ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

January 26, 2021

ATHENS COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Organizational Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

Remotely via Zoom

The Mission of the Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities is to serve our community with compassion, innovation, and transparency

1. Call to Order – Margaret Demko
2. Roll Call – Arian Smedley
3. Reading of Mission Statement.
4. Motion to approve Agenda.
5. Take photo/screenshot of Board Members.
6. Announcement of re-appointment of Margaret Demko, whose term is effective January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2024. Announcement of re-appointment of Katie Conner, whose term is effective January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2024.
7. Documents read and signed by each board member:
    a. Oath of Office (Exhibit 1, Page 1-2).
    b. Declaration (Exhibit 2, Pages 3-4).
    c. Ethics Statement (Exhibit 3, Pages 5-6).
        i. Ethics is Everybody's Business (Exhibit 4, Page 7-26).
        ii. Ohio Ethics Laws (Exhibit 5, Page 27-52).
        iii. Ohio Ethics Bulletin (Exhibit 6, Page 53-55).
8. Election of Officers (Exhibit 7, page 56):
    a. Motion to elect a President of the Athens County Board of DD.
    b. Motion to elect a Vice President of the Athens County Board of DD.
    c. Motion to elect a Secretary of the Athens County Board of DD.
9. Committee Assignments:
    a. Motion to elect three board members to serve on the Ethics Committee, which will meet when issues arise that require review from such entity (Exhibit 7, Page 56 & Exhibit 8, Page 57).
    b. Motion to elect three board members to serve on the Finance/Personnel Committee, and committee will meet as deemed necessary (Exhibit 7, Page 56).
10. Approval of the board meeting calendar as recommended on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m., or as noted (Exhibit 9, Page 58).
11. Approval of the board training schedule as recommended (Exhibit 10, Page 59).
12. Approval to provide public notice of all board meetings as required by ORC 121.22. Notice shall be provided through local media, posted at all ACBDD office locations, and the ACBDD website.
13. Discuss board member email usage (Exhibit 11, Page 60).
14. Motion to adjourn the organizational meeting.

Exhibit 1

ATHENS COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

OATH OF OFFICE

"I, _____, hereby affirm that I will faithfully execute the responsibilities of an Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities Board Member in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code Section 3.23, to support the Constitution of the United States and the constitution of this state, and faithfully to discharge the duties of the office. In addition, I will faithfully execute the responsibilities of an Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities Board Member in accordance with the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, the Ohio Department of Education, and the Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities laws, rules, and regulations (so help me God)."

_____ _____

Date Board Member Signature

_____ _____

Date Witness Signature

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Exhibit 2

ATHENS COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

DECLARATION BY BOARD MEMBER

I, _____, am a member of the Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities (referred to as the "ACBDD"). Pursuant to the requirements of ORC 5126.011 and Section 3 of AM. S.B. 10 (126th General Assembly), I make the following declaration:

1. I am a citizen of the United States.
2. I am a resident of _____ County.
3. I am interested and knowledgeable in the field of developmental disabilities.

Check all that apply:

- ☐ I have an immediate family member[1] who is eligible to receive early intervention services or services for preschool or school age children from the ACBDD.
- ☐ I have an immediate family member who is eligible to receive adult services from the ACBDD.
- ☐ I have an immediate family member who is eligible to receive residential or supported living services from the ACBDD.
- ☐ I have an ownership interest in the _____ agency, which has a contract with the ACBDD. The nature of this ownership interest is as follows:

_____

- ☐ I have an immediate family member who has an ownership interest in the _____ agency, which has a contract with the ACBDD. The nature of this ownership interest is as follows:

_____

[1] "Immediate Family Member" includes the following: parents, brothers, sisters, spouses, sons, daughters, mothers-in-law, fathers-in-law, sons-in-law, and daughters-in-law.

IMPORTANT: COMPLETE BOTH PAGES AND SIGN.

Exhibit 2

☐ I have an immediate family member who has a contract with the agency, which has a contract with the ACBDD. The nature of the contract is as follows:

_____

☐ I am a board member or employee of the _____ agency, which is licensed or certified by the Ohio Department of DD and which provides services to individuals with DD.

☐ I have an immediate family member who is a board member or employee of the _____ _____ agency, which is licensed or certified by the Ohio Department of DD and which provides services to individuals with DD.

☐ I am a board member or employee of the _____ agency, which is not licensed or certified by the Ohio Department of DD, which provides services to individuals with DD and which is under contract with the ACBDD.

☐ I have an immediate family member who is a board member or employee of the _____ _____ agency, which is not licensed or certified by the Ohio Department of DD, which provides services to individuals with DD and which is under contract with the ACBDD.

☐ I am an elected official in the following position: _____

☐ I have an immediate family member who is currently on the ACBDD.

☐ I am currently an employee of the ACBDD.

☐ I was an employee of the ACBDD and terminated my employment with the ACBDD of the following date: _____.

☐ I have an immediate family member who is currently an employee of the ACBDD.

☐ I have an immediate family member who is currently a county commissioner for _____ _____ County.

_____ _____

Date Board Member Signature

_____ _____

Date Witness Signature

IMPORTANT: COMPLETE BOTH PAGES AND SIGN.

Exhibit 3

ATHENS COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

ETHICS STATEMENT

I have received my copy of "Ethics is Everybody's Business," "Ohio Ethics Law and Related Statutes," and "Ohio Ethics Commission Bulletin-Gifts and Entertainment, February 21, 2013," by The Ohio Ethics Commission, all of which explain the Ohio Ethics Law. I understand it is my responsibility to read these documents and familiarize myself with the guidelines for conduct and disclosure.

_____ _____

Signature Date

ACBDD - Administration
Beacon School and MUI Dept.
801 West Union Street
Athens, Ohio 45701
Phone: 740-594-3539
Fax: 740-593-3189
athenscbdd.org

ATCO Adult Services
21 South Campbell Street
Athens, Ohio 45701
Phone: 740-592-6659
Fax: 740-594-7814
atcoinc.org

Employment Options / Personnel*Plus*
The Market on State
1002 East State Street, Suite 4
Athens, OH 45701
Phone: 740-592-3416
Fax: 740-593-8236

Service & Support Admin.
Transportation Services
9033 Lavelle Road
Athens, Ohio 45701
Phone: 740-592-6006
Fax: 740-594-5048

ACBDD is an equal opportunity employer and provider of services

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Exhibit 4

ETHICS IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

THE OHIO ETHICS COMMISSION

"No man is allowed to be a judge in his own cause, because his interest would certainly bias his judgment, and, not improbably, corrupt his integrity."

—James Madison in The Federalist

Questions or comments about this publication, or about the Ohio Ethics Law? Please contact:

Ohio Ethics Commission
William Green Building, 30 West Spring St., L3
Columbus, Ohio 43215-2256
Phone: (614) 466-7090
Fax: (614) 466-8368
www.ethics.ohio.gov

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THE OHIO ETHICS LAW

The Ohio Ethics Law was originally enacted in 1973 to promote confidence in government. The law:

- Establishes a code of conduct making it illegal for state and local public officials and employees to take official action if they have certain conflicts of interest
- Provides for the filing of financial disclosure statements by many public officials, and for public inspection of those statements
- Establishes procedures by which citizens may participate in the enforcement of the law
- Creates agencies within the three branches of government to administer the law
  - The Joint Legislative Ethics Committee (serving legislators)
  - The Supreme Court Board of Commissioners on Grievances and Discipline (serving judges)
  - The Ohio Ethics Commission (serving all others)

This Ethics Commission publication is designed to help you understand the Ethics Law. Whether you are a private citizen, public official, public employee, or candidate for public office, this pamphlet will explain how the Ethics Law applies to you. It is intended to advise the reader of general types of conduct prohibited by the Ohio Ethics Law and related statutes, and is not intended to restate the specific restrictions of state statute. You are encouraged to contact the Ethics Commission with any questions you may have after reading this publication.

THE OHIO ETHICS COMMISSION

The Ohio Ethics Commission is an independent, bipartisan board whose six members are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The members, citizens from around the state with experience in both the public and private sector, serve staggered six year terms so that one member is appointed each year.

PROHIBITED CONDUCT

Ohio's Ethics Law recognizes that many public officials and employees are in a position to make or influence decisions that directly affect their personal interests. The Ethics Law attempts to prevent this type of activity. Generally, a public official or employee may not participate in matters that involve his own financial interests or those of his family or business associates. The following types of conduct are prohibited or restricted by Ohio's Ethics Law.

MISUSE OF OFFICIAL POSITION

A public official or employee may not use, or authorize the use of, his public position to benefit himself or others in circumstances that create a conflict of interest where his objectivity could be impaired. This is a general restatement of one of the most important prohibitions in the Ethics Law.

Public officials and employees must not act on situations in which they might gain personally as a result of the decisions they make or their influence as public servants. For example, a public official or employee who owns property and profits by influencing his public agency to buy that property would likely be in violation of this prohibition. A public official or employee is also prohibited from using his position to benefit others, such as business associates and family members, because his relationship with those individuals could impair his objectivity in his public duties.

Two related provisions of the Ethics Law prohibit:

1. A public official or employee from soliciting or accepting anything of value that would create a substantial and improper influence upon the official in his public duties
2. Any person from promising or giving a public official anything of value

that would create a substantial and improper influence upon the official in his public duties

These provisions prohibit a public official or employee from soliciting or accepting gifts, travel expenses, consulting fees, or any other thing of substantial value from a party that is interested in, regulated by, or doing or seeking to do business with his public agency. Similarly, a private citizen may not promise or give things of value to a public official or employee under circumstances that create a conflict of interest. The Ethics Commission recommends that public servants avoid all conduct that creates the appearance of impropriety.

