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CITY OF NEW YORK CONFLICTS OF INTEREST BOARD

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Advisory Opinion No. 91-5

A public servant has asked the Conflicts of Interest Board whether it would be a conflict of interest under Chapter 68 of the City Charter if he were to be employed by a private firm to teach a course concerning a subject matter which directly involved his official duties. It is likely that many people taking this one or two day course, which would cost several hundred dollars and be taught in rented hotel space, would be subject to regulation by the public servant's agency.

It is our opinion that it would be a violation of Chapter 68 for the public servant to teach this course, for compensation, in that it would be a private employment which is in conflict with the proper discharge of his official duties, which is prohibited by Charter Section 2604(b)(2). Moreover, the use of an official position to obtain a personal financial gain is prohibited by Charter Section 2604(b)(3).

Manual Chair Chair

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Shirley Adelson Siegel

Dated: July 29, 1991