

ETHICS BOARD REC'D
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3/24/2025

Louisiana Board of Ethics

P.O. Box 4368

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RE: Request for Formal Opinion

Dear Members of the Louisiana Board of Ethics;

I am writing to formally request an opinion regarding the permissibility of a business practice in light of my position as a Lafayette Parish School Board Member.

In addition to serving on the school board, I am a local business owner and operate a bar. As part of our customer engagement efforts, we host a monthly customer appreciation night where we provide a free meal for all attendees. Historically, I have partnered with local businesses that have volunteered to cook meals and sponsor a limited bar tab for customers during these events. The businesses get the publicity of being the sponsors and usually have one or more representatives present to greet customers.

Recently, I have been approached by business owners who currently provide goods or services to the Lafayette Parish School Board and who have expressed interest in sponsoring a meal and bar tab for these events. Given my role on the Lafayette Parish School Board, I am seeking a formal opinion on whether accepting such sponsorships from businesses that do work for the Lafayette Parish School Board would be permissible under Louisiana's ethics laws.

I appreciate your guidance on this matter and look forward to your formal opinion. Please let me know if any additional information is required to facilitate your review.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Jeremy Hidalgo, Lafayette Parish School Board Member