THE "REVOLVING DOOR" RESTRICTION

A current or former public official or employee is prohibited from representing anyone before any public agency, including his former employer, on any matter in which he personally participated in his official capacity. This prohibition is in effect during public service and generally remains in effect for one year following departure from public service. It does not prohibit a public servant from representing his former public agency.

The revolving door restriction applies to all former public officials and employees, including professionals such as attorneys, accountants, and engineers. The restriction prohibits a former public servant from improperly using insider knowledge or exerting influence with his former co-workers on a matter in which he personally participated while in public service. Because this influence could be used to benefit his client, the revolving door provision prohibits the former public servant from performing this type of representation. However, it does not apply to matters in which the former public servant did not participate as a public official.

Stricter provisions exist for certain former public officials and employees:

1. A former public official or employee who in his official capacity participated in administrative matters pertaining to solid or hazardous waste management, handling, transportation, or disposal is prohibited for a period of two years after his public service from representing, before any public agency, an owner or operator of a waste facility, or an applicant for a permit or license for a facility, on any matter in which he personally participated in his official capacity.
2. A former commissioner or attorney examiner of the Public Utilities Commission is prohibited from representing public utilities before any state board, commission, or agency, for two years after the conclusion of his service, regardless of whether he personally participated in the matter.

SALE OF GOODS AND SERVICES TO AND REPRESENTATION OF CLIENTS BEFORE PUBLIC AGENCIES

A public official or employee is prohibited from receiving compensation from any source other than his own public agency, for services rendered in a matter before any agency of the govern¬mental entity he serves. An example of this kind of activity would be a city transportation department employee,

who prepares private tax returns without using public time or resources, and wishes to represent a client before any city department, such as the tax department. The law generally prohibits him from performing this representation. In addition, state officials and employees are specifically prohibited from selling goods and services to state agencies, except through competitive bidding.

Non elected officials and employees may be exempted from both of these prohibitions if the following conditions are met:

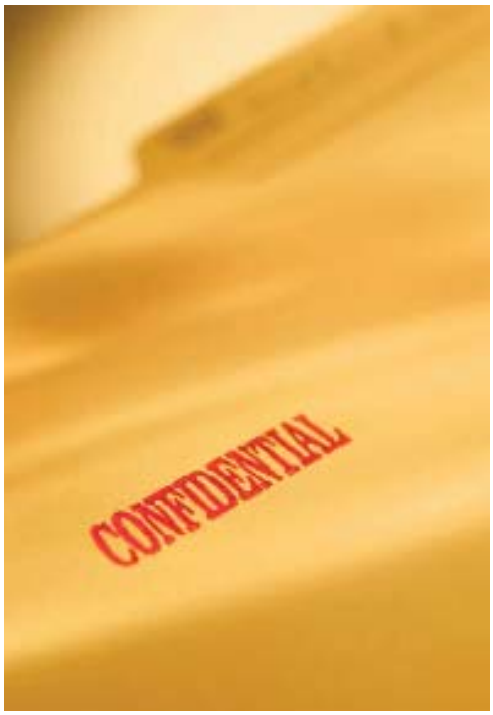
1. The official or employee is doing business with or representing the client before an agency other than the one he serves
2. Prior to conducting the business or providing the representation, the public servant files a statement with his own agency, the agency to which he plans to sell goods or services, and the appropriate ethics agency.

The statement described above must contain:

1. Specific information, including the names of the public agencies involved and a brief description of the business to be conducted; and
2. The public servant's declaration that he will not participate in his public capacity, for a period of two years, in any matter involving the personnel of the agency with which he is conducting business or before which he is representing any clients.

In the example of the private tax service, the city transportation department employee would be required to file a statement with his own public agency (the transportation department), the agency before which he plans to appear for compensation (the city tax or finance department), and the Ohio Ethics Commission, before he could represent the client before the tax or finance department. Finally, the city transportation department employee must declare on the statement that he will abstain for a period of two years from official participation in any matters related to the personnel of the city tax or finance department. Thus, the public servant may con¬duct business with, or represent clients before, an agency other than the one he serves provided he is not an elected official and, where appropriate, follows the exemption provided by the law.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION



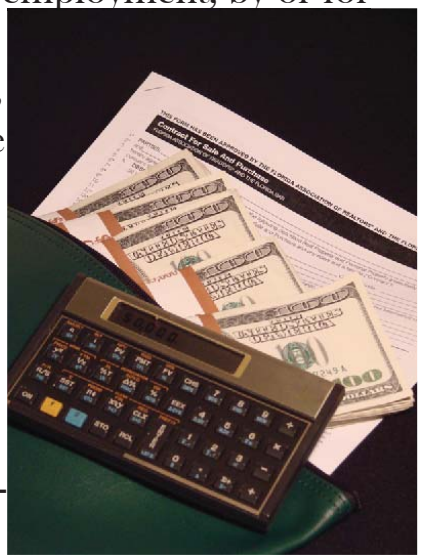
The Ethics Law prohibits present and former public officials or employees from disclosing or using any information appropriately designated by law as confidential. This prohibition remains in effect as long as the information remains confidential.

LICENSE OR RATE MAKING PROCEEDINGS

A public official or employee is restricted from participating in license or rate making proceedings that would affect the licenses or rates of any business if he or members of his immediate family own more than 5 percent of that business. A public servant is also prohibited from participating in license or rate-making proceedings that affect any person to whom the official, his immediate family, or any business to which he or his family members has sold more than $1,000 worth of goods or services.

PUBLIC CONTRACTS AND PUBLIC INVESTMENTS

A public official or employee is prohibited from having a financial or fiduciary interest in a public contract. A public contract includes any purchase or acquisition of goods or services, including employment, by or for the use of a public agency. Specifically, a public official or employee is prohibited from authorizing, voting, or otherwise using the authority or influence of his office to secure approval of a public contract in which the official, a family member, or a business associate has an interest. This provision, for example, prohibits public officials and employees from hiring members of their families. A public official is also prohibited from securing the investment of public funds in any investment if he, a family member, or a business associate has an interest in the investment.



A public official or employee is also prohibited from having an interest in a public contract with his public entity, or an agency with which he is connected, even if he does not participate in the issuance of the contract. A public servant may have an interest in a public contract with the public entity that he serves if he meets the conditions set forth in two exemptions to this prohibition.

The two exemptions are:

1. A public official is not deemed to be "interested" in a public contract with his public agency if all of the following conditions apply:
   - His interest in the corporation is limited to being either a stockholder or a creditor of the corporation
   - He either holds less than 5 percent of the outstanding stock of the corporation, or he is a creditor owed less than 5 percent of the outstanding debt of the corporation
   - He informs his public agency of his intentions by filing an affidavit with the agency prior to entering into the contract

2. The prohibitions do not apply if all of the following conditions are met:
   - The public official or employee takes no part in the deliberations and decisions on the transaction
   - The public official or employee informs his public agency of his interest
   - The contract involves necessary supplies or services that are not obtainable else¬where at the same or lower cost or that are part of a contract established before he was hired
   - The public agency is given treatment at least equal to that given to other clients involved in similar transactions

An example of this situation would be a county official or employee who operates a paving company and contracts with his county for road-paving work. This county official or employee could be in violation of the public contract prohibitions of the Ethics Law unless he can clearly demonstrate that he meets the limited conditions outlined above.

SOLICITING OR RECEIVING IMPROPER COMPENSATION

A public official or employee is prohibited from receiving compensation, in addition to that paid by his public agency, for performing his official duties. A private party is also prohibited from giving any supplemental compensation to a public servant to perform his official duties. In addition, a public servant is prohibited from soliciting or accepting anything of value,

or coercing a campaign contribution, in exchange for an appointment to a public position or any other kind of personnel action, such as a promotion or transfer.

PENALTIES

All of the provisions of the Ethics Law are criminal prohibitions. Most of the provisions, including the conflict of interest prohibitions, are first degree misdemeanors, punishable by a maximum fine of $1,000, a maximum prison term of six months, or both. However, certain provisions of the public contract prohibitions are fourth degree felonies, punishable by a maximum fine of $5,000, a maximum prison term of 18 months, or both.

