

PA Lobbying or Not: Common Scenarios

Factual Background	Lobbying Or Not?
You communicate with a legislator’s chief of staff in order to secure an amendment to a pending bill on behalf of a client.	Lobbying, as this is an effort to influence legislative action.
You communicate with an Assistant Counsel to the Governor and ask for a pending regulation to be modified on behalf of a client.	Lobbying, as this is an effort to influence administrative action.
You communicate with a contact at Pennsylvania Treasury and inquire about the status of a grant on behalf of a client.	Not lobbying, as seeking a grant is not lobbying under the Lobbying Law.
You communicate with a contact at the Department of Community and Economic Development to request information about complying with a particular law on behalf of a client.	Not lobbying, as requesting information regarding compliance with a law is considered communicating on a routine, ministerial matter.
You request information regarding a matter before an Administrative Law Judge on behalf of a client.	Not lobbying, as requesting the status of an administrative matter is considered communicating on a routine, ministerial matter.
A political action committee circulates a mailer to the general public urging people to contact their legislator to vote “No” on a particular bill.	Lobbying, as this is a paid communication circulated to the general public with a call to action to influence legislative action.
A political action committee circulates a mailer to the general public urging voters to vote “No” on a public question on the ballot at the next general election.	Not lobbying, but may be considered a political communication for campaign finance purposes.

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