



*Anne Arundel County
Ethics Commission*

April 5, 2016

RE: I-16-18 CONFIDENTIAL

Dear

The ethics commission reviewed your letter of February 16, 2016, concerning the former auditor's use of her title in connection with her support for the movement for later school start times. The commission agreed that her actions did raise an issue of abuse of office under §7-5-107(a) of the ethics law. However, given that the auditor is no longer employed by the county, and that the alleged violation occurred on the day before the effective day of her resignation, the commission concluded that an investigation and possible enforcement action would not be justifiable. It has been the long-standing practice of the commission to avoid enforcement activities against former employees, unless the violation is related to post-employment provisions. It is questionable whether such enforcement actions against persons who are no longer employed by the county would even be valid.

For this reason, the ethics commission decided to close your inquiry without further action.

Thank you for contacting the ethics commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Betsy K. Dawson".

Betsy K. Dawson
Executive Director