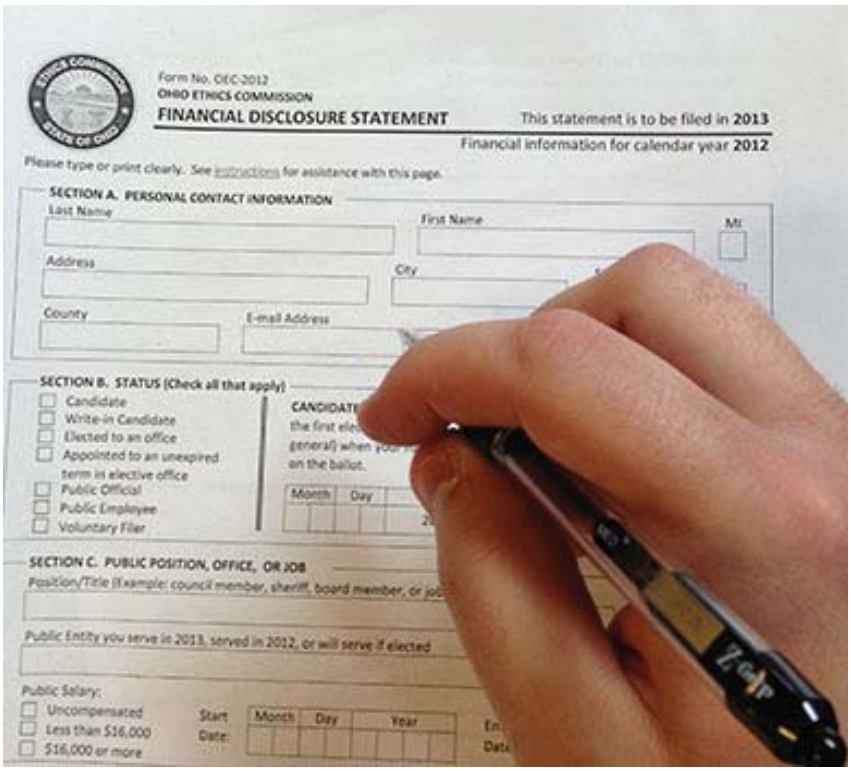
FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENT

General Information

Under the Ethics Law, many public officials and employees are required to file annual reports, called Financial Disclosure Statements (FDS), which disclose specific financial information. The purpose of the FDS requirement is to remind public servants of financial interests that may conflict with their official duties, and to assist citizens and the three ethics agencies in monitoring the areas of potential conflict of interest of public servants. Public dis¬closure serves as a deterrent to public officials who are considering activity that may result in a conflict.

Like a tax return, the FDS reflects personal financial information for the entire preceding calendar year. Therefore, a statement to be filed in 2008 will reflect the financial interests of the filer during the entire year of 2007, and will be described as a 2007 FDS.

Individuals Required to File FDS



Public officials and employees required to file FDS include:

- Elected officials at the state, county, and city levels
- Candidates for state, county, and city elective offices
- School board members and candidates for school board in school districts with 12,000 or more students
- All school district superintendents, treasurers, and business managers
- Upper-level state employees, including chief administrative officers of sovereign-power state boards and commissions
- Members of sovereign-power state boards and commissions

Village and township elected officers, board of education members in districts with fewer than 12,000 students, and most state and local public servants are NOT required to file an FDS.

Information the FDS Filer Must Disclose

Along with general personal information, most FDS filers identify the fol¬lowing items:

- All sources of income
- Investments worth more than $1,000
- Businesses in which the filer is an officer or board member
- Sources of travel expenses incurred in connection with official duties
- Sources of meals, food, and beverages, incurred in connection with official duties, aggregating more than $100
- Sources of gifts worth more than $75
- Ohio real estate investments
- Creditors and debtors of more than $1,000

City, county, and school board elected officials who make less than $16,000 for their public service, and public university trustees, have different disclosure requirements. These officials are required to disclose:

- Sources of income more than $500
- Investments worth more than $1,000
- Businesses in which the filer is an officer or board member
- Sources of gifts worth more than $500
- Ohio real estate investments
- Creditors and debtors of more than $1,000

FDS Due Dates

A public servant subject to the financial disclosure requirement is generally required to file his FDS with the appropriate ethics agency each year by April 15th. Statements may be filed by mail or in person, and a statement postmarked on or before April 15th is considered filed by that date.

A candidate who has been certified to a ballot for election to public office is required to file his FDS no later than 30 days prior to the date of the first election in which his candidacy will be voted on. A write-in candidate who has been certified to a ballot must file his FDS no later than 20 days prior to the first election in which his candidacy will be voted upon. Unless certified to a ballot, an incumbent office holder must file his FDS by April 15. A person appointed to an unexpired term of elective office has 15 days from the date he is sworn into office to file.

A person who is appointed to, promoted to, or employed in a non-elective position for which filing is required must file an FDS within 90 days of employment, promotion, or appointment, unless he is appointed on or before February 15th. If appointed to, promoted to, or employed in a non-elective position for which filing is required, on or before February 15th, he must file by April 15th.

FDS Fees and Penalties

The filer must include a filing fee with his FDS. The filing fees range depending upon the position for which filing is required. Filing fees are listed at http://www.ethics.ohio.gov/disclosure/index.shtml. The Ethics Commission is required to assess a late filing fee of $10 per day, to a maximum of $250, against those individuals who fail to file their FDS on time.

If a public official who is required to file an FDS fails to file, a penalty of up to a $250 fine, 30 days in jail, or both, could be imposed by the courts. If an official files a false statement, the penalty could be up to a $1000 fine, six months in jail, or both.

Filing of statements and availability of filed statements

Three ethics agencies receive FDS from the public officials over whom they have jurisdiction:

- Members of, employees of, and candidates for the Ohio General Assembly file with the Joint Legislative Ethics Committee
- Members and employees of, and candidates for the judiciary file with the Supreme Court Board of Commissioners on Grievances and Discipline
- All others file with the Ohio Ethics Commission

Copies of most FDS forms are available for public inspection from the Ethics Commission and other ethics agencies. However, the Ethics Law requires that the Ethics Commission keep some statements confidential, such as those filed by school district employees. Blank FDS forms may be obtained from any county board of elections or from any ethics agency.

INVESTIGATIONS BY THE ETHICS COMMISSION

Any person can refer information that indicates a public official or employee may have violated any of the criminal provisions of the Ethics Law, to the ethics agency that has jurisdiction over the official or employee in question. Allegation forms are available from the Ethics Commission to refer information relating to public servants within its authority.

All Ethics Commission investigations and hearings are confidential. Breach of confidentiality by Commission members or employees is a criminal offense. At its discretion, the Commission may share or disclose information with an investigating or prosecuting authority when necessary and appropriate for the conduct of an investigation. However, the Commission generally cannot disclose to others the existence, status, or result of any investigation.

Citizens may contact the Ethics Commission to make a charge or allegation of unethical conduct, or file a sworn complaint alleging specific personal knowledge of facts and evidence supporting each element of an Ethics Law violation. Most investigations are initiated upon charges received by the Commission.

When the Ethics Commission receives a charge or allegation of unethical conduct, staff determines whether the alleged misconduct falls within the authority of the Commission. If so, the staff initially reviews allegations and investigative priorities with an Investigative Committee of the Commission to determine whether to further review the allegation based on existing prioritized investigations and available resources. The Commission can then direct the staff to conduct a confidential investigation into the factual support for the charge and the severity of the alleged Ethics Law violation.

The Commission's authority is analogous to the role of a grand jury. At the conclusion of an investigation, which may include a formal hearing upon a sworn complaint, the Commission may refer the matter for prosecution to the appropriate prosecuting authority. It can also resolve a charge with the accused person, or close the matter. The resolution may include: mediation of the dispute; financial restitution; rescission of affected

contracts; forfeiture of any benefits resulting from this activity; or resignation of the public official or employee involved.

The Commission has no authority to prosecute public officials or employees independently. If it finds that the evidence supports a serious violation and determines that a resolution is not an option, the findings are turned over to the appropriate prosecuting authority for criminal prosecution. The referral remains confidential unless the prosecutor fails to act on the referral within 90 days. If the prosecutor fails to take any action with respect to the referral within that time, the Commission may make the referral public, though it can not comment regarding the merits of its findings.

ADVISORY OPINIONS

The Ohio Ethics Commission issues advisory opinions in response to questions relating to conflicts of interest or financial disclosure. Advisory opinions interpret the law and are available to public servants who are considering, but have not yet undertaken, an activity that may involve a conflict of interest. Staff reviews requests for advice with an Advisory Committee of the Commission.

An opinion issued by the Commission provides the official or employee, and any other public servant similarly situated, who follows the opinion with immunity from civil action, criminal prosecution, and removal from office actions. A public official or employee who fails to follow an opinion of the Commission is subject to potential civil and criminal action and removal from office for violating the Ethics Law. Advisory opinions are available, with search capability, on the Commission's Web site.

ETHICS EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Ethics Commission provides a wide variety of ethics education and public information free of charge. The Commission presents classes and other educational opportunities for groups of public officials, public employees, and private citizens. In addition, it provides pamphlets on a number of ethics issues. Each public agency is required to provide a copy of the Ethics Law to the officials and employees who serve the agency. The Commission can provide a master copy of the law to any agency, to assist it in complying with this law. Helpful materials are also available on the Web site.

For more information, to request an Ethics Commission speaker, or for answers to questions, write, call or view our Web site.

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Merom Brachman, Chairman
Michael A. Flack, Vice Chair
Bruce E. Bailey
Elizabeth E. Tracy

Paul M. Nick, Executive Director

Questions or comments about this publication, or about the Ohio Ethics Law? Please contact:

Ohio Ethics Commission
William Green Building, 30 West Spring St., L3
Columbus, Ohio 43215-2256
Phone: (614) 466-7090
Fax: (614) 466-8368
www.ethics.ohio.gov

Exhibit 5

Ohio Ethics Law and Related Statutes

The Ohio Ethics Commission

Merom Brachman, Chairman
Michael A. Flack, Vice Chairman
Bruce E. Bailey
Elizabeth E. Tracy

Paul M. Nick, Executive Director

August 2015

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THE OHIO ETHICS LAW: CHAPTER 102. OF THE REVISED CODE

Section 102.01 As used in this chapter:

(A) "Compensation" means money, thing of value, or financial benefit. "Compensation" does not include reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duties.

(B) "Public official or employee" means any person who is elected or appointed to an office or is an employee of any public agency. "Public official or employee" does not include a person elected or appointed to the office of precinct, ward, or district committee member under section 3517.03 of the Revised Code, any presidential elector, or any delegate to a national convention. "Public official or employee" does not include a person who is a teacher, instructor, professor, or other kind of educator whose position does not involve the performance of, or authority to perform, administrative or supervisory functions.

