

## **AGENDA**

Town of Lake Park, Florida
Stormwater Policy Committee Meeting
Monday, August 26, 2019, 6:00 P.M.
Lake Park Town Hall
Commission Chambers
535 Park Avenue
Lake Park, FL 33403

John D'Agostino — Town Manager
Richard Scherle — Public Works Director
Raul Mercado — Certified Floodplain
Manager
Ronnie Lee Cohen — Committee Member
Dena Davis — Committee Member
Vivian Mendez, MMC — Town Clerk

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED, that if any interested person desires to appeal any decision of the Storwmwater Policy Committee, with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, such interested person will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations in order to participate in the meeting should contact the Town Clerk's office by calling 881-3311 at least 48 hours in advance to request accommodations.

- A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL
- B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- C. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS:
  - 1. Swearing In of Stormwater Policy Committee Members by the Town Clerk. Tab 1
- D. ORIENTATION:
  - 2. Disclosure of Information Provided to Stormwater Policy Committee Members. Tab 2
    - Town of Lake Park Advisory Committee Orientation Presentation
    - Florida Commission on Ethics Guide to the Sunshine Amendments
    - Palm Beach County Code of Ethics Training Acknowledgement Form
  - 3. Copy of Resolution No. 42-05-19, Restating Membership, Meetings, Powers and Purpose of the Committee. Tab 3

## E. <u>DISCUSSION ITEMS:</u>

- Steering Committee Rules
- Flood Facts
- Current Town Flood Ordinances
- Stormwater Master Plan (SWMP) Approach and Methodology Outline
- Public Outreach Outline

## F. PUBLIC COMMENT:

This time is provided for addressing items that <u>do not</u> appear on the Agenda. Please complete a comment card and provide it to the Town Clerk so speakers may be announced. Please remember comments are limited to a <u>TOTAL</u> of three minutes.

## G. <u>ADJOURNMENT:</u>

Next Scheduled Regular Commission Meeting-To Be Determined

## TAB 1



## **Town of Lake Park Stormwater Policy Committee**

## Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date: August 26, 2019 Age		enda Item No. 👤	
Agenda Title: Swearing In	of Stormwater Policy Comn	nittee Members	
SPECIAL PRESENTATION/REPORTS   CONSENT AGENDA   BOARD APPOINTMENT   OLD BUSINESS   PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE ON READING   NEW BUSINESS   OTHER:			
Approved by Town Manager    Date: 8-21-19			
Originating Department:	Costs: \$ 0.00	Attachments:	
Town Clerk	Funding Source: Acct. # [] Finance	- Oaths of Office	
Advertised: Date: Paper: [X] Not Required	All parties that have an interest in this agenda item must be notified of meeting date and time. The following box must be filled out to be on agenda.	Yes I have notified everyone Or Not applicable in this case <i>v.m.</i> Please initial one.	

<u>Summary Explanation/Background:</u> The attached Oaths of Office will be administered to Committee Members by Town Clerk Vivian Mendez, MMC

Recommended Motion: No Motion is required.



## **Committee Member Oath**

## I, Ronnie Lee Cohen a citizen of the

State of Florida and of the United States of America, and serving as a Regular Member of the Stormwater Policy Committee of the Town of Lake Park, Florida, do hereby solemnly swear or affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States, The Constitution of the State of Florida and the Laws and Ordinances of the Town of Lake Park, Florida.

(Signature)	
State of Florida	
County of Palm Beach	
Til . C	
The foregoing instrument was acknown	wledged before me this day
of2019 by	
Na	ame of Person
who is personally known to me or wh	no has produced
as identification.	
Notary Signature	Name of Notary Typed, Printed or Stamped

535 Park Avenue Lake Park, FL 33403 Phone: (561) 881-3311 Fax: (561) 881-3314

www.lakeparkflorida.gov



## **Committee Member Oath**

I, <u>Dena Davis</u> a citizen of the State of Florida and of the United States of America, and serving as a Regular Member of the Stormwater Policy Committee of the Town of Lake Park, Florida, do hereby solemnly swear or affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States, The Constitution of the State of Florida and the Laws and Ordinances of the Town of Lake Park, Florida.

(Signa	ture)
State of Florida County of <u>Palm Beach</u>	
The foregoing instrument was a	cknowledged before me this day
of2019 by	
	Name of Person
who is personally known to me as identification.	or who has produced
Notary Signature	Name of Notary Typed, Printed or Stamped

535 Park Avenue Lake Park, FL 33403 Phone: (561) 881-3311 Fax: (561) 881-3314

www.lakeparkflorida.gov

## TAB 2



## **Town of Lake Park Stormwater Policy Committee**

## **Agenda Request Form**

Agen	ida Title: Disclosure of Information Provided to Stormwater Policy Committee
Mem	bers.
[ ] [ ] [ ]	SPECIAL PRESENTATION/REPORTS [ ] CONSENT AGENDA BOARD APPOINTMENT [ ] OLD BUSINESS PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE ON READING

[] NEW BUSINESS

☑ OTHER: \_\_OR I ENTATION

Approved by Town Manager

Meeting Date: August 26, 2019

Agenda Item No. 2

<u>Vivian Mendez – Town Clerk</u>

Name/Title

Originating Department:  Town Clerk	Costs: \$ 0.00 Funding Source: Acct. # [] Finance	Attachments: -2019 Florida Commission on EthicsPalm Beach County Ethics Training AcknowledgmentTown of Lake Park Committee Member Orientation.
Advertised: Date: Paper: [X] Not Required	All parties that have an interest in this agenda item must be notified of meeting date and time. The following box must be filled out to be on agenda.	Yes I have notified everyone  or  Not applicable in this case <u>v.w.</u> Please initial one.

<u>Summary Explanation/Background:</u> On Tuesday, August 13, 2019, Stormwater Policy Committee Members were provided the 2019 Florida Commission on Ethics Guide to the Sunshine Amendment, Palm Beach County Ethics Training Acknowledgment Form, and Town of Lake Park Committee Member Orientation.

**Recommended Motion:** No Motion is required.



## Town of Lake Park

Town Advisory Committee

Presentation

# GOVERNMENT IN THE SUNSHINE

- What is Government in the Sunshine? (The Sunshine Law)
- board/committee (elected or appointed) gather to discuss some matter The Sunshine Law is triggered if two or more members of the same which will foreseeably come before that board for action.
- The Sunshine Law requirements are:
- · The meeting must be open to the public.
- It is strongly suggested that meeting be noticed at least 7 days in
- The Town Hall front bulletin board comply with the public notice requirement.
- Minutes of the meeting must be taken.



# GOVERNMENT IN THE SUNSHINE

- What about talking at social events?
- Committee members talking with each other at social events is allowable:
- Refrain from speaking about topics or issues which could, may, or will come before the Committee at any time.
- OK to talk about the weather, the score of the game, or the latest movie you've seen or the best seller you've read.



# GOVERNMENT IN THE SUNSHINE

What happens if the Sunshine Law is violated?

A knowing violation of the Sunshine Law is a misdemeanor of the second degree.

A person convicted of a second degree misdemeanor may be sentenced to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 60 days and/or fined up to \$500.00.

· In addition, the Governor may remove the individual from



• Use of Robert's Rules of Order is completely voluntary.

· A Committee can pick and choose which parts of the rules it

The Committee can "go by the book" if it wants, but it doesn't have to.



- · Here are some suggestions on how to conduct a productive meeting:
  - Stick to the topics listed on the agenda.
- Recognition to speak should be coordinated through the Chair.
- · Respect others, speak with civility, and maintain order.



How to make a motion:

• Ask the Chair for the floor and say "I move that..." (by clearly describing the action to be taken by the Committee).

Be precise in the words to be contained in the motion.

The group votes on exact language; not on vague ideas.

Another member of the Committee needs to clearly "second" the

 The Chair then recognizes the motion, and second, and discussion on the motion may begin.



## · Voting:

- Voting is the sole responsibility of the Committee.
- Before a final vote, the public is entitled to discuss the motion if a Pink Comment Card is filled out and given to the Town prior to the start of the meeting.
- · After all discussion is completed, the Chair then calls for a vote on the motion by the members of the Committee with their responses being either "Aye" or "Nay".
- The public does not vote on the item being considered.



- · Generally, the public has a complete right to review any public records kept by the Town (with certain documents exempt under state law).
- mails, and social media. It does not include verbal communications. Records include: written words, electronic words, maps, books, e-
- · A public records request (PRR) does not need to be in writing and the requestor does not need to identify him/her self or say why they want the record.
- The Town can use a voluntary request form to attempt to narrow in, and better understand, the request that is being made.

- Staff does not need to stop what they are doing to fill the PRR.
- · However, the request must be filled "in a reasonable amount of time".
- The Town may charge for filling the PRR at \$0.15 per copy (\$0.20 double sided copy) and the staff time involved in producing the record (typically, any staff time under 15 minutes is not charged to the requestor).
- not covered under one of the exemptions under state statute) IT MUST Most important point: IF THE TOWN HAS THE RECORD (and it is BE PRODUCED.



