



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

For Immediate Release
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September 13, 2013
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Summary of Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics Meeting Held on September 12, 2013

The Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics (COE) took the following action at its monthly public meeting held on September 12, 2013.

Two new Ethics Commissioners were sworn in. Attorney Salesia Smith-Gordon was appointed by the presidents of the F. Malcolm Cunningham, Sr. Bar Association of Palm Beach County, the Hispanic Bar Association of Palm Beach County and the Palm Beach County Bar Association. Forensic Accountant Michael S. Kridel was appointed by the president of the Palm Beach Chapter of the Florida Institute of CPAs.

Former Ethics Commissioners Manuel Farach and Ronald Harbison were presented with awards for their service to the COE and the people of Palm Beach County.

The Florida Legislature's Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) provided COE staff with its preliminary findings and draft report on September 6, 2013. OPPAGA asked the COE to respond to its draft by September 20. After review of the draft proposal, public comment, and commissioner discussion, the COE directed staff to request an additional 30 days to respond and tabled the matter for further discussion at its regular meeting on October 3.

One complaint was heard in executive session. All documents pertaining to Complaint C13-012 are published on the COE website at

<http://www.palmbeachcountyethics.com/complaints.htm>. The COE took the following action:

After review of staff's investigation, documentary submissions, written response of the respondent and the oral statements of the respondent and the advocate, the COE issued a public report and final order dismissing C13-012 for no legal sufficiency.

A detailed explanation of all agenda items is available at

<http://www.palmbeachcountyethics.com/meetings.htm>.

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