
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: BOYD
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: KY AND NC POLICIES ON USE OF STATE PLANE
DATE: 7/17/2000
CC: FILE

According to Kelly Peace (502/564-2611) with Governor Patton's Legal Counsel, Kentucky has no formal policies, procedures or statutes to govern the use of the state plane. The Ethics Commission would be the entity to question any plane trips. As a general rule, the plane is not to be used for political activities (i.e., campaign events). Peace reported that, although there is no formal policy per se, the Ethics law forbids the use of state property for personal gain and everyone uses this as the guidelines for use of the plane. Peace reported that there has not been any controversy associated with the state plane during Governor Patton's tenure.

Jack Jenkins, Legal Counsel to Governor Hunt (919/733-9080), also reported no formal policies or procedures. He contacted Angela Harris (901/733-7061) of the Office of State Budgets and Management who reported that questions sometimes arise as to trips for non-state business or to "2 in 1" trips where state business and non-state business is conducted during the same trip. The Governor reimburses the state in these instances of non-state business.

Glen Peterson of the NC Department of Administration faxed the attached policy. No state funds are to be used to pay travel and/or subsistence costs for a state official attending a political function or meeting. In the event that a state-owned aircraft is used, the public official must reimburse the actual operating cost rate per flight hour. If official state travel also involves political functions or meetings (i.e., "2 in 1" trips), state funds may pay up to one half of the travel and/or subsistence costs. If a state-owned aircraft is used, the state is charged the regular rate per flight hour, while the non-state source is charged at the actual operating cost rate per flight hour.

Peterson reported that there was some controversy, the details of which he couldn't remember, during Governor Hunt's second term. The Governor ended up reimbursing the state the cost of the trip out of his campaign fund. I could not find anything on the Internet concerning such a controversy. Please advise as to if you want to speak to your contact in NC on this or if you want me to call Jenkins regarding this matter.