

**ADVISORY OPINION AO-1988-005
RECONSTITUTED AS ETHICS INTERPRETATION EI-1988-005
ISSUED NOVEMBER 9, 1988**

The Oklahoma Council on Campaign Compliance and Ethical Standards ("the Council") has received your request for an advisory opinion asking, in effect:

Can excess money in a campaign fund be used for a party for campaign workers?

The law under consideration found at Title 74 O.S. Supp. 1988, § 4217 (A) reads, in pertinent part:

Contributions received by any candidate shall be used to defray any campaign expenditures or any ordinary and necessary expenses incurred by the person in connection with his duties as a holder of the public office including, but not limited to, expenses for use in a future election campaign, for political activity, for community activity or for nonreimbursed public office related expenses.

Use of the words "any campaign expenditure" is all encompassing for expenses associated with campaigning. Having a party for campaign workers has traditionally been part of the campaign process whether it is held to solicit volunteer workers or to reward volunteer workers or to celebrate victory.

It is, therefore, the advisory opinion of the Council, as voted on at its regular meeting on November 9, 1988, that a party for campaign workers may be a legitimate campaign expenditure subject to the provisions of Title 74 O.S. Supp. 1988, § 4217 (A).