

Question: Can elected officials serve on the boards of tourist commissions or convention and visitors bureaus?

Answer: St. Landry Parish's Home Rule Charter stipulates that a council member shall not serve on a board or commission of the parish government having administrative or policy-making authority unless the ordinance or state law creating the board or commission specifies that council members may serve those boards and commission.

AG Opinion 10-0022 issued in January 2010 concerning the LA Dual Office Holding and Dual Employment Law determined that the person in question **was** eligible to serve on our Commission based on the following:

- 1) The appointive office is only "part-time" as opposed to "full-time" which would be prohibitive.
- 2) Since the Tourist Commission is not a "parish governing authority" but a political subdivision of the state

LA RS 42:63(D). No person holding an elective office in a political subdivision of this state shall at the same time hold another elective office or **full-time appointive office** in the government of this state or in the government of a political subdivision thereof. No such person shall hold at the same time employment in the government of this state, or in the same political subdivision in which he holds an elective office. In addition no sheriff, assessor, or clerk of court shall hold any office or employment under a **parish governing authority** or school board, nor shall any member of any parish governing authority or school board hold any office or employment with any sheriff, assessor, or clerk of court.

Even though this decision was in his favor with regard to the Tourist Commission (not for another position under question) he chose to resign.