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***Press Release***  
***October 31, 2001***

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**KAPPER SENTENCED FOR CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Raymond J. Kapper, Jr. was sentenced today before Federal District Court Judge Peter Economus in Youngstown to five months incarceration and five months home detention for an ethics-related violation. Kapper pled guilty on July 25, 2001, to one federal felony count of mail fraud and conflicts of interest in payments of \$484,000 that he received from seven vendors to Summit County agencies on whose public Boards he was serving at the time of the payments.

Judge Economus stated that he agreed with the government that Kapper's actions were "far more extreme than those found in the heartland of conflict of interest."

Kapper had served as the Chair of the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority from 1993 to 1998 and as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Summit County Children Services Board from 1997 through 1998. Payments from the vendors were made to Kapper's private consulting company, Kapper & Associates. While he was receiving these payments, and performing services for these vendors through his consulting company, Kapper actively participated in matters affecting those vendors, both as a board member and in dealings with staff.

Kapper will be allowed to serve the five-month sentence in the community based correctional facility at Oriana House in Akron. He was also fined \$30,000 and ordered to pay the cost of his incarceration and home detention.

The charges were the result of a joint investigation by the Ohio Ethics Commission, the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio, the FBI, and the Internal Revenue Service.

