



Eric Holcomb, Governor
State of Indiana

Office of General Counsel
402 W. WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM W451, MS27
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204-2744

INDIANA
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

DEC 07 2017

December 7, 2017

FILED

James Clevenger, Chair
Indiana State Ethics Commission
315 W. Ohio Street, Room 104
Indianapolis, Indiana 46202

RE: Waiver of Application of 42 IAC 1-5-1 ("Gift Rule") for Jennifer Walthall, MD, MPH, Secretary for the Family & Social Services Administration and Executive Staff Attending the Covering Kids & Family Annual Meeting and Program Luncheon on December 5, 2017

Dear Mr. Clevenger:

Under the authority designated to me by Indiana Family & Social Services Administration ("FSSA") appointing authority Jennifer Walthall, MD, MPH to waive application of the Gift Rule in individual cases when consistent with the public interest, I waive application of the Gift Rule for Dr. Walthall and the attached list of FSSA employees who attended the Covering Kids & Families of Indiana 15th Annual Meeting and Program Luncheon on December 5, 2017 at the Marriott East located at 7202 East 21 Street, Indianapolis, Indiana. Dr. Walthall received the Governor Frank O'Bannon Memorial Kids First Award in recognition of the breadth of her work over the years including her work at the Indiana State Department of Health, Indiana University School of Medicine, Riley Hospital for Children, and FSSA.

The cost to purchase a ticket was \$50.00. The event included a plated luncheon with awards and speakers. Additionally, Dr. Walthall, received an award in the form of a piece of artwork valued at \$300.00. To comply with the gift rule, Dr. Walthall will give the artwork she received to FSSA and it will be displayed it in a common area.

Covering Kids & Families of Indiana is an organization that informs statewide policymakers and advocates on behalf of its coalitions and consumers regarding polices to improve healthcare access, retention and outcomes. FSSA has had a business relationship with Covering Kids & Families of Indiana in the past; however, FSSA does not currently have a business relationship with the organization. The event was sponsored by the following entities with whom FSSA currently has a business relationship: Anthem BlueCross BlueShield, CareSource, Community Health Network, Health and Hospital Corporation, MDwise, and United Healthcare. Additional sponsors include Health Management Associates and Indiana Primary Health Care Association



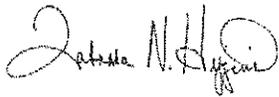
Mr. James Clevenger
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with whom FSSA has had previous business relationships. Therefore, FSSA considers the gift rule to be applicable.

Given that the award bestowed upon Dr. Walthall was in honor of the late Governor Frank O'Bannon's efforts to promote the wellbeing of Indiana children, which is consistent with FSSA's mission and that the artwork will be displayed in a common area, I believe that granting a waiver from the gift rule is consistent with the public interest.

If you need additional information or have any questions about this letter, please feel free to contact me at (317) 232-0246 or at Latosha.Higgins@fssa.in.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Latosha N. Higgins". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L" and "H".

Latosha N. Higgins
Managing Attorney and Ethics Officer

Attachment: Attendees List

**Covering Kids & Families of Indiana
15th Annual Meeting and Program Luncheon Attendees List**

NAME	TITLE
Bowling, Paul	Chief Financial Officer
Evans, Ben	External Agency Affairs
Funk, Sylvia	Director/State Administrator, Disability Determination Bureau
Gargano, Michael	Deputy Secretary/Chief of Staff
Gavin, Jim	Director, Communications
Hope, Kylee	Director, Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services
Linder, Jared	Chief Information Officer
Moore, Kevin	Director, Division of Mental Health and Addiction
Norvell, Nicole	Director, Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning
Shields, Adrienne	Director, Division of Family Resources
Taylor, Allison	Director, Office of Medicaid Policy and Planning
Welch, Peggy	Chief Advocacy Officer

Croft, Celeste

From: Higgins, Latosha
Sent: Thursday, December 07, 2017 3:43 PM
To: IG Info
Subject: Gift Waiver for Dr. Jennifer Walthall and FSSA Executive Staff
Attachments: Secretary Walthall -Gift Waiver - CKF-IN 12.5.17 Luncheon.pdf

Attached please find a gift rule waiver for Dr. Jennifer Walthall, Secretary for the Family and Social Services Administration, and her executive staff to attend the Covering Kids & Families of Indiana 15th Annual Meeting and Program Luncheon. Please file this waiver with your office and return a file stamped copy to me.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information or have questions regarding the attached waiver.

Thank you,

Latosha N. Higgins
Managing Attorney and Ethics Officer
Office of General Counsel
Indiana Family and Social Services Administration
402 West Washington Street, Room W451
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 232-0246
Latosha.Higgins@fssa.in.gov
<http://www.IN.gov/fssa>
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