(C) "Public agency" means the general assembly, all courts, any department, division, institution, board, commission, authority, bureau or other instrumentality of the state, a county, city, village, or township, the five state retirement systems, or any other governmental entity. "Public agency" does not include a department, division, institution, board, commission, authority, or other instrumentality of the state or a county, municipal corporation, township, or other governmental entity that functions exclusively for cultural, educational, historical, humanitarian, advisory, or research purposes; that does not expend more than ten thousand dollars per calendar year, excluding salaries and wages of employees; and whose members are uncompensated. "Public agency" does not include the nonprofit corporation formed under section 187.01 of the Revised Code.

(D) "Immediate family" means a spouse residing in the person's household and any dependent child.

(E) "Income" includes gross income as defined and used in the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C. 1, as amended, interest and dividends on obligations or securities of any state or of any political subdivision or authority of any state or political subdivision, and interest or dividends on obligations of any authority, commission, or instrumentality of the United States.

(F) Except as otherwise provided in division (A) of section 102.08 of the Revised Code, "appropriate ethics commission" means:

(1) For matters relating to members of the general assembly, employees of the general assembly, employees of the legislative service commission, and candidates for the office of member of the general assembly, and public members appointed to the Ohio constitutional modernization commission under section 103.63 of the Revised Code, the joint legislative ethics committee;

(2) For matters relating to judicial officers and employees, and candidates for judicial office, the board of commissioners on grievances and discipline of the supreme court;

(3) For matters relating to all other persons, the Ohio ethics commission.

(G) "Anything of value" has the same meaning as provided in section 1.03 of the Revised Code and includes, but is not limited to, a contribution as defined in section 3517.01 of the Revised Code.

(H) "Honorarium" means any payment made in consideration for any speech given, article published, or attendance at any public or private conference, convention, meeting, social event, meal, or similar gathering. "Honorarium" does not include ceremonial gifts or awards that have insignificant monetary value; unsolicited gifts of nominal value or trivial items of informational value; or earned income from any person, other than a legislative agent, for personal services that are customarily provided in connection with the practice of a bona fide business, if that business initially began before the public official or employee conducting that business was elected or appointed to the public official's or employee's office or position of employment.

(I) "Employer" means any person who, directly or indirectly, engages an executive agency lobbyist or legislative agent.

(J) "Executive agency decision," "executive agency lobbyist," and "executive agency lobbying activity" have the same meanings as in section 121.60 of the Revised Code.

(K) "Legislation," "legislative agent," "financial transaction," and "actively advocate" have the same meanings as in section 101.70 of the Revised Code.

(L) "Expenditure" has the same meaning as in section 101.70 of the Revised Code when used in relation to activities of a legislative agent, and the same meaning as in section 121.60 of the Revised Code when used in relation to activities of an executive agency lobbyist.

Section 102.02

(A) Except as otherwise provided in division (H) of this section, all of the following shall file with the appropriate ethics commission the disclosure statement described in this division on a form prescribed by the appropriate commission: every person who is elected to or is a candidate for a state, county, or city office and every person who is appointed to fill a vacancy for an unexpired term in such an elective office; all members of the state board of education; the director, assistant directors, deputy directors, division chiefs, or persons of equivalent rank of any administrative department of the state; the president or other chief administrative officer of every state institution of higher education as defined in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code; the executive director and the members of the capitol square review and advisory board appointed or employed pursuant to section 105.41 of the Revised Code; all members of the Ohio casino control commission, the executive director of the commission, all professional employees of the commission, and all technical employees of the commission who perform an internal audit function; the individuals set forth in division (B)(2) of section 187.03 of the Revised Code; the chief executive officer and the members of the board of each state retirement system; each employee of a state retirement board who is a state retirement system investment officer licensed pursuant to section 1707.163 of the Revised Code; the members of the Ohio retirement study council appointed pursuant to division (C) of section 171.01 of the Revised Code; employees of the Ohio retirement study council, other than employees who perform purely administrative or clerical functions; the administrator of workers' compensation and each member of the bureau of workers' compensation board of directors; the bureau of workers' compensation director of investments; the chief investment officer of the bureau of workers' compensation; all members of the board of commissioners on grievances and discipline of the supreme court and the ethics commission created under section 102.05 of the Revised Code; every business manager, treasurer, or superintendent of a city, local, exempted village, joint vocational, or cooperative education school district or an educational service center; every person who is elected to or is a candidate for the office of member of a board of education of a city, local, exempted village, joint vocational, or cooperative education school district or of a governing board of an educational service center that has a total student count of twelve thousand or more as most recently determined by the department of education pursuant to section 3317.03 of the Revised Code; every person who is appointed to the board of education of a municipal school district pursuant to division (B) or (F) of section 3311.71 of the Revised Code; all members of the board of directors of a sanitary district that is established under Chapter 6115. of the Revised Code and organized wholly for the purpose of providing a water supply for domestic, municipal, and public use, and that includes two municipal corporations in two counties; every public official or employee who is paid a salary or wage in accordance with schedule C of section 124.15 or schedule E-2 of section 124.152 of the Revised Code; members of the board of trustees and the executive director of the southern Ohio agricultural and community development foundation; all members appointed to the Ohio livestock care standards board under section 904.02 of the Revised Code; and every other public official or employee who is designated by the appropriate ethics commission pursuant to division (B) of this section.

The disclosure statement shall include all of the following:

(1) The name of the person filing the statement and each member of the person's immediate family and all names under which the person or members of the person's immediate family do business;

(2)(a) Subject to divisions (A)(2)(b), and (c) of this section and except as otherwise provided in section 102.022 of the Revised Code, identification of every source of income, other than income from a legislative agent identified in division (A)(2)(b) of this section, received during the preceding calendar year, in the person's own name or by any other person for the person's use or benefit, by the person filing the statement, and a brief description of the nature of the services for which the income was received. If the person filing the statement is a member of the general assembly, the statement shall identify the amount of every source of income received in accordance with the following ranges of amounts: zero or more, but less than one thousand dollars; one thousand dollars or more, but less than ten thousand dollars; ten thousand dollars or more, but less than twenty-five thousand dollars; twenty-five thousand dollars or more, but less than fifty thousand dollars; fifty thousand dollars or more, but less than one hundred thousand dollars; and one hundred thousand dollars or more. Division (A)(2)(a) of this section shall not be construed to require a person filing the statement who derives income from a business or profession to disclose the individual items of income that constitute the gross income of that business or profession, except for those individual items of income that are attributable to the person's or, if the income is shared with the person, the partner's, solicitation of services or goods or performance, arrangement, or facilitation of services or provision of goods on behalf of the business or profession of clients,

including corporate clients, who are legislative agents. A person who files the statement under this section shall disclose the identity of and the amount of income received from a person who the public official or employee knows or has reason to know is doing or seeking to do business of any kind with the public official's or employee's agency.

(b) If the person filing the statement is a member of the general assembly, the statement shall identify every source of income and the amount of that income that was received from a legislative agent during the preceding calendar year, in the person's own name or by any other person for the person's use or benefit, by the person filing the statement, and a brief description of the nature of the services for which the income was received. Division (A)(2)(b) of this section requires the disclosure of clients of attorneys or persons licensed under section 4732.12 of the Revised Code, or patients of persons certified under section 4731.14 of the Revised Code, if those clients or patients are legislative agents. Division (A)(2)(b) of this section requires a person filing the statement who derives income from a business or profession to disclose those individual items of income that constitute the gross income of that business or profession that are received from legislative agents.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in division (A)(2)(c) of this section, division (A)(2)(a) of this section applies to attorneys, physicians, and other persons who engage in the practice of a profession and who, pursuant to a section of the Revised Code, the common law of this state, a code of ethics applicable to the profession, or otherwise, generally are required not to reveal, disclose, or use confidences of clients, patients, or other recipients of professional services except under specified circumstances or generally are required to maintain those types of confidences as privileged communications except under specified circumstances. Division (A)(2)(a) of this section does not require an attorney, physician, or other professional subject to a confidentiality requirement as described in division (A)(2)(c) of this section to disclose the name, other identity, or address of a client, patient, or other recipient of professional services if the disclosure would threaten the client, patient, or other recipient of professional services, would reveal details of the subject matter for which legal, medical, or professional advice or other services were sought, or would reveal an otherwise privileged communication involving the client, patient, or other recipient of professional services. Division (A)(2)(a) of this section does not require an attorney, physician, or other professional subject to a confidentiality requirement as described in division (A)(2)(c) of this section to disclose in the brief description of the nature of services required by division (A)(2)(a) of this section any information pertaining to specific professional services rendered for a client, patient, or other recipient of professional services that would reveal details of the subject matter for which legal, medical, or professional advice was sought or would reveal an otherwise privileged communication involving the client, patient, or other recipient of professional services.

(3) The name of every corporation on file with the secretary of state that is incorporated in this state or holds a certificate of compliance authorizing it to do business in this state, trust, business trust, partnership, or association that transacts business in this state in which the person filing the statement or any other person for the person's use and benefit had during the preceding calendar year an investment of over one thousand dollars at fair market value as of the thirty-first day of December of the preceding calendar year, or the date of disposition, whichever is earlier, or in which the person holds any office or has a fiduciary relationship, and a description of the nature of the investment, office, or relationship. Division (A)(3) of this section does not require disclosure of the name of any bank, savings and loan association, credit union, or building and loan association with which the person filing the statement has a deposit or a withdrawable share account.