## SOCIAL MEDIA

- social media accounts which include any issues or topics which might Social media records include any Town controlled OR PERSONAL come before the Committee.
- Your social media posts dealing with Town business are a public record, and if requested, will be produced!
- Even if most of your social media posts are only personal, if you have just one post dealing with Town business, the requestor may have an opportunity to request copies of all of your social media expressions.



- Not all records must be kept forever. There is a State of Florida General Schedule which directs which records must be kept for certain periods
- If a record falls outside of the General Schedule, it may be destroyed.
- However, there is a state form which must be filled out annually and sent to the Secretary of State, advising them which documents have been destroyed, based upon the General Schedule.
- Destroying documents which fall outside of the General Schedule is a good practice, which can help to avoid possible PRR issues.



## COMMISSION ON ETHICS

- Palm Beach County has a very strong ethics law regulated by the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics.
- acknowledgement of compliance to the Town Clerk's Office. Committee members are required to take an on-line ethics training session each year and submit a certificate of
- Completion of the training is required within 30 days of taking the oath of office.



## GIFT LAW

- return for, or because of, the way you do your job as a · You cannot ask for or accept any gift of any value in member of a Committee.
- from any vendor, lobbyist, or company doing business with the You cannot ask for, or accept gifts worth more than \$100.00
- Disclosure Report with the Commission on Ethics no later than If you do receive a gift valued at more than \$100.00 from someone not listed above, you must file an Annual Gift November 1st of the previous fiscal year.



## HELPFUL WEBSITES

# GOVERNMENT IN THE SUNSHINE MANUAL

• http://myfloridalegal.com/webfiles.nsf/WF/MNOS-AKBS9L/\$file/2017+Sunshine+Law+Manual.pdf

## • ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER

http://www.robertsrules.com

## PUBLIC RECORDS LAW

• http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App\_mode=Display\_Statute&URL=0100-0199/0119/0119ContentsIndex.html

# PALM BEACH COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS

http://www.palmbeachcountyethics.com/





Vivian Mendez, MMC Town Clerk

Town of Lake Park

535 Park Avenue, Lake Park, FL 33403

561-881-3311

- townclerk@lakeparkflorida.gov

## FLORIDA COMMISSION ON ETHICS



GUIDE
to the
SUNSHINE AMENDMENT
and
CODE of ETHICS
for Public Officers and Employees

## State of Florida COMMISSION ON ETHICS

Guy W. Norris, Chair Lake City

Kimberly Bonder Rezanka, Vice Chair Cocoa

> Jason David Berger Palm City

Daniel Brady, PH.D. Miami Shores

Antonio Carvajal Tallahassee

Joanne Leznoff
Tallahassee

F. Shields McManus
Stuart

William "Willie" N. Meggs
Tallahassee

Garrett S. Richter
Naples

**Virlindia Doss** 

Executive Director
P.O. Drawer 15709
Tallahassee, FL 32317-5709
www.ethics.state.fl.us
(850) 488-7864\*

<sup>\*</sup>Please direct all requests for information to this number.

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## I. HISTORY OF FLORIDA'S ETHICS LAWS

Florida has been a leader among the states in establishing ethics standards for public officials and recognizing the right of citizens to protect the public trust against abuse. Our state Constitution was revised in 1968 to require a code of ethics, prescribed by law, for all state employees and non-judicial officers prohibiting conflict between public duty and private interests.

Florida's first successful constitutional initiative resulted in the adoption of the Sunshine Amendment in 1976, providing additional constitutional guarantees concerning ethics in government. In the area of enforcement, the Sunshine Amendment requires that there be an independent commission (the Commission on Ethics) to investigate complaints concerning breaches of public trust by public officers and employees other than judges.

The Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees is found in Chapter 112 (Part III) of the Florida Statutes. Foremost among the goals of the Code is to promote the public interest and maintain the respect of the people for their government. The Code is also intended to ensure that public officials conduct themselves independently and impartially, not using their offices for private gain other than compensation provided by law. While seeking to protect the integrity of government, the Code also seeks to avoid the creation of unnecessary barriers to public service.

Criminal penalties, which initially applied to violations of the Code, were eliminated in 1974 in favor of administrative enforcement. The Legislature created the Commission on Ethics that year "to serve as guardian of the standards of conduct" for public officials, state and local. Five of the Commission's nine members are appointed by the Governor, and two each are appointed by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives. No more than five Commission members may be members of the same political party, and none may be lobbyists, or hold any public employment during their two-year terms of office. A chair is selected from among the members to serve a one-year term and may not succeed himself or herself.

In 2018, Florida's Constitutional Revision Commission proposed, and the voters adopted, changes to Article II, Section 8. The earliest of the changes will take effect December 31, 2020, and will prohibit officials from abusing their position to obtain a disproportionate benefit for themselves or their spouse, child, or employer, or for a business with which the official contracts or is an officer, partner, director, sole proprietor, or in which the official owns an interest. Other changes made to the Constitution place restrictions on lobbying by certain officeholders and employees, and put additional limits on lobbying by former public officers and employees. These changes will become effective December 31, 2022.

## II. ROLE OF THE COMMISSION ON ETHICS

In addition to its constitutional duties regarding the investigation of complaints, the Commission:

- · Renders advisory opinions to public officials;
- Prescribes forms for public disclosure;
- Prepares mailing lists of public officials subject to financial disclosure for use by Supervisors of Elections and the Commission in distributing forms and notifying delinquent filers;
- Makes recommendations to disciplinary officials when appropriate for violations of ethics and disclosure laws, since it does not impose penalties;
- Administers the Executive Branch Lobbyist Registration and Reporting Law;
- · Maintains financial disclosure filings of constitutional officers and state officers and employees; and,
- Administers automatic fines for public officers and employees who fail to timely file required annual financial disclosure.

## III. THE ETHICS LAWS

The ethics laws generally consist of two types of provisions, those prohibiting certain actions or conduct and those requiring that certain disclosures be made to the public. The following descriptions of these laws have been simplified in an effort to provide notice of their requirements. Therefore, we suggest that you also review the wording of the actual law. Citations to the appropriate laws are in brackets.

The laws summarized below apply generally to all public officers and employees, state and local, including members of advisory bodies. The principal exception to this broad coverage is the exclusion of judges, as they fall within the jurisdiction of the Judicial Qualifications Commission.

Public Service Commission (PSC) members and employees, as well as members of the PSC Nominating Council, are subject to additional ethics standards that are enforced by the Commission on Ethics under Chapter 350, Florida Statutes. Further, members of the governing boards of charter schools are subject to some of the provisions of the Code of Ethics [Sec. 1002.33(26), Fla. Stat.], as are the officers, directors, chief executive officers and some employees of business entities that serve as the chief administrative or executive officer or employee of a political subdivision. [Sec. 112.3136, Fla. Stat.].

## A. PROHIBITED ACTIONS OR CONDUCT

## 1. Solicitation and Acceptance of Gifts

Public officers, employees, local government attorneys, and candidates are prohibited from soliciting or accepting anything of value, such as a gift, loan, reward, promise of future employment, favor, or service that is based on an understanding that their vote, official action, or judgment would be influenced by such gift. [Sec. 112.313(2), Fla. Stat.]

Persons required to file financial disclosure FORM 1 or FORM 6 (see Part III F of this brochure), and state procurement employees, are prohibited from **soliciting** any gift from a political committee, lobbyist who has lobbied the official or his or her agency within the past 12 months, or the partner, firm, employer, or principal of such a lobbyist or from a vendor doing business with the official's agency. [Sec. 112.3148, Fla. Stat.]

Persons required to file FORM 1 or FORM 6, and state procurement employees are prohibited from directly or indirectly accepting a gift worth more than \$100 from such a lobbyist, from a partner, firm, employer, or principal of the lobbyist, or from a political committee or vendor doing business with their agency. [Sec.112.3148, Fla. Stat.]

However, notwithstanding Sec. 112.3148, Fla. Stat., no Executive Branch lobbyist or principal shall make, directly or indirectly, and no Executive Branch agency official who files FORM 1 or FORM 6 shall knowingly accept, directly or indirectly, any expenditure made for the purpose of lobbying. [Sec. 112.3215, Fla. Stat.] Typically, this would include gifts valued at less than \$100 that formerly were permitted under Section 112.3148, Fla. Stat. Similar rules apply to members and employees of the Legislature. However, these laws are not administered by the Commission on Ethics. [Sec. 11.045, Fla. Stat.]

Also, persons required to file Form 1 or Form 6, and state procurement employees and members of their immediate families, are prohibited from accepting any gift from a political committee. [Sec. 112.31485, Fla. Stat.]

## 2. Unauthorized Compensation

Public officers or employees, local government attorneys, and their spouses and minor children are prohibited from accepting any compensation, payment, or thing of value when they know, or with the exercise of reasonable care should know, that it is given to influence a vote or other official action. [Sec. 112.313(4), Fla. Stat.]

## 3. Misuse of Public Position

Public officers and employees, and local government attorneys are prohibited from corruptly using or attempting to use their official positions or the resources thereof to obtain a special privilege or benefit for themselves or others. [Sec. 112.313(6), Fla. Stat.]

