FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION
428 J Street • Suite 620 • Sacramento, CA 95814-2329
(916) 322-5660 • Fax (916) 322-0886

June 23, 2011

Ms. Maryann Edwards

REDACTED

RE: **Advisory Letter**
FPPC File No. 11/469; Maryann Edwards

Dear Ms. Edwards:

The Fair Political Practices Commission ("Commission") enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the "Act") found in Government Code Section 81000, and following. The Act requires public officials to abstain from participating in decisions that will have a reasonably foreseeable material financial effect on their financial interests. (Section 87100.)

The Enforcement Division of the Commission received a complaint, sent to you previously, that alleged that as a member of the Temecula City Council, you participated in a decision to award a $5,000 grant to the Boys and Girls Club of Southwest County, of which you receive compensation as its executive director.

The complainant provided evidence that you did in fact abstain from participating in the discussion of the Community Service Ad Hoc Subcommittee and its recommendation to the City Council, and provided evidence that you abstained from participating in the final vote of the Temecula City Council to ultimately award grants to organizations. The complainant alleges, however, that you participated in a decision affecting the Boys and Girls Club when you seconded a motion and voted to defer this item to a future meeting.

The Political Reform Act requires public officials to abstain from making, participating in making, or influencing decisions in which they have an economic interest. (Section 87100.) An economic interest is, among other things, a person or entity that is a source of income of $500 or more in the previous 12 months to an official. (Section 87013(c).) Generally, if an official has a conflict of interest in a decision, the official also has a conflict of interest in procedural decisions if the decision will have a reasonably foreseeable material financial effect on the official's economic interest, or will otherwise affect another governmental decision that will have such an effect. (Brown Advice Letter No. I-02-026.)

Since you abstained from participating in the Community Service Ad Hoc Subcommittee discussion and abstained from the City Council decision to award those grants in February of 2011, we are closing this matter with an advisory letter. There is no evidence that the decision to move this issue to a future agenda had any reasonably foreseeable material financial effect on the Boys and Girls Club. The organizations recommended for funding at the November 2010 meeting, were the same organizations recommended for funding at the February 2011 meeting. In the future, please be aware that there may be certain procedural decisions that require your disqualification.

If you need guidance regarding your obligations, please call the FPPC's Technical Assistance Division at (916) 322-5660, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Please also visit our website at www.fppc.ca.gov.

If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (916) 322-8194.

Sincerely

REDACTED

Jeanette E. Turvill
Political Reform Consultant
Enforcement Division

JT/jt
cc. Mr. Bret Kelley