

CITY OF MADISON, WISCONSIN

REPORT OF: City Attorney	PRESENTED	<u>May 6, 2008</u>
AUTHOR: Michael P. May City Attorney	REFERRED	<u>CC Mtg of 5/20/2008</u>
DATED: April 28, 2008	REREFERRED	_____
	REPORTED BACK	_____
	ADOPTED _____	POF _____
	RULES SUSPENDED _____	_____
	ID NUMBER _____	_____

TO THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL:

RE: Lobbying Ordinance Activities

Pursuant to Sec. 2.40(12)(d), MGO, the City Attorney is to file an annual report with respect to activities under the lobbying ordinance. This is the report for 2007. This report has three parts.

- Paragraph 1 – Enforcement Activities.
- Paragraph 2 – Training.
- Paragraph 3 – Registrations under the Ordinance.

1. Enforcement Activities.

In prior years, our office examined appearances before the Plan Commission. For 2007, our office examined registrations at the Alcohol License Review Committee (ALRC) related to seeking of licenses to serve alcohol.

We discovered generally good compliance with the ordinance. In the ALRC setting, many of the persons appearing at the Committee are exempt as owners of the business seeking the license.

Our review did identify 5 persons who were potential lobbyists and either had not registered, or for whose registrations we had some questions. We sent letters to these individuals and received responses such that we are satisfied all are in compliance with the ordinance. Three persons registered and two showed that they qualified for exemptions.

As in the past, our goal remains compliance with the ordinance, not seeking penalties or punishment under the portions of the ordinance which provide for that.

2. Training.

During calendar year 2007, our office did not conduct any additional training with the City Clerk's Office. We had planned to conduct such training in the fall of 2007. However, the sparse attendance at the 2006 training led us to delay the training. We anticipate providing training during 2008.

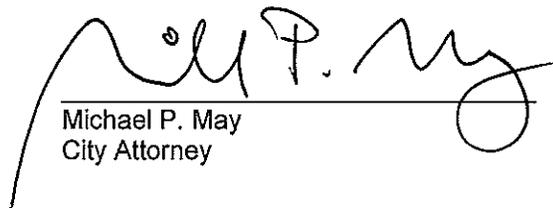
3. Registrations under the Ordinance.

Here's a summary of the registrations under the ordinances for the past four years:

2004 – 63 principals
2005 – 182 principals
2006 – 230 lobbyists
2007 – 171 lobbyists

These figures are not comparable because of the difference between principals and lobbyists. I suspect that the major reason for the reduction in lobbyist registrations between 2006 and 2007 is the slowing of real estate development activity within the City.

As in each of the past years, I conclude that a continued effort at training and spot checking enforcement of the ordinance will result in a generally acceptable level of compliance.



Michael P. May
City Attorney

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