## 4. Disclosure or Use of Certain Information

Public officers and employees and local government attorneys are prohibited from disclosing or using information not available to the public and obtained by reason of their public position, for the personal benefit of themselves or others. [Sec. 112.313(8), Fla. Stat.]

## 5. Solicitation or Acceptance of Honoraria

Persons required to file financial disclosure FORM 1 or FORM 6 (see Part III F of this brochure), and state procurement employees, are prohibited from **soliciting** honoraria related to their public offices or duties. [Sec. 112.3149, Fla. Stat.]

Persons required to file FORM 1 or FORM 6, and state procurement employees, are prohibited from knowingly accepting an honorarium from a political committee, lobbyist who has lobbied the person's agency within the past 12 months, or the partner, firm, employer, or principal of such a lobbyist, or from a vendor doing business with the official's agency. However, they may accept the payment of expenses related to an honorarium event from such individuals or entities, provided that the expenses are disclosed. See Part III F of this brochure. [Sec. 112.3149, Fla. Stat.]

Lobbyists and their partners, firms, employers, and principals, as well as political committees and vendors, are prohibited from **giving** an honorarium to persons required to file FORM 1 or FORM 6 and to state procurement employees. Violations of this law may result in fines of up to \$5,000 and prohibitions against lobbying for up to two years. [Sec. 112.3149, Fla. Stat.]

However, notwithstanding Sec. 112.3149, Fla. Stat., no Executive Branch or legislative lobbyist or principal shall make, directly or indirectly, and no Executive Branch agency official who files FORM 1 or FORM 6 shall knowingly accept, directly or indirectly, any expenditure made for the purpose of lobbying. [Sec. 112.3215, Fla. Stat.] This may include honorarium event related expenses that formerly were permitted under Sec. 112.3149, Fla. Stat. Similar rules apply to members and employees of the Legislature. However, these laws are not administered by the Commission on Ethics. [Sec. 11.045, Fla. Stat.]

## **B. PROHIBITED EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS RELATIONSHIPS**

- 1. Doing Business With One's Agency
- (a) A public employee acting as a purchasing agent, or public officer acting in an official capacity, is prohibited from purchasing, renting, or leasing any realty, goods, or services for his or her agency from a business entity in which the officer or employee or his or her spouse or child owns more than a 5% interest. [Sec. 112.313(3), Fla. Stat.]
- (b) A public officer or employee, acting in a private capacity, also is prohibited from renting, leasing, or selling any realty, goods, or services to his or her own agency if the officer or employee is a state officer or employee, or, if he or she is an officer or employee of a political subdivision, to that subdivision or any of its agencies. [Sec. 112.313(3), Fla. Stat.]
  - 2. Conflicting Employment or Contractual Relationship
- (a) A public officer or employee is prohibited from holding any employment or contract with any business entity or agency regulated by or doing business with his or her public agency. [Sec. 112.313(7), Fla. Stat.]
- (b) A public officer or employee also is prohibited from holding any employment or having a contractual relationship which will pose a frequently recurring conflict between the official's private interests and public duties or which will impede the full and faithful discharge of the official's public duties. [Sec. 112.313(7), Fla. Stat.]
- (c) Limited exceptions to this prohibition have been created in the law for legislative bodies, certain special tax districts, drainage districts, and persons whose professions or occupations qualify them to hold their public positions. [Sec. 112.313(7)(a) and (b), Fla. Stat.]
- 3. Exemptions—Pursuant to Sec. 112.313(12), Fla. Stat., the prohibitions against doing business with one's agency and having conflicting employment may not apply:
  - (a) When the business is rotated among all qualified suppliers in a city or county.
- (b) When the business is awarded by sealed, competitive bidding and neither the official nor his or her spouse or child have attempted to persuade agency personnel to enter the contract. NOTE: Disclosure of the interest of the official, spouse, or child and the nature of the business must be filed prior to or at the time of submission of the bid on Commission FORM 3A with the Commission on Ethics or Supervisor of Elections, depending on whether the official serves at the state or local level.

- (c) When the purchase or sale is for legal advertising, utilities service, or for passage on a common carrier.
  - (d) When an emergency purchase must be made to protect the public health, safety, or welfare.
- (e) When the business entity is the only source of supply within the political subdivision and there is full disclosure of the official's interest to the governing body on Commission FORM 4A.
  - (f) When the aggregate of any such transactions does not exceed \$500 in a calendar year.
- (g) When the business transacted is the deposit of agency funds in a bank of which a county, city, or district official is an officer, director, or stockholder, so long as agency records show that the governing body has determined that the member did not favor his or her bank over other qualified banks.
- (h) When the prohibitions are waived in the case of ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS by the appointing person or by a two-thirds vote of the appointing body (after disclosure on Commission FORM 4A).
- (i) When the public officer or employee purchases in a private capacity goods or services, at a price and upon terms available to similarly situated members of the general public, from a business entity which is doing business with his or her agency.
- (j) When the public officer or employee in a private capacity purchases goods or services from a business entity which is subject to the regulation of his or her agency where the price and terms of the transaction are available to similarly situated members of the general public and the officer or employee makes full disclosure of the relationship to the agency head or governing body prior to the transaction.

## 4. Additional Exemptions

No elected public officer is in violation of the conflicting employment prohibition when employed by a tax exempt organization contracting with his or her agency so long as the officer is not directly or indirectly compensated as a result of the contract, does not participate in any way in the decision to enter into the contract, abstains from voting on any matter involving the employer, and makes certain disclosures. [Sec. 112.313(15), Fla. Stat.] A qualified blind trust established pursuant to Sec. 112.31425, Fla. Stat., may afford an official protection from conflicts of interest arising from assets placed in the trust.

## 5. Legislators Lobbying State Agencies

A member of the Legislature is prohibited from representing another person or entity for compensation during his or her term of office before any state agency other than judicial tribunals. [Art. II, Sec. 8(e), Fla. Const., and Sec. 112.313(9), Fla. Stat.]

## 6. Employees Holding Office

A public employee is prohibited from being a member of the governing body which serves as his or her employer. [Sec. 112.313(10), Fla. Stat.]

## 7. Professional and Occupational Licensing Board Members

An officer, director, or administrator of a state, county, or regional professional or occupational organization or association, while holding such position, may not serve as a member of a state examining or licensing board for the profession or occupation. [Sec. 112.313(11), Fla. Stat.]

## 8. Contractual Services: Prohibited Employment

A state employee of the executive or judicial branch who participates in the decision-making process involving a purchase request, who influences the content of any specification or procurement standard, or who renders advice, investigation, or auditing, regarding his or her agency's contract for services, is prohibited from being employed with a person holding such a contract with his or her agency. [Sec. 112.3185(2), Fla. Stat.]

## 9. Local Government Attorneys

Local government attorneys, such as the city attorney or county attorney, and their law firms are prohibited from representing private individuals and entities before the unit of local government which they serve. A local government attorney cannot recommend or otherwise refer to his or her firm legal work involving the local government unit unless the attorney's contract authorizes or mandates the use of that firm. [Sec. 112.313(16), Fla. Stat.]

## 10. Dual Public Employment

Candidates and elected officers are prohibited from accepting public employment if they know or should know it is being offered for the purpose of influence. Further, public employment may not be accepted unless the position was already in existence or was created without the anticipation of the official's interest, was publicly advertised, and the officer had to meet the same qualifications and go through the same hiring process as other applicants. For elected public officers already holding public

employment, no promotion given for the purpose of influence may be accepted, nor may promotions that are inconsistent with those given other similarly situated employees. [Sec. 112.3125, Fla. Stat.]

## C. RESTRICTIONS ON APPOINTING, EMPLOYING, AND CONTRACTING WITH RELATIVES

## 1. Anti-Nepotism Law

A public official is prohibited from seeking for a relative any appointment, employment, promotion, or advancement in the agency in which he or she is serving or over which the official exercises jurisdiction or control. No person may be appointed, employed, promoted, or advanced in or to a position in an agency if such action has been advocated by a related public official who is serving in or exercising jurisdiction or control over the agency; this includes relatives of members of collegial government bodies. NOTE: This prohibition does not apply to school districts (except as provided in Sec. 1012.23, Fla. Stat.), community colleges and state universities, or to appointments of boards, other than those with land-planning or zoning responsibilities, in municipalities of fewer than 35,000 residents. Also, the approval of budgets does not constitute "jurisdiction or control" for the purposes of this prohibition. This provision does not apply to volunteer emergency medical, firefighting, or police service providers. [Sec. 112.3135, Fla. Stat.]

## 2. Additional Restrictions

A state employee of the executive or judicial branch or the PSC is prohibited from directly or indirectly procuring contractual services for his or her agency from a business entity of which a relative is an officer, partner, director, or proprietor, or in which the employee, or his or her spouse, or children own more than a 5% interest. [Sec. 112.3185(6), Fla. Stat.]

## D. POST OFFICE HOLDING AND EMPLOYMENT (REVOLVING DOOR) RESTRICTIONS

## 1. Lobbying by Former Legislators, Statewide Elected Officers, and Appointed State Officers

A member of the Legislature or a statewide elected or appointed state official is prohibited for two years following vacation of office from representing another person or entity for compensation before the government body or agency of which the individual was an officer or member. Former members of the Legislature are also prohibited for two years from lobbying the executive branch. [Art. II, Sec. 8(e), Fla. Const. and Sec. 112.313(9), Fla. Stat.]

