



*Honesty - Integrity - Character*

**Palm Beach County  
Commission on Ethics**  
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# News Release

For Immediate Release  
Contact:

April 7, 2017  
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## Summary of Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics Meeting Held on April 6, 2017

The Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics (COE) took the following actions at its monthly public meeting held on April 6, 2017.

Two advisory opinions were approved. The full opinions are published and available at:  
<http://www.palmbeachcountylethics.com/opinions.htm>

**RQO 17-005:** The attorney for the town of Cloud Lake asked if a prohibited contractual relationship would exist for Mayor W. Patrick Slatery if his son's business, Clean Slate Property Maintenance, LLC, enters into a contract with the town of Cloud Lake to provide pump maintenance services to the town.

**The COE opined as follows:** The outside business of the mayor's son may not enter into a contract for services with the town of Cloud Lake unless one of the five exceptions to the contractual relationship prohibition applies. The Palm Beach County Code of Ethics (code) provides a sole source exception where the outside business is the only source of the product or the services within the town of Cloud Lake. If Clean Slate Property Maintenance is the only business located within the town of Cloud Lake that provides these pump maintenance services, that business would meet the sole source exception and a prohibited conflict of interest would not exist. If another business within the town of Cloud Lake also provides the pump maintenance services, then the sole source exception would not apply. However, if Clean Slate Property Maintenance meets the sole source exception, prior to the transaction or contract being approved, the mayor must fully disclose his interest in the business to the town of Cloud Lake and to the COE.

**RQO 17-006:** The attorney for the town of Juno Beach asked if the code prohibits two members of the town of Juno Beach Town Council from participating in discussions and voting on ordinances amending the land use classification and zoning designation of a vacant parcel of real property owned by the town. One of the council members owns a unit in the condominium complex located across the street from the vacant property, and the other council member resides in a single-family residence directly northwest of the vacant property.

**The COE opined as follows:** Because the vote has no direct and immediate financial benefit to Councilmember Fahy or Councilmember Wheeler, they are not prohibited from participating in and voting on the amending of the land use classification and the zoning designation of the vacant property under the circumstances listed.

A detailed explanation of all agenda items is available at  
<http://www.palmbeachcountylethics.com/meetings.htm>.

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