ESB Advisory Opinion (ESB/AO 2011-001)

It is the official opinion of the Election Supervisory Board (ESB) that endorsements and endorsement solicitation will not be permitted until the beginning of the official sanctioned campaigning period, at that time the stated actions can be applied for, sought after and/or accepted.

This opinion comes under the authority of section 6.03 of the Election Code which states, "No campaigning or endorsing will be allowed until the official campaign period has begun as determined by the Election Supervisory Board."

Whereas, endorsing is defined by the Election Code as "expressing support for a candidate by a party other than the candidate" therefore any action taken by (a) candidate(s), agent(s) and/or their worker(s) for the purpose of securing the endorsement of an organization or individual would meet the definition of campaigning.

Violation of the above will be viewed as campaigning before the authorized campaign start date of February 16th, 2011 and will be treated as a punishable offense by the ESB.

Eric Nimmer – Chair, Election Supervisory Board
Cameron Miculka – Secretary, Election Supervisory Board
Mary Martha Bauman – Member, Election Supervisory Board
Truc Nguyen – Member, Election Supervisory Board
James Brower – Member, Election Supervisory Board
Abdul Pasha – Member, Election Supervisory Board
Carl Thorne-Thomsen – Member, Election Supervisory Board
Robert Reeb – Member, Election Supervisory Board
Eugene Wood – Member, Election Supervisory Board