MEC
OPINION NO.
1999.07.100

COPY

STATE OF MISSOURI
MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION
P. O. BOX 1254
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65102

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July 19, 1999

At the July 13, 1999 meeting of the Missouri Ethics Commission, your request for an opinion was discussed. The following is the Commission's response to your question:

Do the lobbyist reporting statutes require the Missouri Bar to place a value on registration and books provided to lawyer-legislators at Missouri Bar sponsored CLE programs?

The Commission stated that the word "expenditure" as defined in section 105.470(2), RSMo, includes the transfer of any item with a reasonable discernible cost or fair market value. In this case, the Missouri Bar has programs for which it charges attorneys a fee. These same programs are given to members of the General Assembly. The program has a reasonable discernible cost and that cost should be reported on your monthly lobbyist expenditure report.

Sincerely,

Charles G. Lamb, Ph.D.
Executive Director

MCR:bd

NOTICE

Anyone examining this advisory opinion should be careful to note that an opinion of the Missouri Ethics Commission deals only with the specific request to which the opinion responded and only as to the law as it existed at the date of the response and cannot be relied upon for any other purpose or in any other manner.