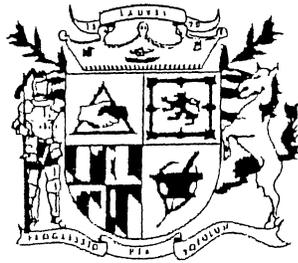


COMMISSION MEMBERS

James Hester
Chair
Kenneth P. Dahms
Joseph Fisher
Vincent McEvoy
Richard C. Rice
Marlene Collins
Alternate



COMMISSION STAFF

Kristie Mills
City Administrator
Robert Manzi
Legal Counsel
Patricia A. Crotts
Administrative Support

CITY OF LAUREL, MARYLAND
ETHICS COMMISSION

8103 Sandy Spring Road • Laurel, Maryland 20707

October 29, 2004

[Redacted]

8103 Sandy Spring Road
Laurel, MD 20707

RE: Return of a gift to [Redacted]

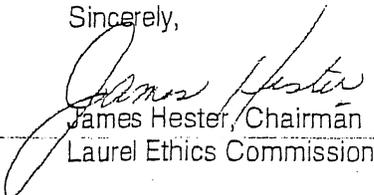
Dear [Redacted]

At its October 26, 2004 meeting, the Laurel Ethics Commission (LEC) reviewed your July 20, 2004 letter to the [Redacted] in which you returned a gift certificate they had given you. After a brief discussion in which we all noted that you had taken the correct action, we were unanimous in our desire to send you this letter to commend you.

Your letter to the [Redacted] company is well written in the professional way in which it acknowledges their good intentions, clearly and politely explains that such gifts are not the way the City of Laurel does business, and welcomes them to seek future assistance from your office should they ever need it. Your documenting the receipt and return of the gift with your letter and copying it to the appropriate city officials and the LEC is also the correct way to handle such situations.

The ethical integrity you have shown in this case is a model for everyone. It engenders public confidence in our government. Thank you for your service to the City and our citizens.

Sincerely,


James Hester, Chairman
Laurel Ethics Commission

Cc: [Redacted] Mayor
[Redacted], City Administrator
[Redacted] Director, Department of Development Management
Laurel Ethics Commission members
Personnel File [Redacted]