STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE CIVIL SERVICE
LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS
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February 23, 2015

Mr. Bryan Fontenot
Thibodaux Driving School
425 Meadowview Ct.
Thibodaux, Louisiana 70301

Re: Board Docket No. 2014-1537

Dear Mr. Fontenot:

The Louisiana board of Ethics, at its February 20, 2015 meeting, considered your request for an advisory opinion regarding whether the Code of governmental Ethics would prohibit you from serving as a Justice of the Peace while you own Thibodaux Driving School. You were elected Justice of the Peace for the 1st Justice Court of Lafouche Parish in the November 4, 2014 election. You provided that you are the owner/president of Thibodaux Driving School.

The Board concluded, and instructed me to inform you, that the Code of Governmental Ethics does not have jurisdiction over Justices of the Peace. A Justice of the Peace is defined as a "judge" by the Judicial Code. La. R.S. 42:1167 provides that, all judges, as defined by the Code of Judicial Conduct, shall be governed exclusively by the provisions of the Code of Judicial Conduct, which shall be administered by the Judiciary Commission provided for in Article V, Section 25 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana. Thus, Justices of the Peace are exempt from the provisions of the Ethics Code.

This advisory opinion is based solely on the facts as set forth herein. Changes to the facts presented may result in a different application of the provisions of the Code of Ethics. The Board issues no opinion as to past conduct or laws other that Code of Governmental Ethics. If you have any questions, please contact me at (225) 219-5600 or (800) 842-6630.

Sincerely,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

Suzanne Quinlan Mooney
For the Board