

Arapahoe County Ethics Committee Report

February 12, 2007

Findings:

The Ethics Committee did not find any ethical violation by any County Commissioner, elected official or county employee regarding the redirection of snow removal equipment. Nor was there any improper or unauthorized variance from the County's emergency plan to provide preferential treatment for any community or area within the county.

The Arapahoe County Public Works Department did not receive any request to redirect snow removal equipment or to provide preferential treatment for any community or area within their districts from Commissioners.

The Ethics Committee did not find or receive any information or evidence that Commissioners used their influence with the Public Works Department to create a higher level of service and special treatment to their districts.

The Ethics Committee finds that normal communication between the County Commissioners in performance of their duties is conduct based on tradition and history. There appears to be a lack of a formal procedure addressing communication between County Commissioners during emergency situations.

Based on the findings, the Ethics Committee will not pursue any additional investigation of this matter and finds that the complaint raised is not an ethical issue, but one of policy and procedure.

Recommendation:

The Ethics Committee recommends that the County Commissioners create a written policy and procedure that addresses the chain of communication between County Commissioners during snowstorms or other emergency situations.