



Township of Montclai

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March 12, 2015

Shavar D. Jeffries, Esq. Jewel M. Watson, Esq. Lowenstein Sandler LLP 65 Livingston Avenue Roseland, New Jersey 07068

Re:

Complaint of "Montclair Kids First" concerning

Councilor Spiller's service on the Board of School Estimate

Ms. Linda Wanat, Montclair's Municipal Clerk, forwarded to me your letter of March 4, 2015 alleging a conflict of interest on the part of Third Ward Councilor Sean Spiller and demanding his removal from the Board of School Estimate by the Montclair Township Council. Because the Township Council is without authority to consider or adjudicate the complaints which you raise, no action relating to your allegations was taken at the Council's March 10 meeting.

Notwithstanding the Township Council's lack of jurisdiction over your complaint, in my capacity as Township Attorney I did review the substantive allegations of conflict against Councilor Spiller contained in your letter. In my opinion, Councilor Spiller's position as an official of the New Jersey Education Association does not disqualify him from service on the Montclair Board of School Estimate.

Very truly yours,

Ira Karasick

Montclair Township Attorney

c Linda Wanat, R.M.C. Sean Spiller