(4) All fee simple and leasehold interests to which the person filing the statement holds legal title to or a beneficial interest in real property located within the state, excluding the person's residence and property used primarily for personal recreation;

(5) The names of all persons residing or transacting business in the state to whom the person filing the statement owes, in the person's own name or in the name of any other person, more than one thousand dollars. Division (A)(5) of this section shall not be construed to require the disclosure of debts owed by the person resulting from the ordinary conduct of a business or profession or debts on the person's residence or real property used primarily for personal recreation, except that the superintendent of financial institutions shall disclose the names of all state-chartered savings and loan associations and of all service corporations subject to regulation under division (E)(2) of section 1151.34 of the Revised Code to whom the superintendent in the superintendent's own name or in the name of any other person owes any money, and that the superintendent and any deputy superintendent of banks shall disclose the names of all state-chartered banks and all bank subsidiary corporations subject to regulation under section 1109.44 of the Revised Code to whom the superintendent or deputy superintendent owes any money.

(6) The names of all persons residing or transacting business in the state, other than a depository excluded under division (A)(3) of this section, who owe more than one thousand dollars to the person filing the statement, either in the person's own name or to any person for the person's use or benefit. Division (A)(6) of this section shall not be construed to require the disclosure of clients of attorneys or persons licensed under section 4732.12 or 4732.15 of the Revised Code, or patients of persons certified under section 4731.14 of the Revised Code, nor the disclosure of debts owed to the person resulting from the ordinary conduct of a business or profession.

(7) Except as otherwise provided in section 102.022 of the Revised Code, the source of each gift of over seventy-five dollars, or of each gift of over twenty-five dollars received by a member of the general assembly from a legislative agent, received by the person in the person's own name or by any other person for the person's use or benefit during the preceding calendar year, except gifts received by will or by virtue of section 2105.06 of the Revised Code, or received from spouses, parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, siblings, nephews, nieces, uncles, aunts, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, fathers-in-law, mothers-in-law, or any person to whom the person filing the statement stands in loco parentis, or received by way of distribution from any inter vivos or testamentary trust established by a spouse or by an ancestor;

(8) Except as otherwise provided in section 102.022 of the Revised Code, identification of the source and amount of every payment of expenses incurred for travel to destinations inside or outside this state that is received by the person in the person's own name or by any other person for the person's use or benefit and that is incurred in connection with the person's official duties, except for expenses for travel to meetings or conventions of a national or state organization to which any state agency, including, but not limited to, any legislative agency or state institution of higher education as defined in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code, pays membership dues, or any political subdivision or any office or agency of a political subdivision pays membership dues;

(9) Except as otherwise provided in section 102.022 of the Revised Code, identification of the source of payment of expenses for meals and other food and beverages, other than for meals and other food and beverages provided at a meeting at which the person participated in a panel, seminar, or speaking engagement or at a meeting or convention of a national or state organization to which any state agency, including, but not limited to, any legislative agency or state institution of higher education as defined in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code, pays membership dues, or any political subdivision or any office or agency of a political subdivision pays membership dues, that are incurred in connection with the person's official duties and that exceed one hundred dollars aggregated per calendar year;

(10) If the disclosure statement is filed by a public official or employee described in division (B)(2) of section 101.73 of the Revised Code or division (B)(2) of section 121.63 of the Revised Code who receives a statement from a legislative agent, executive agency lobbyist, or employer that contains the information described in division (F)(2) of section 101.73 of the Revised Code or division (G)(2) of section 121.63 of the Revised Code, all of the nondisputed information contained in the statement delivered to that public official or employee by the legislative agent, executive agency lobbyist, or employer under division (F)(2) of section 101.73 or (G)(2) of section 121.63 of the Revised Code.

A person may file a statement required by this section in person or by mail. A person who is a candidate for elective office shall file the statement no later than the thirtieth day before the primary, special, or general election at which the candidacy is to be voted on, whichever election occurs soonest, except that a person who is a write-in candidate shall file the statement no later than the twentieth day before the earliest election at which the person's candidacy is to be voted on. A person who holds elective office shall file the statement on or before the fifteenth day of April of each year unless the person is a candidate for office. A person who is appointed to fill a vacancy for an unexpired term in an elective office shall file the statement within fifteen days after the person qualifies for office. Other persons shall file an annual statement on or before the fifteenth day of April or, if appointed or employed after that date, within ninety days after appointment or employment. No person shall be required to file with the appropriate ethics commission more than one statement or pay more than one filing fee for any one calendar year.

The appropriate ethics commission, for good cause, may extend for a reasonable time the deadline for filing a statement under this section.

A statement filed under this section is subject to public inspection at locations designated by the appropriate ethics commission except as otherwise provided in this section.

(B) The Ohio ethics commission, the joint legislative ethics committee, and the board of commissioners on grievances and discipline of the supreme court, using the rule-making procedures of Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, may require any class of public officials or employees under its jurisdiction and not specifically excluded by this section whose positions involve a substantial and material exercise of administrative discretion in the formulation of public policy, expenditure of public funds, enforcement of laws and rules of the state or a county or city, or the execution of other public trusts, to file an annual statement on or before the fifteenth day of April under division (A) of this section. The appropriate ethics commission shall send the public officials or employees written notice of the requirement by the fifteenth day of February of each year the filing is required unless the public official or employee is appointed after that date, in which case the notice shall be sent within thirty days after appointment, and the filing shall be made not later than ninety days after appointment.

Except for disclosure statements filed by members of the board of trustees and the executive director of the southern Ohio agricultural and community development foundation, disclosure statements filed under this division with the Ohio ethics commission by members of boards, commissions, or bureaus of the state for which no compensation is received other than reasonable and necessary expenses shall be kept confidential. Disclosure statements filed with the Ohio ethics commission under division (A) of this section by business managers, treasurers, and superintendents of city, local, exempted village, joint vocational, or cooperative education school districts or educational service centers shall be kept confidential, except that any person conducting an audit of any such school district or educational service center pursuant to section 115.56 or Chapter 117. of the Revised Code may examine the disclosure statement of any business manager, treasurer, or superintendent of that school district or educational service center. Disclosure statements filed with the Ohio ethics commission under division (A) of this section by the individuals set forth in division (B)(2) of section 187.03 of the Revised Code shall be kept confidential. The Ohio ethics commission shall examine each disclosure statement required to be kept confidential to determine whether a potential conflict of interest exists for the person who filed the disclosure statement. A potential conflict of interest exists if the private interests of the person, as indicated by the person's disclosure statement, might interfere with the public interests the person is required to serve in the exercise of the person's authority and duties in the person's office or position of employment. If the commission determines that a potential conflict of interest exists, it shall notify the person who filed the disclosure statement and shall make the portions of the disclosure statement that indicate a potential conflict of interest subject to public inspection in the same manner as is provided for other disclosure statements. Any portion of the disclosure statement that the commission determines does not indicate a potential conflict of interest shall be kept confidential by the commission and shall not be made subject to public inspection, except as is necessary for the enforcement of Chapters 102. and 2921. of the Revised Code and except as otherwise provided in this division.

(C) No person shall knowingly fail to file, on or before the applicable filing deadline established under this section, a statement that is required by this section.

(D) No person shall knowingly file a false statement that is required to be filed under this section.

(E)(1) Except as provided in divisions (E)(2) and (3) of this section, the statement required by division (A) or (B) of this section shall be accompanied by a filing fee of sixty dollars.

(2) The statement required by division (A) of this section shall be accompanied by the following filing fee to be paid by the person who is elected or appointed to, or is a candidate for, any of the following offices:

For state office, except member of the state board of education	$95
For office of member of general assembly	$40
For county office	$60
For city office	$35
For office of member of the state board of education	$35
For office of member of a city, local, exempted village, or cooperative education board of education or educational service center governing board	$30
For position of business manager, treasurer, or superintendent of a city, local, exempted village, joint vocational, or cooperative education school district or educational service center	$30

(3) No judge of a court of record or candidate for judge of a court of record, and no referee or magistrate serving a court of record, shall be required to pay the fee required under division (E)(1) or (2) or (F) of this section.

(4) For any public official who is appointed to a nonelective office of the state and for any employee who holds a nonelective position in a public agency of the state, the state agency that is the primary employer of the state official or employee shall pay the fee required under division (E)(1) or (F) of this section.

(F) If a statement required to be filed under this section is not filed by the date on which it is required to be filed, the appropriate ethics commission shall assess the person required to file the statement a late filing fee of ten dollars for each day the statement is not filed, except that the total amount of the late filing fee shall not exceed two hundred fifty dollars.

(G)(1) The appropriate ethics commission other than the Ohio ethics commission and the joint legislative ethics committee shall deposit all fees it receives under divisions (E) and (F) of this section into the general revenue fund of the state.

(2) The Ohio ethics commission shall deposit all receipts, including, but not limited to, fees it receives under divisions (E) and (F) of this section, investigative or other fees, costs or other funds it receives as a result of court orders, and all moneys it receives from settlements under division (G) of section 102.06 of the Revised Code, into the Ohio ethics commission fund, which is hereby created in the state treasury. All moneys credited to the fund shall be used solely for expenses related to the operation and statutory functions of the commission.

(3) The joint legislative ethics committee shall deposit all receipts it receives from the payment of financial disclosure statement filing fees under divisions (E) and (F) of this section into the joint legislative ethics committee investigative fund.

(H) Division (A) of this section does not apply to a person elected or appointed to the office of precinct, ward, or district committee member under Chapter 3517. of the Revised Code; a presidential elector; a delegate to a national convention; village or township officials and employees; any physician or psychiatrist who is paid a salary or wage in accordance with schedule C of section 124.15 or schedule E-2 of section 124.152 of the Revised Code and whose primary duties do not require the exercise of administrative discretion; or any member of a board, commission, or bureau of any county or city who receives less than one thousand dollars per year for serving in that position.

