



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
Board of Ethics

January 5, 2022

Subject: *Ethics Complaint for Potential Violation 2021-10*

Allegation: Violation of AMC 1.15.110 – Political Activity; AS 39.52.120; AS 39.52.110

On September 25, 2021, the Board of Ethics (“the Board”) received Ethics Complaint for Potential Violation 2021-10 (“the Complaint”). The complainant alleged an elected public servant misused their official position and municipal resources by engaging in political activity. The complaint alleged the elected public servant received a campaign related email on their municipal email account. The public servant allegedly responded to the email by directing the sender to send all correspondence concerning political matters to the elected public servant’s personal email address.

To the extent the Complaint alleged violations of state law, the Board found the allegations outside the jurisdiction of the Board under AMC 1.15.110(B) and 1.15.160(A)(2)(b). After considering the rest of the complaint, the Board declined to review it further pursuant to AMC 1.15.160(A)(2)(g). The Board determined the allegations, even if true, fail to constitute a violation of the Ethics Code. The Board concluded that the email sent by the elected public servant did not constitute political or partisan activity. The email was not an act taken for the purposes of influencing the outcome of an election, or supporting a party, cause, or action. To the contrary, the email simply instructed its recipient to address all correspondence concerning political matters to the public servant’s personal address. Because the Board found that the allegations in the Complaint, even if true, fail to constitute a violation of the Ethics Code, it declined to review the Complaint any further.

Approved by the Municipality of Anchorage Board of Ethics

Terrence Kelly, Chair
Becky Windt Pearson
Aesha Pallesen
Abram Goodstein
Joan Wilson