## 2. Lobbying by Former State Employees

Certain employees of the executive and legislative branches of state government are prohibited from personally representing another person or entity for compensation before the agency with which

they were employed for a period of two years after leaving their positions, unless employed by another agency of state government. [Sec. 112.313(9), Fla. Stat.] These employees include the following:

- (a) Executive and legislative branch employees serving in the Senior Management Service and Selected Exempt Service, as well as any person employed by the Department of the Lottery having authority over policy or procurement.
- (b) Persons serving in the following position classifications: the Auditor General; the director of the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA); the Sergeant at Arms and Secretary of the Senate; the Sergeant at Arms and Clerk of the House of Representatives; the executive director and deputy executive director of the Commission on Ethics; an executive director, staff director, or deputy staff director of each joint committee, standing committee, or select committee of the Legislature; an executive director, staff director, executive assistant, legislative analyst, or attorney serving in the Office of the President of the Senate, the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Senate Majority Party Office, the Senate Minority Party Office, the House Majority Party Office, or the House Minority Party Office; the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellors of the State University System; the general counsel to the Board of Regents; the president, vice presidents, and deans of each state university; any person hired on a contractual basis and having the power normally conferred upon such persons, by whatever title; and any person having the power normally conferred upon the above positions.

This prohibition does not apply to a person who was employed by the Legislature or other agency prior to July 1, 1989; who was a defined employee of the State University System or the Public Service Commission who held such employment on December 31, 1994; or who reached normal retirement age and retired by July 1, 1991. It does apply to OPS employees.

PENALTIES: Persons found in violation of this section are subject to the penalties contained in the Code (see PENALTIES, Part V) as well as a civil penalty in an amount equal to the compensation which the person received for the prohibited conduct. [Sec. 112.313(9)(a)5, Fla. Stat.]

#### 3. Additional Restrictions on Former State Employees

A former executive or judicial branch employee or PSC employee is prohibited from having employment or a contractual relationship, at any time after retirement or termination of employment, with any business entity (other than a public agency) in connection with a contract in which the employee participated personally and substantially by recommendation or decision while a public employee. [Sec. 112.3185(3), Fla. Stat.]

A former executive or judicial branch employee or PSC employee who has retired or terminated employment is prohibited from having any employment or contractual relationship for two years with

any business entity (other than a public agency) in connection with a contract for services which was within his or her responsibility while serving as a state employee. [Sec.112.3185(4), Fla. Stat.]

Unless waived by the agency head, a former executive or judicial branch employee or PSC employee may not be paid more for contractual services provided by him or her to the former agency during the first year after leaving the agency than his or her annual salary before leaving. [Sec. 112.3185(5), Fla. Stat.]

These prohibitions do not apply to PSC employees who were so employed on or before Dec. 31, 1994.

#### 4. Lobbying by Former Local Government Officers and Employees

A person elected to county, municipal, school district, or special district office is prohibited from representing another person or entity for compensation before the government body or agency of which he or she was an officer for two years after leaving office. Appointed officers and employees of counties, municipalities, school districts, and special districts may be subject to a similar restriction by local ordinance or resolution. [Sec. 112.313(13) and (14), Fla. Stat.]

#### **E. VOTING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

State public officers are prohibited from voting in an official capacity on any measure which they know would inure to their own special private gain or loss. A state public officer who abstains, or who votes on a measure which the officer knows would inure to the special private gain or loss of any principal by whom he or she is retained, of the parent organization or subsidiary or sibling of a corporate principal by which he or she is retained, of a relative, or of a business associate, must make every reasonable effort to file a memorandum of voting conflict with the recording secretary in advance of the vote. If that is not possible, it must be filed within 15 days after the vote occurs. The memorandum must disclose the nature of the officer's interest in the matter.

No county, municipal, or other local public officer shall vote in an official capacity upon any measure which would inure to his or her special private gain or loss, or which the officer knows would inure to the special private gain or loss of any principal by whom he or she is retained, of the parent organization or subsidiary or sibling of a corporate principal by which he or she is retained, of a relative, or of a business associate. The officer must publicly announce the nature of his or her interest before the vote and must file a memorandum of voting conflict on Commission Form 8B with the meeting's recording officer within 15 days after the vote occurs disclosing the nature of his or her interest in the matter. However, members of community redevelopment agencies and district officers elected on a one-acre, one-vote basis are not required to abstain when voting in that capacity.

No appointed state or local officer shall participate in any matter which would inure to the officer's special private gain or loss, the special private gain or loss of any principal by whom he or she is retained, of the parent organization or subsidiary or sibling of a corporate principal by which he or she is retained, of a relative, or of a business associate, without first disclosing the nature of his or her interest in the matter. The memorandum of voting conflict (Commission Form 8A or 8B) must be filed with the meeting's recording officer, be provided to the other members of the agency, and be read publicly at the next meeting.

If the conflict is unknown or not disclosed prior to the meeting, the appointed official must orally disclose the conflict at the meeting when the conflict becomes known. Also, a written memorandum of voting conflict must be filed with the meeting's recording officer within 15 days of the disclosure being made and must be provided to the other members of the agency, with the disclosure being read publicly at the next scheduled meeting. [Sec. 112.3143, Fla. Stat.]

A qualified blind trust established pursuant to Sec. 112.31425, Fla. Stat., may afford an official protection from voting conflicts of interest arising from assets placed in the trust.

#### F. DISCLOSURES

Conflicts of interest may occur when public officials are in a position to make decisions that affect their personal financial interests. This is why public officers and employees, as well as candidates who run for public office, are required to publicly disclose their financial interests. The disclosure process serves to remind officials of their obligation to put the public interest above personal considerations. It also helps citizens to monitor the considerations of those who spend their tax dollars and participate in public policy decisions or administration.

All public officials and candidates do not file the same degree of disclosure; nor do they all file at the same time or place. Thus, care must be taken to determine which disclosure forms a particular official or candidate is required to file.

The following forms are described below to set forth the requirements of the various disclosures and the steps for correctly providing the information in a timely manner.

#### 1. FORM 1 - Limited Financial Disclosure

#### Who Must File:

Persons required to file FORM 1 include all state officers, local officers, candidates for local elective office, and specified state employees as defined below (other than those officers who are required by law to file FORM 6).

#### STATE OFFICERS include:

- 1) Elected public officials not serving in a political subdivision of the state and any person appointed to fill a vacancy in such office, unless required to file full disclosure on Form 6.
- 2) Appointed members of each board, commission, authority, or council having statewide jurisdiction, excluding members of solely advisory bodies; but including judicial nominating commission members; directors of Enterprise Florida, Scripps Florida Funding Corporation, and CareerSource Florida, and members of the Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys; the Executive Director, governors, and senior managers of Citizens Property Insurance Corporation; governors and senior managers of Florida Workers' Compensation Joint Underwriting Association, board members of the Northeast Florida Regional Transportation Commission, and members of the board of Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.; members of the board of Florida is for Veterans, Inc.; and members of the Technology Advisory Council within the Agency for State Technology.
- 3) The Commissioner of Education, members of the State Board of Education, the Board of Governors, local boards of trustees and presidents of state universities, and members of the Florida Prepaid College Board.

#### LOCAL OFFICERS include:

- 1) Persons elected to office in any political subdivision (such as municipalities, counties, and special districts) and any person appointed to fill a vacancy in such office, unless required to file full disclosure on Form 6.
- 2) Appointed members of the following boards, councils, commissions, authorities, or other bodies of any county, municipality, school district, independent special district, or other political subdivision: the governing body of the subdivision; a community college or junior college district board of trustees; a board having the power to enforce local code provisions; a planning or zoning board, board of adjustments or appeals, community redevelopment agency board, or other board having the power to recommend, create, or modify land planning or zoning within the political subdivision, except for citizen advisory committees, technical coordinating committees, and similar groups who only have the power to make recommendations to planning or zoning boards, except for representatives of a military installation acting on behalf of all military installations within that jurisdiction; a pension board or retirement board empowered to invest pension or retirement funds or to determine entitlement to or amount of a pension or other retirement benefit.
- 3) Any other appointed member of a local government board who is required to file a statement of financial interests by the appointing authority or the enabling legislation, ordinance, or resolution creating the board.

- 4) Persons holding any of these positions in local government: mayor; county or city manager; chief administrative employee or finance director of a county, municipality, or other political subdivision; county or municipal attorney; chief county or municipal building inspector; county or municipal water resources coordinator; county or municipal pollution control director; county or municipal environmental control director; county or municipal administrator with power to grant or deny a land development permit; chief of police; fire chief; municipal clerk; appointed district school superintendent; community college president; district medical examiner; purchasing agent (regardless of title) having the authority to make any purchase exceeding \$20,000 for the local governmental unit.
- 5) Members of governing boards of charter schools operated by a city or other public entity.
- 6) The officers, directors, and chief executive officer of a corporation, partnership, or other business entity that is serving as the chief administrative or executive officer or employee of a political subdivision, and any business entity employee who is acting as the chief administrative or executive officer or employee of the political subdivision. [Sec. 112.3136, Fla. Stat.]