Sec. 102.021

(A)(1) For the twenty-four month period immediately following the end of the former state elected officer's or staff member's service or public employment, except as provided in division (B) or (D) of this section, each former state elected officer or staff member who filed or was required to file a disclosure statement under section 102.02 of the Revised Code shall file, on or before the deadlines specified in division (D) of this section, with the joint legislative ethics committee a statement that shall include the information described in divisions (A)(2), (3), (4), and (5) of this section, as applicable. The statement shall be filed on a form and in the manner specified by the joint legislative ethics committee. This division does not apply to a state elected officer or staff member who filed or was required to file a disclosure statement under section 102.02 of the Revised Code, who leaves service or public employment, and who takes another position as a state elected officer or staff member who files or is required to file a disclosure statement under that section.

No person shall fail to file, on or before the deadlines specified in division (D) of this section, a statement that is required by this division.

(2) The statement referred to in division (A)(1) of this section shall describe the source of all income received, in the former state elected officer's or staff member's own name or by any other person for the person's use or benefit, and briefly describe the nature of the services for which the income was received if the source of the income was any of the following:

(a) An executive agency lobbyist or a legislative agent;

(b) The employer of an executive agency lobbyist or legislative agent, except that this division does not apply if the employer is any state agency or political subdivision of the state;

(c) Any entity, association, or business that, at any time during the two immediately preceding calendar years, was awarded one or more contracts by one or more state agencies that in the aggregate had a value of one hundred thousand dollars or more, or bid on one or more contracts to be awarded by one or more state agencies that in the aggregate had a value of one hundred thousand dollars or more.

(3) If the former state elected officer or staff member received no income as described in division (A)(2) of this section, the statement referred to in division (A)(1) of this section shall indicate that fact.

(4) If the former state elected officer or staff member directly or indirectly made, either separately or in combination with another, any expenditure or gift for transportation, lodging, or food or beverages to, at the request of, for the benefit of, or on behalf of any public officer or employee, and if the former state elected officer or staff member would be required to report the expenditure or gift in a statement under sections 101.70 to 101.79 or sections 121.60 to 121.69 of the Revised Code, whichever is applicable, if the former state elected officer or staff member was a legislative agent or executive agency lobbyist at the time the expenditure or gift was made, the statement referred to in division (A)(1) of this section shall include all information relative to that gift or expenditure that would be required in a statement under sections 101.70 to 101.79 or sections 121.60 to 121.69 of the Revised Code if the former state elected officer or staff member was a legislative agent or executive agency lobbyist at the time the expenditure or gift was made.

(5) If the former state elected officer or staff member made no expenditure or gift as described in division (A)(4) of this section, the statement referred to in division (A)(1) of this section shall indicate that fact.

(B) If, at any time during the twenty-four month period immediately following the end of the former state elected officer's or staff member's service or public employment, a former state elected officer or staff member who filed or was required to file a disclosure statement under section 102.02 of the Revised Code becomes a legislative agent or an executive agency lobbyist, the former state elected officer or staff member shall comply with all registration and filing requirements set forth in sections 101.70 to 101.79 or sections 121.60 to 121.69 of the Revised Code, whichever is applicable, and, the former state elected officer or staff member also shall file a statement under division (A)(1) of this section except that the statement filed under division (A)(1) of this section does not need to include information regarding any income source, expenditure, or gift to the extent that that information was included in any registration or statement filed under sections 101.70 to 101.79 or sections 121.60 to 121.69 of the Revised Code.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this division, division (A)(2) of this section applies to attorneys, physicians, and other persons who engage in the practice of a profession and who, pursuant to a section of the Revised Code, the common law of this state, a code of ethics applicable to the profession, or otherwise, generally are required not to reveal, disclose, or use confidences of clients, patients, or other recipients of professional services except under specified circumstances or generally are required to maintain those types of confidences as privileged communications except under specified circumstances. Division (A)(2) of this section does not require an attorney, physician, or other professional subject to a confidentiality requirement as described in this division to disclose the name, other identity, or address of a client, patient, or other recipient of professional services if the disclosure would threaten the client, patient, or other recipient of professional services, would reveal details of the subject matter for which legal, medical, or professional advice or other services were sought, or would reveal an otherwise privileged communication involving the client, patient, or other recipient of professional services. Division (A)(2) of this section does not require an attorney, physician, or other professional subject to a confidentiality requirement as described in this division to disclose in the brief description of the nature of services required by division (A)(2) of this section any information pertaining to specific professional services rendered for a client, patient, or other recipient of professional services that would reveal details of the subject matter for which legal, medical, or professional advice was sought or would reveal an otherwise privileged communication involving the client, patient, or other recipient of professional services.

(D)(1) Each state elected officer or staff member who filed or was required to file a disclosure statement under section 102.02 of the Revised Code and who leaves public service or public employment shall file an initial statement under division (A)(1) of this section not later than the day on which the former state elected officer or staff member leaves public service or public employment. The initial statement shall specify whether the person will, or will not, receive any income from a source described in division (A)(2)(a), (b), or (c) of this section.

If a person files an initial statement under this division that states that the person will receive income from a source described in division (A)(2)(a), (b), or (c) of this section, the person is required to file statements under division (A)(2), (3), (4), or (5) of this section at the times specified in division (D)(2) of this section.

If a person files an initial statement under this division that states that the person will not receive income from a source described in division (A)(2)(a), (b), or (c) of this section, except as otherwise provided in this division, the person is not required to file statements under division (A)(2), (4), or (5) of this section or to file subsequent statements under division (A)(3) of this section. If a person files an initial statement under this

division that states that the person will not receive income from a source described in division (A)(2)(a), (b), or (c) of this section, and, subsequent to the filing of that initial statement, the person receives any income from a source described in division (A)(2)(a), (b), or (c) of this section, the person within ten days shall file a statement under division (A)(2) of this section that contains the information described in that division, and the person thereafter shall file statements under division (A)(2), (3), (4), or (5) of this section at the times specified in division (D)(2) of this section.

(2) After the filing of the initial statement under division (D)(1) of this section, each person required to file a statement under division (A)(2), (3), (4), or (5) of this section shall file it on or before the last calendar day of January, May, and September. The statements described in divisions (A)(2), (3), and (5) of this section shall relate to the sources of income the person received in the immediately preceding filing period from each source of income in each of the categories listed in division (A)(2) of this section. The statement described in division (A)(4) of this section shall include any information required to be reported regarding expenditures and gifts of the type described in division (A)(4) of this section occurring since the filing of the immediately preceding statement.

If, pursuant to this division, a person files a statement under division (A)(2) of this section, the person is required to file statements under division (A)(4) of this section, and subsequent statements under division (A)(2), (3), or (5) of this section, at the times specified in this division. In addition, if, subsequent to the filing of the statement under division (A)(2) of this section, the person receives any income from a source described in division (A)(2)(a), (b), or (c) of this section that was not listed on the statement filed under division (A)(2) of this section, the person within ten days shall file a statement under division (A)(2) of this section that contains the information described in that division regarding the new income source.

If, pursuant to this division, a person files a statement under division (A)(3) of this section, except as otherwise provided in this division, the person thereafter is not required to file statements under division (A)(2), (4), or (5) of this section, or to file subsequent statements under division (A)(3) of this section. If, subsequent to the filing of the statement under division (A)(3) of this section, the person receives any income from a source described in division (A)(2)(a), (b), or (c) of this section, the person within ten days shall file a statement under division (A)(2) of this section that contains the information described in that division regarding the new income source, and the person thereafter shall file statements under division (A)(4) of this section, and subsequent statements under division (A)(2) or (3) of this section, at the times specified in this division.

(3) No fee shall be required for filing an initial statement under division (D)(1) of this section. The person filing a statement under division (D)(2) of this section that is required to be filed on or before the last calendar day of January, May, and September shall pay a ten dollar filing fee with each such statement not to exceed thirty dollars in any calendar year. The joint legislative ethics committee may charge late fees in the same manner as specified in division (G) of section 101.72 of the Revised Code.

(E) Any state elected officer or staff member who filed or was required to file a disclosure statement under section 102.02 of the Revised Code and who leaves public service or public employment shall provide a forwarding address to the officer's or staff member's last employer, and the employer shall provide the person's name and address to the joint legislative ethics committee. The former elected state officer or staff member shall provide updated forwarding addresses as necessary to the joint legislative ethics committee during the twenty-four month period during which division (A)(1) of this section applies. The public agency or appointing authority that was the last employer of a person required to file a statement under division (A)(2) of this section shall furnish to the person a copy of the form needed to complete the initial statement required under division (D)(1) of this section.

(F) During the twenty-four month period immediately following the end of the former state elected officer's or staff member's service or public employment, no person required to file a statement under this section shall receive from a source described in division (A)(2)(a), (b), or (c) of this section, and no source described in division (A)(2)(a), (b), or (c) of this section shall pay to that person, any compensation that is contingent in any way upon the introduction, modification, passage, or defeat of any legislation or the outcome of any executive agency decision.

