

ETHICS OPINION
Office of the City Attorney

TO: Mayor Walter G. Campbell, Jr.
Members of the Coral Springs City Commission

FROM: John J. Hearn, City Attorney

RE: Attending the Broward Workshop 8th Annual State of Our County Forum

DATE: March 15, 2016

On behalf of the Mayor and City Commission, Andrea Mayper, the City Commission Office Assistant, has asked if you may attend the Broward Workshop 8th Annual State of Our County Forum, which includes breakfast. The breakfast is valued at \$25.00. If these facts are incorrect or inaccurate in any way, please let us know since it may affect the opinion that we give.

The Broward County Code of Ethics, as amended on December 8, 2015, provides that "no Elected Official, or relative, registered domestic partner or governmental office staff of any Elected Official, shall accept any gift, directly or indirectly, with a value in excess of \$5.00" from any lobbyist registered with the City, from any principal/employer of any such lobbyist, or from vendors or contractors of the City. Section 1-19(c)(1)a., County Code of Ordinances. Commissioners may accept gifts in an "official capacity" from "other sources" up to \$50.00 per occurrence. Section 1-19(c)(1)b., County Code of Ordinances. The \$50.00 limitation does not apply to gifts given to Commissioners in their personal (non-official) capacity. Such gifts are still subject to the reporting requirements of Florida Statutes section 112.3148. Section 1-19(c)(1)c., County Code of Ordinances.

The Broward Workshop is not a lobbyist, vendor or contractor of the City. Therefore, you may accept a gift up to a \$50.00 value.

If you need additional guidance regarding this matter, please feel free to contact my office.