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ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

NATIONAL STATE BANK BLDQ., SUITE 1215 28 W. STATE STREET, CN-185 TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0185 (609) 292-8700

May 16, 1989

FREDERICK M. HERRMANN, PH.O. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JEFFREY M. SHINDLE DEPUTY DIRECTOR

GREGORY E NAGY LEGAL DIRECTOR

EDWARD J. FARMELL COUNSEL

Laila B. Soares Assistant General Counsel Avco Financial Services 3349 Michelson Drive Irvine, CA 92715

Advisory Opinion No. 10-1989

Dear Me. Soares:

The Commission has directed me to respond to your letter received on April 24, 1989 requesting an advisory opinion in regard to statutory prohibitions against insurence and banking corporations from making campaign contributions to New Jersey candidates; see N.J.S.A. 19:34-32 and 19:34-45. You have asked whether Avco Financial Services Management Company (hereafter, AFS Management), is affiliated with insurance and bank companies, but those companies are not subsidiaries of AFS Management.

The jurisdiction of the Commission to issua advisory opinions is limited to matters arising under "The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act," N.J.S.A. 19:44A-1 et seq. The statutes you have cited are not part of the Reporting Act, and therefore the Commission lacks jurisdiction to provide an advisory opinion. However, it has in the past sought the assistance of the State Attorney General on questions involving the statutes prohibiting political contributions by certain corporations. Since your inquiry falls within this category, the Commission will refer your latter for consideration by the State Attorney General.

At such time as the Commission receives a response from the State Attorney General, it will forward the opinion to you.

Very truly yours,

ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

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State of New Jersey

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VICE CHAIRMAN

ANDREW C. ANTELL. COMMERSIONER

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Honorable Peter N. Perretti, Jr. Attorney General of New Jersey CN-080 Justice Complex Trenton, NJ 08625

> RE: Advisory Opinion Request from Avco Financial Services Management Company Our File No. Advisory Opinion No. 10-1989

Dear Attorney General Perretti:

The Commission has directed me to request on its behalf your consideration of the enclosed request for an advisory opinion made by Avco Financial Services Management Company; see attached letter from Laila B. Soares, Assistant General Gounsel, dated April 24, 1989. This inquiry concerns the application of the statutory prohibitions against political contributions by insurance and banking corporations; see N.J.S.A. 19:34-32 19:34-45. Since these statutes are not part of the Campaign Reporting Act, they are beyond the jurisdictional authority of the Commission to issue advisory opinions.

Therefore, the Commission respectfully forwards this raquast for your consideration because it believes that a response from your office will be of assistance ro this and possibly other similarly situated corporations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

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