



STATE OF ALABAMA ETHICS COMMISSION



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MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL REGISTERED LOBBYISTS AND PRINCIPALS / ACAE
FROM: Thomas B. Albritton, Executive Director
RE: Process for Precertification

I want to remind everyone of the new administrative rule now in effect that requires that requests for precertification must be made at least 10 days ahead of the scheduled event. If a request for precertification is received on less than 10 days' notice, it will be denied on that basis alone. Of course, a denial based on timing does not mean that you cannot hold the event; but it does mean that it won't be precertified.

Another issue that I want to cover with you is the issue of whether once an event is precertified, it is precertified for all time. I understand that in the past you were told that if your event is precertified once you do not need to request precertification of the event in subsequent years. Neither the Code nor our formal opinions allow for that practice. Moreover, events can and often do change over time, as do those planning them. We only precertified what was presented to us as it was presented and when it was presented. For that reason, we now view each subsequent event as a new "event" for purposes of the Act. Although in many cases it may be the exact same event year in year out, if you care for your event to be precertified you need to request precertification again.

/td