#### SPECIFIED STATE EMPLOYEE includes:

- 1) Employees in the Office of the Governor or of a Cabinet member who are exempt from the Career Service System, excluding secretarial, clerical, and similar positions.
- 2) The following positions in each state department, commission, board, or council: secretary or state surgeon general, assistant or deputy secretary, executive director, assistant or deputy executive director, and anyone having the power normally conferred upon such persons, regardless of title.
- 3) The following positions in each state department or division: director, assistant or deputy director, bureau chief, assistant bureau chief, and any person having the power normally conferred upon such persons, regardless of title.
- 4) Assistant state attorneys, assistant public defenders, criminal conflict and civil regional counsel, assistant criminal conflict and civil regional counsel, public counsel, full-time state employees serving as counsel or assistant counsel to a state agency, judges of compensation claims, administrative law judges, and hearing officers.
- 5) The superintendent or director of a state mental health institute established for training and research in the mental health field, or any major state institution or facility established for corrections, training, treatment, or rehabilitation.

- 6) State agency business managers, finance and accounting directors, personnel officers, grant coordinators, and purchasing agents (regardless of title) with power to make a purchase exceeding \$20,000.
- 7) The following positions in legislative branch agencies: each employee (other than those employed in maintenance, clerical, secretarial, or similar positions and legislative assistants exempted by the presiding officer of their house); and each employee of the Commission on Ethics.

#### What Must Be Disclosed:

FORM 1 requirements are set forth fully on the form. In general, this includes the reporting person's sources and types of financial interests, such as the names of employers and addresses of real property holdings. NO DOLLAR VALUES ARE REQUIRED TO BE LISTED. In addition, the form requires the disclosure of certain relationships with, and ownership interests in, specified types of businesses such as banks, savings and loans, insurance companies, and utility companies. When to File:

CANDIDATES for elected local office must file FORM 1 together with and at the same time they file their qualifying papers.

STATE and LOCAL OFFICERS and SPECIFIED STATE EMPLOYEES are required to file disclosure by July 1 of each year. They also must file within thirty days from the date of appointment or the beginning of employment. Those appointees requiring Senate confirmation must file prior to confirmation.

#### Where to File:

Each LOCAL OFFICER files FORM 1 with the Supervisor of Elections in the county in which he or she permanently resides.

A STATE OFFICER or SPECIFIED STATE EMPLOYEE files with the Commission on Ethics. [Sec. 112.3145, Fla. Stat.]

#### 2. FORM 1F - Final Form 1 Limited Financial Disclosure

FORM 1F is the disclosure form required to be filed within 60 days after a public officer or employee required to file FORM 1 leaves his or her public position. The form covers the disclosure period between January 1 and the last day of office or employment within that year.

#### 3. FORM 2 - Quarterly Client Disclosure

The state officers, local officers, and specified state employees listed above, as well as elected constitutional officers, must file a FORM 2 if they or a partner or associate of their professional firm represent a client for compensation before an agency at their level of government.

A FORM 2 disclosure includes the names of clients represented by the reporting person or by any partner or associate of his or her professional firm for a fee or commission before agencies at the reporting person's level of government. Such representations do not include appearances in ministerial matters, appearances before judges of compensation claims, or representations on behalf of one's agency in one's official capacity. Nor does the term include the preparation and filing of forms and applications merely for the purpose of obtaining or transferring a license, so long as the issuance of the license does not require a variance, special consideration, or a certificate of public convenience and necessity.

#### When to File:

This disclosure should be filed quarterly, by the end of the calendar quarter following the calendar quarter during which a reportable representation was made. FORM 2 need not be filed merely to indicate that no reportable representations occurred during the preceding quarter; it should be filed ONLY when reportable representations were made during the quarter.

#### Where To File:

LOCAL OFFICERS file with the Supervisor of Elections of the county in which they permanently reside.

STATE OFFICERS and SPECIFIED STATE EMPLOYEES file with the Commission on Ethics. [Sec. 112.3145(4), Fla. Stat.]

#### 4. FORM 6 - Full and Public Disclosure

#### Who Must File:

Persons required by law to file FORM 6 include all elected constitutional officers and candidates for such office; the mayor and members of the city council and candidates for these offices in Jacksonville; the Duval County Superintendent of Schools; judges of compensation claims (pursuant to Sec. 440.442, Fla. Stat.); members of the Florida Housing Finance Corporation Board and members of expressway authorities, transportation authorities (except the Jacksonville Transportation Authority), bridge authority, or toll authorities created pursuant to Ch. 348 or 343, or 349, or other general law.

#### What Must be Disclosed:

FORM 6 is a detailed disclosure of assets, liabilities, and sources of income over \$1,000 and their values, as well as net worth. Officials may opt to file their most recent income tax return in lieu of listing sources of income but still must disclose their assets, liabilities, and net worth. In addition, the form requires the disclosure of certain relationships with, and ownership interests in, specified types of businesses such as banks, savings and loans, insurance companies, and utility companies.

#### When and Where To File:

Incumbent officials must file FORM 6 annually by July 1 with the Commission on Ethics. CANDIDATES must file with the officer before whom they qualify at the time of qualifying. [Art. II, Sec. 8(a) and (i), Fla. Const., and Sec. 112.3144, Fla. Stat.]

#### 5. FORM 6F - Final Form 6 Full and Public Disclosure

This is the disclosure form required to be filed within 60 days after a public officer or employee required to file FORM 6 leaves his or her public position. The form covers the disclosure period between January 1 and the last day of office or employment within that year.

#### 6. FORM 9 - Quarterly Gift Disclosure

Each person required to file FORM 1 or FORM 6, and each state procurement employee, must file a FORM 9, Quarterly Gift Disclosure, with the Commission on Ethics on the last day of any calendar quarter following the calendar quarter in which he or she received a gift worth more than \$100, other than gifts from relatives, gifts prohibited from being accepted, gifts primarily associated with his or her business or employment, and gifts otherwise required to be disclosed. FORM 9 NEED NOT BE FILED if no such gift was received during the calendar quarter.

Information to be disclosed includes a description of the gift and its value, the name and address of the donor, the date of the gift, and a copy of any receipt for the gift provided by the donor. [Sec. 112.3148, Fla. Stat.]

# 7. FORM 10 - <u>Annual Disclosure of Gifts from Government Agencies and Direct-Support Organizations and Honorarium Event Related Expenses</u>

State government entities, airport authorities, counties, municipalities, school boards, water management districts, and the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority, may give a gift worth more than \$100 to a person required to file FORM 1 or FORM 6, and to state procurement employees, if a public purpose can be shown for the gift. Also, a direct-support organization for a governmental entity

may give such a gift to a person who is an officer or employee of that entity. These gifts are to be reported on FORM 10, to be filed by July 1.

The governmental entity or direct-support organization giving the gift must provide the officer or employee with a statement about the gift no later than March 1 of the following year. The officer or employee then must disclose this information by filing a statement by July 1 with his or her annual financial disclosure that describes the gift and lists the donor, the date of the gift, and the value of the total gifts provided during the calendar year. State procurement employees file their statements with the Commission on Ethics. [Sec. 112.3148, Fla. Stat.]

In addition, a person required to file FORM 1 or FORM 6, or a state procurement employee, who receives expenses or payment of expenses related to an honorarium event from someone who is prohibited from giving him or her an honorarium, must disclose annually the name, address, and affiliation of the donor, the amount of the expenses, the date of the event, a description of the expenses paid or provided, and the total value of the expenses on FORM 10. The donor paying the expenses must provide the officer or employee with a statement about the expenses within 60 days of the honorarium event.

The disclosure must be filed by July 1, for expenses received during the previous calendar year, with the officer's or employee's FORM 1 or FORM 6. State procurement employees file their statements with the Commission on Ethics. [Sec. 112.3149, Fla. Stat.]

However, notwithstanding Sec. 112.3149, Fla. Stat., no executive branch or legislative lobbyist or principal shall make, directly or indirectly, and no executive branch agency official or employee who files FORM 1 or FORM 6 shall knowingly accept, directly or indirectly, any expenditure made for the purpose of lobbying. This may include gifts or honorarium event related expenses that formerly were permitted under Sections 112.3148 and 112.3149. [Sec. 112.3215, Fla. Stat.] Similar prohibitions apply to legislative officials and employees. However, these laws are not administered by the Commission on Ethics. [Sec. 11.045, Fla. Stat.] In addition, gifts, which include anything not primarily related to political activities authorized under ch. 106, are prohibited from political committees. [Sec. 112.31485 Fla. Stat.]

#### 8. FORM 30 - Donor's Quarterly Gift Disclosure

As mentioned above, the following persons and entities generally are prohibited from giving a gift worth more than \$100 to a reporting individual (a person required to file FORM 1 or FORM 6) or to a state procurement employee: a political committee; a lobbyist who lobbies the reporting individual's or procurement employee's agency, and the partner, firm, employer, or principal of such a lobbyist; and vendors. If such person or entity makes a gift worth between \$25 and \$100 to a reporting individual or state procurement employee (that is not accepted in behalf of a governmental entity or charitable

organization), the gift should be reported on FORM 30. The donor also must notify the recipient at the time the gift is made that it will be reported.

