

## Philadelphia Board of Ethics

### ADVISORY ALERT

#### **Lobbying Code, Board of Ethics Regulation No. 9, and Calculation of Due Date for First Registrations**

No lobbyist, lobbying firm, or principal registrations will be required prior to January 3, 2012

All other requirements of Chapter 20-1200 of The Philadelphia Code will take effect as of January 3, 2012.

The first reporting period under Chapter 20-1200 will be the First Quarter of 2012, and therefore the deadline for filing the first expense reports for that reporting period will be April 30, 2012.

Regulation No. 9 will be in effect as of January 3, 2012, and is the conclusive guidance on who must register and when. Staff intends to recommend amendments to Regulation No. 9 to conform the Regulation to the subsequent amendments to the Lobbying Code made by Bill No. 110556. It is important to note that the amended Code controls.

Registration generally must occur within ten days after both the commencement of lobbying and the exceeding of the thresholds in Paragraph 9.24 of Regulation No. 9. No event occurring prior to January 3, 2012 is relevant to determining thresholds, registration date, or expense reporting.

In the event the online electronic filing system will not be available by January 3, 2012, an interim registration method will be provided.

The intent and effect of this Advisory Alert is to present, in one document, a final and definitive summary of the initial dates that will apply to lobbyists, lobbying firms, and principals, for the guidance of the regulated community, the public, and public officials and employees. After the first round of registrations and expense reports for the First Quarter of 2012, this Advisory Alert will no longer apply, and the Lobbying Code and Regulation No. 9 will continue to provide conclusive guidance on an on-going basis, along with advisory opinions from the Board of Ethics. This Advisory Alert is for the purpose of clearing any confusion about when the lobbying registration and reporting program first takes effect.

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