

February 11, 1997

Leslie K. Bonney
Associate Attorney General
Department of Justice
Justice Building
1162 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97310-0506

Dear Ms. Bonney:

This letter is in response to your correspondence dated February 3, 1997, concerning whether or not, in your position as Associate Attorney General, you have to file an Annual Verified Statement of Economic Interest.

**OREGON GOVERNMENT STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION STAFF OPINION
NO. 004**

STATED FACTS: You are employed by the State of Oregon, Department of Justice, in the new position of Associate Attorney General. In that position, you attend daily meetings of the Attorney General's staff and weekly meetings of the department's executive staff. Your primary responsibility is the administration of the Department of Justice, including personnel, accounting and information services. You do not provide legal services to state agencies or engage in lobbying activities.

RELEVANT STATUTES: The following Oregon Revised Statutes are relevant to the issues addressed herein:

ORS 244.020(15): Public official means any person who, when an alleged violation of this chapter occurs, is serving the State of Oregon or any of its political subdivisions or any other public body of the state as an officer, employee, agent or otherwise, and irrespective of whether the person is compensated for such services.

ORS 244.050: Persons required to file statement of economic interest; duty of Legislative Assembly.

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(1): On or before April 15 of each year the following persons shall file with the Oregon Government Standards and Practices Commission a verified statement of economic interest as required under this chapter:

(a): The Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, **Attorney General**, Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries, Superintendent of Public Instruction, district attorneys and members of the Legislative Assembly [emphasis added].

(d): **The Deputy Attorney General** [emphasis added].

QUESTION: Is a person who holds the position of Associate Attorney General required to file an Annual Verified Statement of Economic Interest?

OPINION: No. As indicated in the relevant statutes, the Attorney General and the Deputy Attorney General are the only positions in the Department of Justice required to file a Statement of Economic Interest under current law.

THIS RESPONSE IS BASED SOLELY ON THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN YOUR WRITTEN INQUIRY AND IS NOT A FORMAL ADVISORY OPINION PURSUANT TO ORS 244.280. IT IS MY PERSONAL ASSESSMENT AS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE OREGON GOVERNMENT STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION.

Please advise this office if you would like this matter submitted to the GSPC for adoption as a formal advisory opinion at a future meeting. Do not hesitate to call or write again if you have questions or would like additional clarification.

Sincerely,

L. Patrick Hearn
Executive Director

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