The FORM 30 should be filed by the last day of the calendar quarter following the calendar quarter in which the gift was made. If the gift was made to an individual in the legislative branch, FORM 30 should be filed with the Lobbyist Registrar. [See page 35 for address.] If the gift was to any other reporting individual or state procurement employee, FORM 30 should be filed with the Commission on Ethics.

However, notwithstanding Section 112.3148, Fla. Stat., no executive branch lobbyist or principal shall make, directly or indirectly, and no executive branch agency official or employee who files FORM 1 or FORM 6 shall knowingly accept, directly or indirectly, **any expenditure** made for the purpose of lobbying. This may include gifts that formerly were permitted under Section 112.3148. [Sec. 112.3215, Fla. Stat.] Similar prohibitions apply to legislative officials and employees. However, these laws are not administered by the Commission on Ethics. [Sec. 11.045, Fla. Stat.] In addition, gifts from political committees are prohibited. [Sec. 112.31485, Fla. Stat.]

#### 9. FORM 1X AND FORM 6X - Amendments to Form 1 and Form 6

These forms are provided for officers or employees to amend their previously filed Form 1 or Form 6.

#### IV. AVAILABILITY OF FORMS

LOCAL OFFICERS and EMPLOYEES who must file FORM 1 annually will be sent the form by mail from the Supervisor of Elections in the county in which they permanently reside not later than JUNE 1 of each year. Newly elected and appointed officials or employees should contact the heads of their agencies for copies of the form or download it from www.ethics.state.fl.us, as should those persons who are required to file their final disclosure statements within 60 days of leaving office or employment.

ELECTED CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS, OTHER STATE OFFICERS, and SPECIFIED STATE EMPLOYEES who must file annually FORM 1 or 6 will be sent these forms by mail from the Commission on Ethics by JUNE 1 of each year. Newly elected and appointed officers and employees should contact the heads of their agencies or the Commission on Ethics for copies of the form or download it from www.ethics.state.fl.us, as should those persons who are required to file their final disclosure statements within 60 days of leaving office or employment.

Any person needing one or more of the other forms described here may also obtain them from a Supervisor of Elections or from the Commission on Ethics, P.O. Drawer 15709, Tallahassee, Florida 32317-5709. They are also available on the Commission's website: www.ethics.state.fl.us.

#### V. PENALTIES

#### A. Non-criminal Penalties for Violation of the Sunshine Amendment and the Code of Ethics

There are no criminal penalties for violation of the Sunshine Amendment and the Code of Ethics. Penalties for violation of these laws may include: impeachment, removal from office or employment, suspension, public censure, reprimand, demotion, reduction in salary level, forfeiture of no more than one-third salary per month for no more than twelve months, a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000, and restitution of any pecuniary benefits received, and triple the value of a gift from a political committee.

#### B. Penalties for Candidates

CANDIDATES for public office who are found in violation of the Sunshine Amendment or the Code of Ethics may be subject to one or more of the following penalties: disqualification from being on the ballot, public censure, reprimand, or a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000, and triple the value of a gift received from a political committee.

#### C. Penalties for Former Officers and Employees

FORMER PUBLIC OFFICERS or EMPLOYEES who are found in violation of a provision applicable to former officers or employees or whose violation occurred prior to such officer's or employee's leaving public office or employment may be subject to one or more of the following penalties: public censure and reprimand, a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000, and restitution of any pecuniary benefits received, and triple the value of a gift received from a political committee.

#### D. Penalties for Lobbyists and Others

An executive branch lobbyist who has failed to comply with the Executive Branch Lobbying Registration law (see Part VIII) may be fined up to \$5,000, reprimanded, censured, or prohibited from lobbying executive branch agencies for up to two years. Lobbyists, their employers, principals, partners, and firms, and political committees and committees of continuous existence who give a prohibited gift or honorarium or fail to comply with the gift reporting requirements for gifts worth between \$25 and \$100, may be penalized by a fine of not more than \$5,000 and a prohibition on lobbying, or employing a lobbyist to lobby, before the agency of the public officer or employee to whom the gift was given for up to two years. Any agent or person acting on behalf of a political committee giving a prohibited gift is personally liable for a civil penalty of up to triple the value of the gift.

Executive Branch lobbying firms that fail to timely file their quarterly compensation reports may be fined \$50 per day per principal for each day the report is late, up to a maximum fine of \$5,000 per report.

#### E. Felony Convictions: Forfeiture of Retirement Benefits

Public officers and employees are subject to forfeiture of all rights and benefits under the retirement system to which they belong if convicted of certain offenses. The offenses include embezzlement or theft of public funds; bribery; felonies specified in Chapter 838, Florida Statutes; impeachable offenses; and felonies committed with intent to defraud the public or their public agency. [Sec. 112.3173, Fla. Stat.]

#### F. Automatic Penalties for Failure to File Annual Disclosure

Public officers and employees required to file either Form 1 or Form 6 annual financial disclosure are subject to automatic fines of \$25 for each day late the form is filed after September 1, up to a maximum penalty of \$1,500. [Sec. 112.3144 and 112.3145, Fla. Stat.]

#### **VI. ADVISORY OPINIONS**

Conflicts of interest may be avoided by greater awareness of the ethics laws on the part of public officials and employees through advisory assistance from the Commission on Ethics.

#### A. Who Can Request an Opinion

Any public officer, candidate for public office, or public employee in Florida who is in doubt about the applicability of the standards of conduct or disclosure laws to himself or herself, or anyone who has the power to hire or terminate another public employee, may seek an advisory opinion from the Commission about himself or herself or that employee.

#### B. How to Request an Opinion

Opinions may be requested by letter presenting a question based on a real situation and including a detailed description of the situation. Opinions are issued by the Commission and are binding on the conduct of the person who is the subject of the opinion, unless material facts were omitted or misstated in the request for the opinion. Published opinions will not bear the name of the persons involved unless they consent to the use of their names; however, the request and all information pertaining to it is a public record, made available to the Commission and to members of the public in advance of the Commission's consideration of the question.

#### C. How to Obtain Published Opinions

All of the Commission's opinions are available for viewing or download at its website: www.ethics.state.fl.us.

#### VII. COMPLAINTS

#### A. Citizen Involvement

The Commission on Ethics cannot conduct investigations of alleged violations of the Sunshine Amendment or the Code of Ethics unless a person files a sworn complaint with the Commission alleging such violation has occurred, or a referral is received, as discussed below.

If you have knowledge that a person in government has violated the standards of conduct or disclosure laws described above, you may report these violations to the Commission by filing a sworn complaint on the form prescribed by the Commission and available for download at www.ethics.state.fl.us. The Commission is unable to take action based on learning of such misdeeds through newspaper reports, telephone calls, or letters.

You can obtain a complaint form (FORM 50), by contacting the Commission office at the address or phone number shown on the inside front cover of this booklet, or you can download it from the Commission's website:

www.ethics.state.fl.us.

#### B. Referrals

The Commission may accept referrals from: the Governor, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, a State Attorney, or a U.S. Attorney. A vote of six of the Commission's nine members is required to proceed on such a referral.

#### C. Confidentiality

The complaint or referral, as well as all proceedings and records relating thereto, is confidential until the accused requests that such records be made public or until the matter reaches a stage in the Commission's proceedings where it becomes public. This means that unless the Commission receives a written waiver of confidentiality from the accused, the Commission is not free to release any documents or to comment on a complaint or referral to members of the public or press, so long as the complaint or referral remains in a confidential stage.

A COMPLAINT OR REFERRAL MAY NOT BE FILED WITH RESPECT TO A CANDIDATE ON THE DAY OF THE ELECTION, OR WITHIN THE 30 CALENDAR DAYS PRECEDING THE ELECTION DATE, UNLESS IT IS BASED ON PERSONAL INFORMATION OR INFORMATION OTHER THAN HEARSAY.

#### D. How the Complaint Process Works

Complaints which allege a matter within the Commission's jurisdiction are assigned a tracking number and Commission staff forwards a copy of the original sworn complaint to the accused within five working days of its receipt. Any subsequent sworn amendments to the complaint also are transmitted within five working days of their receipt.

Once a complaint is filed, it goes through three procedural stages under the Commission's rules. The first stage is a determination of whether the allegations of the complaint are legally sufficient: that is, whether they indicate a possible violation of any law over which the Commission has jurisdiction. If the complaint is found not to be legally sufficient, the Commission will order that the complaint be dismissed without investigation, and all records relating to the complaint will become public at that time.

