



Opinion 20-01

HARFORD COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS

The Harford County Board of Ethics is in receipt of your letter, dated August 12, 2020, requesting an advisory opinion as to whether you, as a hearing examiner, may engage in secondary employment as an election judge in the 2020 General Election.

The Harford County Public Ethics Law Section 23-5 D regulates secondary employment. Section 23-5 D (1) prohibits an employee from being employed by an entity that is subject to the authority of the employee's agency or if the entity is negotiating or has entered a contract with the employee's agency. Further, Section 23-5 D (1) provides that an employee shall not hold any other employment relationship that would impair the impartiality of the employee.

The Harford County Board of Elections is not an entity that is subject to the authority of your agency and is not an entity that would enter a contract with your agency. The Board does not believe that your employment as an election judge would in any way impair your impartiality in your position with the County. The Board of Ethics has considered your request and based on the facts presented, finds that your serving as an election judge would not violate the Harford County Public Ethics Law.

For the Board:

Douglas DeLeaver

Chairman

(Signed by Mary Kate Herbig
Senior Assistant County Attorney
on behalf of Douglas DeLeaver)

Issued August 27, 2020

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