

SUMMARY OF FINAL ACTION

Brandon O'Dell,
Complainant,

vs.

John P. Morse,
Respondent

The Independent Ethics Commission ("IEC") entered its Order at its public meeting on May 20, 2010. This is a summary of the Commission's findings of undisputed facts:

1. John P. Morse is a Colorado State Senator and a member of the Colorado General Assembly.
2. Senator Morse leases a room in a condominium for \$500 per month for use while he is in Denver. The lessor of the condominium offered the room to Senator Morse without cost, and Senator Morse insisted on paying, and suggested \$500, even though the lessor thought \$300 was an appropriate amount.
3. The lessor of the condominium has been a friend of Senator Morse for over 30 years. They were college roommates and have maintained their friendship. Senator Morse has only part-time use of the condominium and there are additional limitations and restrictions on use such that he does not have the right to undisturbed occupancy.
4. The lessor is not a registered lobbyist or otherwise involved in the business of the General Assembly. There was no expectation by either the lessor or Senator Morse that the lease agreement would in any way influence Senator Morse in his official capacity.
5. The Complainant was given the opportunity to provide additional information and to dispute facts as asserted by Senator Morse, and declined to do so.

Based on these undisputed facts, the Commission finds that while Senator Morse is subject to the jurisdiction of the IEC, there was no violation of Article XXIX or any other standard of conduct under the jurisdiction of the IEC, and the Commission therefore dismissed Complaint 10-01 as groundless.

The Independent Ethics Commission

Matt Smith, Chairperson

Dan Grossman, Vice Chair

Sally H. Hopper, Commissioner

Larry R. Lasha, Commissioner

Roy V. Wood, Commissioner (Did not participate)


May 26, 2010

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

This is to certify that on the 26th day of May, 2010, I placed true copies of the foregoing **SUMMARY OF FINAL ACTION** in the United States mail, postage prepaid, addressed as follows:

Brandon O'Dell
1722 W. Cucharras St.
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-3812

Sen. John P. Morse
411 Lakewood Circle, C507
Colorado Springs, CO 80910

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John T. Feldman". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a solid horizontal line.