In cases of very minor financial disclosure violations, the official will be allowed an opportunity to correct or amend his or her disclosure form. Otherwise, if the complaint is found to be legally sufficient, a preliminary investigation will be undertaken by the investigative staff of the Commission. The second stage of the Commission's proceedings involves this preliminary investigation and a decision by the Commission as to whether there is probable cause to believe that there has been a violation of any of the ethics laws. If the Commission finds no probable cause to believe there has been a violation of the ethics laws, the complaint will be dismissed and will become a matter of public record. If the Commission finds probable cause to believe there has been a violation of the ethics laws, the complaint becomes public and usually enters the third stage of proceedings. This stage requires the Commission to decide whether the law was actually violated and, if so, whether a penalty should be recommended. At this stage, the accused has the right to request a public hearing (trial) at which evidence is presented, or the Commission may order that such a hearing be held. Public hearings usually are held in or near the area where the alleged violation occurred.

When the Commission concludes that a violation has been committed, it issues a public report of its findings and may recommend one or more penalties to the appropriate disciplinary body or official.

When the Commission determines that a person has filed a complaint with knowledge that the complaint contains one or more false allegations or with reckless disregard for whether the complaint contains false allegations, the complainant will be liable for costs plus reasonable attorney's fees incurred by the person complained against. The Department of Legal Affairs may bring a civil action to recover such fees and costs, if they are not paid voluntarily within 30 days.

### E. Dismissal of Complaints At Any Stage of Disposition

The Commission may, at its discretion, dismiss any complaint at any stage of disposition should it determine that the public interest would not be served by proceeding further, in which case the Commission will issue a public report stating with particularity its reasons for the dismissal. [Sec. 112.324(12), Fla. Stat.]

#### F. Statute of Limitations

All sworn complaints alleging a violation of the Sunshine Amendment or the Code of Ethics must be filed with the Commission within five years of the alleged violation or other breach of the public trust. Time starts to run on the day AFTER the violation or breach of public trust is committed. The statute of limitations is tolled on the day a sworn complaint is filed with the Commission. If a complaint is filed and the statute of limitations has run, the complaint will be dismissed. [Sec. 112.3231, Fla. Stat.]

#### VIII. EXECUTIVE BRANCH LOBBYING

Any person who, for compensation and on behalf of another, lobbies an agency of the executive branch of state government with respect to a decision in the area of policy or procurement may be required to register as an executive branch lobbyist. Registration is required before lobbying an agency and is renewable annually. In addition, each lobbying firm must file a compensation report with the Commission for each calendar quarter during any portion of which one or more of the firm's lobbyists were registered to represent a principal. As noted above, no executive branch lobbyist or principal can make, directly or indirectly, and no executive branch agency official or employee who files FORM 1 or FORM 6 can knowingly accept, directly or indirectly, any expenditure made for the purpose of lobbying. [Sec. 112.3215, Fla. Stat.]

Paying an executive branch lobbyist a contingency fee based upon the outcome of any specific executive branch action, and receiving such a fee, is prohibited. A violation of this prohibition is a first degree misdemeanor, and the amount received is subject to forfeiture. This does not prohibit sales people from receiving a commission. [Sec. 112.3217, Fla. Stat.]

Executive branch departments, state universities, community colleges, and water management districts are prohibited from using public funds to retain an executive branch (or legislative branch) lobbyist, although these agencies may use full-time employees as lobbyists. [Sec. 11.062, Fla. Stat.]

Online registration and filing is available at www.floridalobbyist.gov. Additional information about the executive branch lobbyist registration system may be obtained by contacting the Lobbyist Registrar at the following address:

Executive Branch Lobbyist Registration Room G-68, Claude Pepper Building 111 W. Madison Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-1425

Phone: 850/922-4987

#### IX. WHISTLE-BLOWER'S ACT

In 1986, the Legislature enacted a "Whistle-blower's Act" to protect employees of agencies and government contractors from adverse personnel actions in retaliation for disclosing information in a sworn complaint alleging certain types of improper activities. Since then, the Legislature has revised this law to afford greater protection to these employees.

While this language is contained within the Code of Ethics, the Commission has no jurisdiction or authority to proceed against persons who violate this Act. Therefore, a person who has disclosed information alleging improper conduct governed by this law and who may suffer adverse consequences as a result should contact one or more of the following: the Office of the Chief Inspector General in the Executive Office of the Governor; the Department of Legal Affairs; the Florida Commission on Human Relations; or a private attorney. [Sec. 112.3187 - 112.31895, Fla. Stat.]

#### X. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

As mentioned above, we suggest that you review the language used in each law for a more detailed understanding of Florida's ethics laws. The "Sunshine Amendment" is Article II, Section 8, of the Florida Constitution. The Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees is contained in Part III of Chapter 112, Florida Statutes.

Additional information about the Commission's functions and interpretations of these laws may be found in Chapter 34 of the Florida Administrative Code, where the Commission's rules are published, and in The Florida Administrative Law Reports, which until 2005 published many of the Commission's final orders. The Commission's rules, orders, and opinions also are available at www.ethics.state.fl.us.

If you are a public officer or employee concerned about your obligations under these laws, the staff of the Commission will be happy to respond to oral and written inquiries by providing information about the law, the Commission's interpretations of the law, and the Commission's procedures.

#### XI. TRAINING

Constitutional officers and elected municipal officers are required to receive a total of four hours training, per calendar year, in the area of ethics, public records, and open meetings. The Commission on Ethics does not track compliance or certify providers.

Visit the training page on the Commission's website for up-to-date rules, opinions, audio/video training, and opportunities for live training conducted by Commission staff. A comprehensive online training course addressing Florida's Code of Ethics, as well as Sunshine Law, and Public Records Act is available via a link on the Commission's homepage.



# PALM BEACH COUNTY CODE OF ETHICS TRAINING ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Legal Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please print clearly)

Employee Identification Number:
Agency/Municipality: Dept/Board:
By signing this acknowledgement, I am attesting that I have done the following:
[ ] Read the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics Ordinance (Ctrl+Click to follow link)
AND
Have completed additional training by viewing one of the following:
[ ] The Code of Ethics Training Program on the Intranet/Internet. (Ctrl+Click to follow link)
[ ] The Code of Ethics Training Program on YouTube. (Ctrl+Click to follow link)
[ ] The Code of Ethics Training Program on DVD.
[ ] A live presentation given on, 20
I understand that I am responsible for understanding and abiding by the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics as I conduct my assigned duties during my term of employment. I also understand that the information in this policy is subject to change. Policy changes will be communicated to me by my supervisor or through official notices.
(Legal Signature) (Date)

Officials and Employees: Submit signed forms according to your agency's policy Advisory Board Members: Submit signed forms to Appropriate Advisory Board Representative

PLEASE SUBMIT THIS FORM TO APROPRIATE PARTY AS HIGHLIGHTED ABOVE PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT THIS FORM TO THE COMMISSION ON ETHICS

300 North Dixie Highway, Suite 450, West Palm Beach, FL 33401 PHONE: 561.355-1915 FAX: 561.355-1904

Hotline: 877.766.5920 E-mail: ethics@palmbeachcountyethics.com

# TAB 3



Name/Title

## **Town of Lake Park Stormwater Policy Committee**

### Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date: August 26, 2019 Agenda Item No. 3			
Agenda Title: Resolution No 42-05-19, Restating Membership, Meetings, Powers and Purpose of the Committee.			
[] SPECIAL PRESENTATION/REPORTS [ ] CONSENT AGENDA [] BOARD APPOINTMENT [ ] OLD BUSINESS [] PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE ON READING [] NEW BUSINESS    OTHER: ORIENTATION			
Approved by Town Manager Date: 8-21-19  Vivian Mendez - Town Clerk			

Originating Department:	Costs: \$ 0.00	Attachments:
Town Clerk	Funding Source:	-Copy of Resolution No. 42-05-19 -Copy of Article IV-Boards and Committees (Town Code)
	Acct. #	
	[] Finance	
Advertised: Date: Paper: [X] Not Required	All parties that have an interest in this agenda item must be notified of meeting date and time. The following box must be filled out to be on agenda.	Yes I have notified everyone Or Not applicable in this case <u>v.w.</u> Please initial one.

<u>Summary Explanation/Background:</u> On May 15, 2019, the Commission authorized via Resolution 42-05-19 the establishment of a Stormwater Policy Steering Committee to help facilitate stakeholder engagement in the Town's new Stormwater Master Plan initiative. Part of the Committee's purpose will be to foster the participation of various stakeholders, such as business owners, other residents, realtors, etc. It is hoped that this process will help staff arrive at a final product that incorporates a range of experience and opinion. Public Works has been soliciting for applications, and we have received two applications for the Stormwater Policy Steering Committee.

The resolution that was approved on May 15th called for the following five committee members:

- 1.) Town Manager
- 2.) Technical Public Works Professional or Land Use Planner from Town Staff 3.) Two residents
- 4.) One professional engineering consultant or Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM).

The proposed constitution of the Committee is as follows: 1.) John D'Agostino, Town Manager

- 2.) Richard Scherle, Public Works Director
- 3.) Ronnie Lee Cohen, resident (see attached application) 4.) Dena Davis, resident (see attached application)
- 5.) Raul Mercado, Certified Floodplain Manager

Meetings are anticipated to be held once per month, or on an as-needed basis, and the committee will help guide the formation of the master plan. The Town Commission will be kept abreast of committee meetings through minutes and recommendations. Staff recommends approval.

