory Opinion request, the Requester must be a public officer or employee as defined by NRS 281A.

Q. Where do I request an Advisory Opinion?

A. The Commission has an online form for requesting Advisory Opinions. You can find it here: