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## MUNICIPAL SERVICE AS A FACTOR DETERMINING LEGAL STATUS OF THE LOCAL PUBLIC BODY OFFICIALS IN UKRAINE

The article is dedicated to the legal nature of public authority of local self-government. Handling a number of problems in theory and practice of local self-government inextricably associated with the study of organizational and functional aspects of normal people's life at their place of residence. As the local self-government is mainly an expression of selforganization, independent action and self-discipline of citizens then its establishment as an integral system within society as a whole should be performed upon its lower, elementary levels. Externally formal expression of the self-government in certain residential areas is territorial communities as elementary subjects of public authority upon local level.

It has been specified that the legal status of a public body official is based upon the status of a state official where some specific functions and powers to realize state body competencies are reflected, and in the status of an official is reflected his general association with the public body.

Such an approach is specified by the current objectives and functions of the state, by transition to the system of state administration based on integration of state administration with local self-government, qualitative change in state administration functions and establishing highly efficient, professional administrative staff able to work honestly and skillfully meeting citizens' needs and requirements.

All mentioned above is essential for Ukraine in connection with harmonization of the national legislation with European standards in this sphere, with some peculiar features of formation and functioning of territorial community in the system of public authority in Ukraine.

**Keywords:** local self-government; territorial community; legal status of local public body officials.