Recommended Motion: No Motion is required.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 42-05-19**

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAKE PARK, FLORIDA ESTABLISHING A STORMWATER POLICY COMMITTEE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Town of Lake Park, Florida ("Town") is a municipal corporation of the State of Florida with such power and authority as has been conferred upon it by the Florida Constitution and Chapter 166, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Town Commission has adopted provisions in Chapter 32 of its Code of Ordinances (the Code) pertaining to the management of stormwater utilities; and

WHEREAS, on February 6, 2019, the Town Commission approved the development of a new stormwater master plan, and;

WHEREAS, as part of the master planning effort, a stormwater policy committee is needed to provide a public forum to allow for stakeholder engagement, to be used in the development of the final stormwater plan, and;

WHEREAS, the Town Commission determined that the most appropriate way to establish a stormwater policy committee is to create a technical committee which will conduct public meetings and receive public comments regarding the development of a stormwater master plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAKE PARK, FLORIDA:

**SECTION 1.** Merger. The whereas clauses are incorporated herein as true and correct.

**SECTION 2.** Stormwater Policy Committee.

A Stormwater Policy Committee (the Committee) is hereby created which shall consist of five members. The Committee's existence shall continue until the Commission determines its existence is no longer necessary, or until such time as a Stormwater Master Plan is adopted.

#### **SECTION 3**. Membership

The Committee shall consist of the Town Manager, one technical public works professional or land use planner from town staff, two residents, and one professional who need not reside in the Town, but who shall be a professional engineering consultant, or a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) employed by a company with a continuing services contract with the Town. The members of the Committee shall serve at the pleasure of the town commission. The Commission shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson from among its members.

#### **SECTION 4.** Meetings.

A Quorum of the Committee shall consist of three or more members present and qualified to vote. The Committee shall meet monthly on a date to be determined by the Committee, unless it is determined there is no business to conduct. Meetings shall be governed by the Sunshine Law, including advertised notice, a recording of the meeting to be taken and maintained, and minutes. The conduct of the meetings shall be generally governed by Roberts Rules of Order. The Committee shall provide the opportunity for public comment at all meetings. Members of the public shall be permitted three minutes of comment on any agenda item. Additional time may be granted at the discretion of the Committee.

#### **SECTION 5**. Powers and purpose of the Committee

The purpose of the Committee is to provide a public forum for the development of a Stormwater Master plan for the Town. The Committee's powers are limited to providing technical recommendations regarding the development of a Stormwater Master Plan, but the Committee may provide recommendations of policy to the Commission regarding the adoption of a Stormwater Master Plan. Issues for discussion and recommendation may include areas of flooding concerns, proposed adjustments to the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), and other items pertaining to the development of Town's Stormwater Masterplan.

**SECTION 6.** This Resolution shall become effective upon execution.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Communication who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Communication was sec	e
and upon being put to a roll call vote, the vote was as follows	s:
MAYOR MICHAEL O'ROURKE	AYE NAY
VICE-MAYOR KIMBERLY GLAS-CASTRO	
COMMISSIONER ERIN FLAHERTY	
COMMISSIONER JOHN LINDEN	
COMMISSIONER ROGER MICHAUD	
The Town Commission thereupon declared the foregoing Re	esolution <u>42-05-19</u>
duly passed and adopted this	, 2019.
TOWN	OF LAKE PARK, FLORIDA
BY:_	MICHAEL O'ROURKE MAYOR
	o form and legal sufficiency:
- M.: 44.	PHOMAS J. BAIRD TOWN ATTORNEY

#### ARTICLE IV. - BOARDS AND COMMITTEES[5]

Footnotes:

**Cross reference**— Code compliance board, § 9-31 et seq.; planning and zoning board, § 55-61 et seq.; § 54-98; historic preservation board—created and established, § 66-4; harbor marina advisory board, § 76-31 et seq.

State Law reference— Public meetings and records, F,S. § 286,011,

**DIVISION 1. - GENERALLY** 

Sec. 2-111. - Election of board and committee officers.

- (a) Chair. Each board and committee of the town shall annually elect from its membership a chair, who shall preside at all meetings of such board or committee, and a vice-chair, who shall preside at all meetings of such board or committee in the absence or disability of the chair, at a regular meeting to be conducted in January, or if there is no meeting in January then at the first meeting of the board or committee in the new year.
- (b) Administrative support. The town manager shall assign town employees to each board or committee, including a recording secretary who shall be responsible for recording the meetings and producing minutes of the board or committee meetings.

(Code 1978, § 2-56; Ord. No. 17-1991, § 1, 11-6-1991; Ord. No. 05-2015, § 2, 5-6-2015)

Sec. 2-112. - Membership on boards and committees terminated for missing meetings; filling of vacancies.

(a) *Definitions*. For the purposes of this section, the following words, terms and phrases shall have the meanings herein ascribed to them:

Board means board or committee, as appropriate.

Valid excuse means one of the following:

- (1) Illness of a member or other person for whom the member is a caregiver;
- (2) Death of a member's relative; or
- (3) Scheduled absence approved in advance by the town clerk.
- (b) Recording of attendance. The secretary of each board shall record the names of the board members who are present and absent at each board meeting, and shall include in the minutes of the meeting, the name of any member who has missed a meeting without a valid excuse, including regular and special meetings of said board.
- (c) Termination of membership. Membership on a town board shall be automatically terminated for any member who, without valid excuse, misses three board meetings both regular and special in any consecutive 365-day period (any one-year term of the member).
- (d) Review of minutes. The town clerk shall be responsible for reviewing the minutes of each board to determine when a vacancy has occurred, the town clerk shall confirm the unexcused absences of the member with the board secretary and once confirmed shall subsequently publish notice of the vacancy in a newspaper of general circulation of the town. The town commission shall fill the vacancy no sooner than two weeks after the publication of such notice. The term of a board member

who is removed from office for lack of attendance shall end at the close of the third meeting in which the member failed to attend and which absence was not excused.

- (e) Notice of vacancies. The town clerk shall monitor the terms of office for board members. Not less than 60 days prior to the end of a board member's term, the clerk shall publish a notice of the impending vacancy.
- (f) Publication of notice. When publication of notice is required pursuant to this section, such publication shall be in the town newsletter and/or by other reasonable means of posting and publication. Copies of such notices shall be provided to the town commission at the next regular meeting following publication.
- (g) Profile sheet. Each person seeking an initial appointment to a board shall be required to complete a profile sheet. The form for such profile sheet shall be approved by the commission. Any current regular member or alternate member seeking appointment or reappointment shall also be required to complete a profile sheet if one has not been completed within the previous three years. A profile sheet shall be due no later than 48 hours prior to the regular town commission meeting at which the appointment is scheduled to occur.
- (h) Appointment of alternate members. The town commission shall appoint two alternates for each board. Alternate members of a board shall be appointed as first alternate and second alternate and shall serve in that order when necessary. Alternate members shall be permitted to participate in all board discussions. When an alternate member serves, the alternate member shall have all the powers and duties of a regular member including the right to vote on any matter before the board.
- (i) Nomination for action on vacancies. The clerk shall prepare a list of volunteers, including members who seek reappointment, along with the profile sheet for commission action on a vacancy. The list of volunteers shall include the name of each person seeking the appointment for which a profile sheet has been timely received. The commission may interview board and committee members appearing on the clerk's list who volunteer for reappointment or appointment. A nomination to fill a vacancy may be made by any member of the commission. For a nominee to be appointed there must be a second and majority vote of the commission. Thereafter, the clerk shall notify each volunteer applicant in writing of the commission's action.
- (j) Vacancies on a board or committee shall be automatically filled by an alternate member of that board or committee for the unexpired term. If two vacancies occur at the same time, the second vacancy shall be filled by the second alternate for the unexpired term. If a board or committee has more that two vacancies, the town commission may appoint temporary members, as necessary, who shall serve until the commission makes a regular appointment. The town clerk shall notify an alternate upon a change in status.
- (k) Residency requirement. All members of town boards shall be residents of the town. However, unless otherwise prohibited by law, the town commission may appoint no more than two (including alternate members) town business owners to a board or committee of the town.

(Ord. No. 33-1974, §§ I—III, 11-20-1974; Ord. No. 10-1979, § 1, 8-1-1979; Ord. No. 8-1982, § 1, 3-3-1982; Ord. No. 16-1990, § 1, 9-5-1990; Ord. No. 4-1991, § 1, 2-6-1991; Ord. No. 11-1994, § I, 5-18-1994; Ord. No. 6-1995, § I, 3-1-1995; Ord. No. 12-2001, § 1, 8-15-2001; Code 1978, § 2-57; Ord. No. 22-2004, § 2, 11-17-2004; Ord. No. 31-2004, § 2, 1-19-2005; Ord. No. 12-2006, § 2, 11-1-2006; Ord. No. 10-2013, § 2, 8-21-2013; Ord. No. 05-2016, § 2, 7-20-2016)

Sec. 2-113. - Scheduled board meetings; hours.

All meetings of the various town boards shall be conducted after 5:00 p.m.

(Ord. No. 8-1985, § 1, 5-1-1985; Code 1978, § 2-58)