

**ETHICS OPINION**  
***Office of the City Attorney***

**TO:** Commissioner Joy Carter  
Members of the Coral Springs City Commission

**FROM:** John J. Hearn, City Attorney

**RE:** Attending the Waste Pro Jazz Lounge Reception

**DATE:** August 9, 2016

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On your behalf, Andrea Mayper, the City Commission Office Assistant, has asked if you may attend the Waste Pro Jazz Lounge Reception. The event is valued at \$45.00. 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.

Waste Pro is a vendor of the City. Therefore, you may accept a gift up to a \$5.00 value, and you must reimburse Waste Pro \$40.00 within 90 days of the event.

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

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