

4703-3-13

**Communication: prohibition of improper contacts.**

Prior to the filing of an application, and after final board action on an application, verbal and written communication with individual board members or any member of the ~~board's~~<sup>boards'</sup> staff shall be freely permitted; provided, however, that in no event is any member of the board or its staff authorized to give any indication of what specific action the board may take upon the merits of any application which may be filed with it. General advice, however, may be given as to the manner of completing or submitting applications, the procedures to be followed in processing applications, and the nature of the standards applied by the board in evaluating applications. While an application for registration or enforcement is pending before the board, no one shall initiate any written or oral communication with individual board members concerning the matter; but inquiries may be made orally or in writing to the board staff or in writing to the board.