

CODE OF PROFESSIONAL ETHICS OF THE PUBLIC HOUSING COMMISSIONER

Preamble

The objective of this Code of Ethics is to encourage professional performance by Housing Commissioners. The Code describes objective which, when accepted and followed, will help provide a beneficial relationship between the Commissioners, staff, and those they serve.

Code

A Public Housing Commissioner shall be bound by the following pledge:

1. I pledge myself to the professionalization of Housing Commissioners through my own efforts and through the mutual efforts of my colleagues and by all other proper means available.
2. I pledge to view my service on the Housing Commissioner as an opportunity to serve my community, and my state and nation because I support the objectives of providing a decent, safe, and sanitary home and a suitable living environment for every American family.
3. I pledge that I recognize my responsibilities are to serve in this capacity as a government official, a community leader, and an advocate for the Commission, its programs, and objectives.
4. I pledge myself to seek and maintain an equitable, honorable, and cooperative association with fellow Public Housing Officials and all others who are concerned with the proper and professional management of Public Housing Developments.
5. I pledge to try to make decisions in terms of the most economical and efficient method toward the best interests of all citizens, particularly those of low and moderate income. Decisions will provide an equal opportunity to all citizens regardless of race, creed, sex, or age.
6. I will recognize that my responsibility is not to make the day-to-day management decisions of the Commission, but to see that it is well run by carrying out policymaking, planning and appraisal functions and by providing direction and taking formal action in support of these functions.
7. I pledge to refuse to represent special interests or partisan politics or to use this Commission for personal gain or for the gain of friends or supporters. I recognize that although I have been appointed by the City Commission, my responsibility is to the entire community.
8. I pledge I shall not receive, directly or indirectly, any fee, rebate, commission, discount, gratuity, or any other benefit whether monetary or otherwise for the proper professional discharge of my duties, except authorized established expenses and other benefits.
9. I will arrive at conclusions only after I have discussed matters fully with members of the professional staff and Commission members. Once a decision has been reached by the majority of the Commission assembled at a meeting, I will support it graciously.

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10. I will recognize that authority vests with the whole Commission assembled in meetings and that the powers of the Commission shall be vested with the Commissioners thereof in office at any time.
11. I pledge to support and protect Commission personnel in performance of their duties. Where and when Commissioners are involved in employment of staff, I will vote to hire only competent and trained personnel who have been recommended by the Executive Director, otherwise I will support the Executive Director in the Executive Director's choice of hiring and handling of personnel without involvement by the Commission.
12. I pledge to refer all complaints, including my personal criticisms, to the Executive Director and only after failure of administrative solution will pursue such matters outside the Commission while also recognizing the individual rights of a Commissioner as a citizen appointee and the responsibilities such appointment implies.
13. I pledge to observe and enforce local and state laws and regulations pertaining to the Commission and the housing that the Commission represents.
14. I pledge to respect the limited intent and scope of executive session and respect privileged communications from executive sessions and other sources for the privacy of the personnel and clients we are involved with.
15. I pledge myself to place honesty, integrity, industriousness, compassion, and understanding above all else; to pursue my gainful efforts by study and dedication to the end that service to my Housing Authority and the people I serve shall always be maintained to the highest possible level.
16. I pledge to make diligent use of the time of the Commission as a whole and to endeavor to attend all meetings barring unforeseen conflicts, in which case I shall promptly notify the chairperson or his designee.
17. I pledge myself to comply with the rules and regulations and principals and this Code of Professional ethics.

I HEREBY SUBSCRIBE TO AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY the foregoing CODE OF PROFESSIONAL ETHICS OF THE PUBLIC HOUSING COMMISSIONER. I understand that a violation of any provision of this Code may result in reprimand, suspension or revocation of my appointment as a Public Housing Commissioner.

Name

Signature

Date

City, State

Witness

Date