



Honesty - Integrity - Character

**Palm Beach County
Commission on Ethics**

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News Release

For immediate release:
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June 6, 2024
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Summary of Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics Meeting Held on June 6, 2024

The Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics took the following action at its monthly public meeting held on June 6, 2024.

One complaint was heard in executive session. The complete file will be available on the Commission's website within seven days at: <http://www.palmbeachcountyethics.com/complaints.htm>.

C23-007: After considering the investigative report, probable cause recommendation, and statements by the COE advocate and Respondent, the COE issued a letter of instruction and dismissed the complaint.

The Commission approved three advisory opinions. The full opinions will be available on the Commission's website within seven days at:

<https://www.palmbeachcountyethics.com/coepub/>

RQO 24-006: A municipal employee asked if the Code of Ethics (Code) would prohibit his membership on the board of a local non-profit organization that is headquartered within the City and regularly interacts with his municipal employer.

The COE opined as follows: Generally, the Code only restricts actions that result in a prohibited entity receiving a special financial benefit. As long as the employee carefully follows the guidance in the opinion to ensure this does not happen, the board membership is not prohibited by the Code.

RQO 24-008: A municipal employee asked if the Code of Ethics would prohibit her membership on the board of a local non-profit organization that regularly interacts with her municipal employer.

The COE opined as follows: Generally, the Code only restricts actions that result in a prohibited entity receiving a special financial benefit. As long as the employee carefully follows the guidance in the opinion to

ensure this does not happen, the board membership is not prohibited by the Code.

RQO 24-009: An elected official asked if the Code of Ethics would prohibit him from accepting an offer to reallocate the training budget from one division within the City in order to fund the official's attendance in a specific training program.

The COE opined as follows: Generally, the Code only restricts actions that would result in a prohibited person or entity receiving a special financial benefit. The re-allocation of these training funds does not appear to violate this provision of the Code. However, because the elected official participates in both the performance review and salary determination of the employee offering to relinquish his training monies, there may be an appearance of impropriety were he to accept the funds.

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

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