(G) As used in this section "state elected officer or staff member" means any elected officer of this state, any staff, as defined in section 101.70 of the Revised Code, or any staff, as defined in section 121.60 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 102.022

Each person who is an officer or employee of a political subdivision, who receives compensation of less than sixteen thousand dollars a year for holding an office or position of employment with that political subdivision, and who is required to file a statement under section 102.02 of the Revised Code; each member of the board of trustees of a state institution of higher education as defined in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code who is required to file a statement under section 102.02 of the Revised Code; and each individual set forth in division (B)(2) of section 187.03 of the Revised Code who is required to file a statement under section 102.02 of the Revised Code, shall include in that statement, in place of the information required by divisions (A)(2), (7), (8), and (9) of that section, the following information:

(A) Exclusive of reasonable expenses, identification of every source of income over five hundred dollars received during the preceding calendar year, in the officer's or employee's own name or by any other person for the officer's or employee's use or benefit, by the person filing the statement, and a brief description of the nature of the services for which the income was received. This division shall not be construed to require the disclosure of clients of attorneys or persons licensed under section 4732.12 or 4732.15 of the Revised Code or patients of persons certified under section 4731.14 of the Revised Code. This division shall not be construed to require a person filing the statement who derives income from a business or profession to disclose the individual items of income that constitute the gross income of the business or profession.

(B) The source of each gift of over five hundred dollars received by the person in the officer's or employee's own name or by any other person for the officer's or employee's use or benefit during the preceding calendar year, except gifts received by will or by virtue of section 2105.06 of the Revised Code, received from parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, siblings, nephews, nieces, uncles, aunts, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, fathers-in-law, mothers-in-law, or any person to whom the person filing the statement stands in loco parentis, or received by way of distribution from any inter vivos or testamentary trust established by a spouse or by an ancestor.

Section 102.03

(A)(1) No present or former public official or employee shall, during public employment or service or for twelve months thereafter, represent a client or act in a representative capacity for any person on any matter in which the public official or employee personally participated as a public official or employee through decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, the rendering of advice, investigation, or other substantial exercise of administrative discretion.

(2) For twenty-four months after the conclusion of service, no former commissioner or attorney examiner of the public utilities commission shall represent a public utility, as defined in section 4905.02 of the Revised Code, or act in a representative capacity on behalf of such a utility before any state board, commission, or agency.

(3) For twenty-four months after the conclusion of employment or service, no former public official or employee who personally participated as a public official or employee through decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, the rendering of advice, the development or adoption of solid waste management plans, investigation, inspection, or other substantial exercise of administrative discretion under Chapter 343. or 3734. of the Revised Code shall represent a person who is the owner or operator of a facility, as defined in section 3734.01 of the Revised Code, or who is an applicant for a permit or license for a facility under that chapter, on any matter in which the public official or employee personally participated as a public official or employee.

(4) For a period of one year after the conclusion of employment or service as a member or employee of the general assembly, no former member or employee of the general assembly shall represent, or act in a representative capacity for, any person on any matter before the general assembly, any committee of the general assembly, or the controlling board. Division (A)(4) of this section does not apply to or affect a person who separates from service with the general assembly on or before December 31, 1995. As used in division (A)(4) of this section "person" does not include any state agency or political subdivision of the state.

(5) As used in divisions (A)(1), (2), and (3) of this section, "matter" includes any case, proceeding, application, determination, issue, or question, but does not include the proposal, consideration, or enactment of statutes, rules, ordinances, resolutions, or charter or constitutional amendments. As used in division (A)(4) of this section, "matter" includes the proposal, consideration, or enactment of statutes, resolutions, or constitutional

amendments. As used in division (A) of this section, “represent” includes any formal or informal appearance before, or any written or oral communication with, any public agency on behalf of any person.

(6) Nothing contained in division (A) of this section shall prohibit, during such period, a former public official or employee from being retained or employed to represent, assist, or act in a representative capacity for the public agency by which the public official or employee was employed or on which the public official or employee served.

(7) Division (A) of this section shall not be construed to prohibit the performance of ministerial functions, including, but not limited to, the filing or amendment of tax returns, applications for permits and licenses, incorporation papers, and other similar documents.

(8) Division (A) of this section does not prohibit a nonelected public official or employee of a state agency, as defined in section 1.60 of the Revised Code, from becoming a public official or employee of another state agency. Division (A) of this section does not prohibit such an official or employee from representing or acting in a representative capacity for the official's or employee's new state agency on any matter in which the public official or employee personally participated as a public official or employee at the official's or employee's former state agency. However, no public official or employee of a state agency shall, during public employment or for twelve months thereafter, represent or act in a representative capacity for the official's or employee's new state agency on any audit or investigation pertaining to the official's or employee's new state agency in which the public official or employee personally participated at the official's or employee's former state agency through decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, the rendering of advice, investigation, or other substantial exercise of administrative discretion.

(9) Division (A) of this section does not prohibit a nonelected public official or employee of a political subdivision from becoming a public official or employee of a different department, division, agency, office, or unit of the same political subdivision. Division (A) of this section does not prohibit such an official or employee from representing or acting in a representative capacity for the official's or employee's new department, division, agency, office, or unit on any matter in which the public official or employee personally participated as a public official or employee at the official's or employee's former department, division, agency, office, or unit of the same political subdivision. As used in this division, "political subdivision" means a county, township, municipal corporation, or any other body corporate and politic that is responsible for government activities in a geographic area smaller than that of the state.

(10)No present or former Ohio casino control commission official shall, during public service or for two years thereafter, represent a client, be employed or compensated by a person regulated by the commission, or act in a representative capacity for any person on any matter before or concerning the commission.

No present or former commission employee shall, during public employment or for two years thereafter, represent a client or act in a representative capacity on any matter in which the employee personally participated as a commission employee through decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, the rendering of advice, investigation, or other substantial exercise of administrative discretion.

(B) No present or former public official or employee shall disclose or use, without appropriate authorization, any information acquired by the public official or employee in the course of the public official’s or employee’s official duties that is confidential because of statutory provisions, or that has been clearly designated to the public official or employee as confidential when that confidential designation is warranted because of the status of the proceedings or the circumstances under which the information was received and preserving its confidentiality is necessary to the proper conduct of government business.

(C) No public official or employee shall participate within the scope of duties as a public official or employee, except through ministerial functions as defined in division (A) of this section, in any license or rate-making proceeding that directly affects the license or rates of any person, partnership, trust, business trust, corporation, or association in which the public official or employee or immediate family owns or controls more than five per cent. No public official or employee shall participate within the scope of duties as a public official or employee, except through ministerial functions as defined in division (A) of this section, in any license or rate-making proceeding that directly affects the license or rates of any person to whom the public official or employee or immediate family, or a partnership, trust, business trust, corporation, or association of which the public official or employee or the public official’s or employee’s immediate family owns or controls more than five per cent, has sold goods or services totaling more than one thousand dollars during the preceding year, unless the public official or employee has filed a written statement acknowledging that sale with the clerk or secretary of the public agency and the statement is entered in any public record of the agency’s proceedings.

This division shall not be construed to require the disclosure of clients of attorneys or persons licensed under section 4732.12 or 4732.15 of the Revised Code, or patients of persons certified under section 4731.14 of the Revised Code.

(D) No public official or employee shall use or authorize the use of the authority or influence of office or employment to secure anything of value or the promise or offer of anything of value that is of such a character as to manifest a substantial and improper influence upon the public official or employee with respect to that person's duties.

(E) No public official or employee shall solicit or accept anything of value that is of such a character as to manifest a substantial and improper influence upon the public official or employee with respect to that person's duties.

(F) No person shall promise or give to a public official or employee anything of value that is of such a character as to manifest a substantial and improper influence upon the public official or employee with respect to that person's duties.

(G) In the absence of bribery or another offense under the Revised Code or a purpose to defraud, contributions made to a campaign committee, political party, legislative campaign fund, political action committee, or political contributing entity on behalf of an elected public officer or other public official or employee who seeks elective office shall be considered to accrue ordinarily to the public official or employee for the purposes of divisions (D), (E), and (F) of this section.

As used in this division, "contributions," "campaign committee," "political party," "legislative campaign fund," "political action committee," and "political contributing entity" have the same meanings as in section 3517.01 of the Revised Code.

(H)(1) No public official or employee, except for the president or other chief administrative officer of or a member of a board of trustees of a state institution of higher education as defined in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code, who is required to file a financial disclosure statement under section 102.02 of the Revised Code shall solicit or accept, and no person shall give to that public official or employee, an honorarium. Except as provided in division (H)(2) of this section, this division and divisions (D), (E), and (F) of this section do not prohibit a public official or employee who is required to file a financial disclosure statement under section 102.02 of the Revised Code from accepting and do not prohibit a person from giving to that public official or employee the payment of actual travel expenses, including any expenses incurred in connection with the travel for lodging, and meals, food, and beverages provided to the public official or employee at a meeting at which the public official or employee participates in a panel, seminar, or speaking engagement or provided to the public official or employee at a meeting or convention of a national organization to which any state agency, including, but not limited to, any state legislative agency or state institution of higher education as defined in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code, pays membership dues. Except as provided in division (H)(2) of this section, this division and divisions (D), (E), and (F) of this section do not prohibit a public official or employee who is not required to file a financial disclosure statement under section 102.02 of the Revised Code from accepting and do not prohibit a person from promising or giving to that public official or employee an honorarium or the payment of travel, meal, and lodging expenses if the honorarium, expenses, or both were paid in recognition of demonstrable business, professional, or esthetic interests of the public official or employee that exist apart from public office or employment, including, but not limited to, such a demonstrable interest in public speaking and were not paid by any person or other entity, or by any representative or association of those persons or entities, that is regulated by, doing business with, or seeking to do business with the department, division, institution, board, commission, authority, bureau, or other instrumentality of the governmental entity with which the public official or employee serves.

