



MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION

PO Box 1370
Jefferson City, MO 65102
www.mec.mo.gov
(573) 751-2020 / (800) 392-8660

James Klahr
Executive Director

August 7, 2015

Norman McCourt
12500 Old Jamestown Road
Black Jack MO 63033

MEC No. 15-0037-I

Dear Mr. McCourt:

The Missouri Ethics Commission considered the complaint filed against you at its August 7, 2015 meeting. The complaint alleged that you hired a special prosecutor to handle a special public hearing concerning a dangerous building in the city of Black Jack without obtaining the city council's authorization. The complaint further alleged that you are authorizing the city's treasurer to pay city bills without obtaining city council authorization.

The Commission determined that the city had adopted an ordinance in 2011 authorizing the city to retain a local law firm for the express purpose of performing prosecuting attorney duties for violations of law in the city and to serve as special counsel. Therefore, you did not violate local ordinance in retaining that firm to handle the legal process relating to a dangerous property.

The Commission also determined that city ordinances authorize the city treasurer to sign checks for the city so long as the transaction is within the city's budget as approved by the city council.

From the facts presented, the Commission finds no reasonable grounds exist to support a violation of Chapter 77, RSMo, or local ordinance and is dismissing the complaint.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James Klahr".

James Klahr
Executive Director