



**MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION**

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

James Klahr  
Executive Director

February 10, 2016

Michael Pennise  
80 Inez Ave  
Valley Park MO 63088

Re: File No. 15-0062-I

Dear Mr. Pennise:

The Missouri Ethics Commission considered the complaint filed against you at its February 9, 2016 meeting. The complaint alleged you received a financial benefit when the city of Valley Park vacated an alley where adjoining property is owned by your business, Sampar, Inc., because the city's action allowed you to make a claim on the vacated property.<sup>1</sup>

Staff review of the complaint found that you abstained from voting at the March 9, 2015 Planning and Zoning Commission meeting and did not vote at the city council meeting where the alley vacation was considered and approved.<sup>2</sup> Evidence did not support that you used your position to have the alley vacated.

From the facts presented, the Commission finds no reasonable grounds exist to support a violation of the conflict of interest laws pursuant to Chapter 105, RSMo, and is dismissing the complaint.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Klahr".

James Klahr  
Executive Director

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<sup>1</sup> Based on correspondence from the city attorney, you have not taken any steps toward claiming the vacated property.

<sup>2</sup> Under city ordinances, the Mayor does not vote on matters pending before the Board of Aldermen except in the case of a tie. The Board vote on vacating the alley in question was unanimous.