(2) No person who is a member of the board of a state retirement system, a state retirement system investment officer, or an employee of a state retirement system whose position involves substantial and material exercise of discretion in the investment of retirement system funds shall solicit or accept, and no person shall give to that board member, officer, or employee, payment of actual travel expenses, including expenses incurred with the travel for lodging, meals, food, and beverages.

(I) A public official or employee may accept travel, meals, and lodging or expenses or reimbursement of expenses for travel, meals, and lodging in connection with conferences, seminars, and similar events related to official duties if the travel, meals, and lodging, expenses, or reimbursement is not of such a character as to manifest a substantial and improper influence upon the public official or employee with respect to that person's duties. The house of representatives and senate, in their code of ethics, and the Ohio ethics commission, under

section 111.15 of the Revised Code, may adopt rules setting standards and conditions for the furnishing and acceptance of such travel, meals, and lodging, expenses, or reimbursement.

A person who acts in compliance with this division and any applicable rules adopted under it, or any applicable, similar rules adopted by the supreme court governing judicial officers and employees, does not violate division (D), (E), or (F) of this section. This division does not preclude any person from seeking an advisory opinion from the appropriate ethics commission under section 102.08 of the Revised Code.

(J) For purposes of divisions (D), (E), and (F) of this section, the membership of a public official or employee in an organization shall not be considered, in and of itself, to be of such a character as to manifest a substantial and improper influence on the public official or employee with respect to that person's duties. As used in this division, "organization" means a church or a religious, benevolent, fraternal, or professional organization that is tax exempt under subsection 501(a) and described in subsection 501(c) (3), (4), (8), (10), or (19) of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986." This division does not apply to a public official or employee who is an employee of an organization, serves as a trustee, director, or officer of an organization, or otherwise holds a fiduciary relationship with an organization. This division does not allow a public official or employee who is a member of an organization to participate, formally or informally, in deliberations, discussions, or voting on a matter or to use the public official's or employee's official position with regard to the interests of the organization on the matter if the public official or employee has assumed a particular responsibility in the organization with respect to the matter or if the matter would affect that person's personal, pecuniary interests.

(K) It is not a violation of this section for a prosecuting attorney to appoint assistants and employees in accordance with division (B) of section 309.06 and section 2921.421 of the Revised Code, for a chief legal officer of a municipal corporation or an official designated as prosecutor in a municipal corporation to appoint assistants and employees in accordance with sections 733.621 and 2921.421 of the Revised Code, for a township law director appointed under section 504.15 of the Revised Code to appoint assistants and employees in accordance with sections 504.151 and 2921.421 of the Revised Code, or for a coroner to appoint assistants and employees in accordance with division (B) of section 313.05 of the Revised Code.

As used in this division, "chief legal officer" has the same meaning as in section 733.621 of the Revised Code.

(L) No present public official or employee with a casino gaming regulatory function shall indirectly invest, by way of an entity the public official or employee has an ownership interest or control in, or directly invest in a casino operator, management company, holding company, casino facility, or gaming-related vendor. No present public official or employee with a casino gaming regulatory function shall directly or indirectly have a financial interest in, have an ownership interest in, be the creditor or hold a debt instrument issued by, or have an interest in a contractual or service relationship with a casino operator, management company, holding company, casino facility, or gaming-related vendor. This section does not prohibit or limit permitted passive investing by the public official or employee.

As used in this division, "passive investing" means investment by the public official or employee by means of a mutual fund in which the public official or employee has no control of the investments or investment decisions. "Casino operator," "holding company," "management company," "casino facility," and "gaming-related vendor" have the same meanings as in section 3772.01 of the Revised Code.

(M) A member of the Ohio casino control commission, the executive director of the commission, or an employee of the commission shall not:

(1) Accept anything of value, including but not limited to a gift, gratuity, emolument, or employment from a casino operator, management company, or other person subject to the jurisdiction of the commission, or from an officer, attorney, agent, or employee of a casino operator, management company, or other person subject to the jurisdiction of the commission;

(2) Solicit, suggest, request, or recommend, directly or indirectly, to a casino operator, management company, or other person subject to the jurisdiction of the commission, or to an officer, attorney, agent, or employee of a casino operator, management company, or other person subject to the jurisdiction of the commission, the appointment of a person to an office, place, position, or employment;

(3) Participate in casino gaming or any other amusement or activity at a casino facility in this state or at an affiliate gaming facility of a licensed casino operator, wherever located.

In addition to the penalty provided in section 102.99 of the Revised Code, whoever violates division (M)(1), (2), or (3) of this section forfeits the individual's office or employment.

Sec. 102.031

(A) As used in this section:

(1) "Business associate" means a person with whom a member of the general assembly is conducting or undertaking a financial transaction.

(2) "Contribution" has the same meaning as in section 3517.01 of the Revised Code.

(3) "Employee" does not include a member of the general assembly whose nonlegislative position of employment does not involve the performance of or the authority to perform administrative or supervisory functions; or whose nonlegislative position of employment, if the member is a public employee, does not involve a substantial and material exercise of administrative discretion in the formulation of public policy, expenditure of public funds, enforcement of laws and rules of the state or a county or city, or execution of other public trusts.

(B) No member of the general assembly shall vote on any legislation that the member knows is then being actively advocated if the member is one of the following with respect to a legislative agent or employer that is then actively advocating on that legislation:

(1) An employee;

(2) A business associate;

(3) A person, other than an employee, who is hired under contract to perform certain services, and that position involves a substantial and material exercise of administrative discretion in the formulation of public policy.

(C) No member of the general assembly shall knowingly accept any of the following from a legislative agent or a person required to file a statement described in division (A)(2) of section 102.021 of the Revised Code:

(1) The payment of any expenses for travel or lodging except as otherwise authorized by division (H) of section 102.03 of the Revised Code;

(2) More than seventy-five dollars aggregated per calendar year as payment for meals and other food and beverages, other than for those meals and other food and beverages provided to the member at a meeting at which the member participates in a panel, seminar, or speaking engagement, at a meeting or convention of a national organization to which any state agency, including, but not limited to, any legislative agency or state institution of higher education as defined in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code, pays membership dues, or at a dinner, party, or function to which all members of the general assembly or all members of either house of the general assembly are invited;

(3) A gift of any amount in the form of cash or the equivalent of cash, or a gift of any other thing of value whose value exceeds seventy-five dollars. As used in division (C)(3) of this section, "gift" does not include any contribution or any gifts of meals and other food and beverages or the payment of expenses incurred for travel to destinations either inside or outside this state that is received by a member of the general assembly and that is incurred in connection with the member's official duties.

(D) It is not a violation of division (C)(2) of this section if, within sixty days after receiving notice from a legislative agent that the legislative agent has provided a member of the general assembly with more than seventy-five dollars aggregated in a calendar year as payment for meals and other food and beverages, the member of the general assembly returns to that legislative agent the amount received that exceeds seventy-five dollars.

(E) The joint legislative ethics committee may impose a fine of not more than one thousand dollars upon a member of the general assembly who violates division (B) of this section.

Section 102.04

(A) Except as provided in division (D) of this section, no person elected or appointed to an office of or employed by the general assembly or any department, division, institution, instrumentality, board, commission, or bureau of the state, excluding the courts, shall receive or agree to receive directly or indirectly compensation other than from the agency with which he serves for any service rendered or to be rendered by him personally in any case, proceeding, application, or other matter that is before the general assembly or any department, division, institution, instrumentality, board, commission, or bureau of the state, excluding the courts.

(B) Except as provided in division (D) of this section, no person elected or appointed to an office of or employed by the general assembly or any department, division, institution, instrumentality, board, commission, or bureau of the state, excluding the courts, shall sell or agree to sell, except through competitive bidding, any goods or services to the general assembly or any department, division, institution, instrumentality, board, commission, or bureau of the state, excluding the courts.

(C) Except as provided in division (D) of this section, no person who is elected or appointed to an office of or employed by a county, township, municipal corporation, or any other governmental entity, excluding the courts, shall receive or agree to receive directly or indirectly compensation other than from the agency with which he serves for any service rendered or to be rendered by him personally in any case, proceeding, application, or other matter which is before any agency, department, board, bureau, commission, or other instrumentality, excluding the courts, of the entity of which he is an officer or employee.

(D) A public official who is appointed to a nonelective office or a public employee shall be exempted from division (A), (B), or (C) of this section if both of the following apply:

(1) The agency to which the official or employee wants to sell the goods or services, or before which the matter that involves the rendering of his services is pending, is an agency other than the one with which he serves;

(2) Prior to rendering the personal services or selling or agreeing to sell the goods or services, he files a statement with the appropriate ethics commission, with the public agency with which he serves, and with the public agency before which the matter is pending or that is purchasing or has agreed to purchase goods or services.

The required statement shall contain the official's or employee's name and home address, the name and mailing address of the public agencies with which he serves and before which the matter is pending or that is purchasing or has agreed to purchase goods or services, and a brief description of the pending matter and of the personal services to be rendered or a brief description of the goods or services to be purchased. The statement shall also contain the public official's or employee's declaration that he disqualifies himself for a period of two years from any participation as such public official or employee in any matter involving any public official or employee of the agency before which the present matter is pending or to which goods or services are to be sold. The two-year period shall run from the date of the most recently filed statement regarding the agency before which the matter was pending or to which the goods or services were to be sold. No person shall be required to file statements under this division with the same public agency regarding a particular matter more than once in a calendar year.

(E) No public official or employee who files a statement or is required to file a statement under division (D) of this section shall knowingly fail to disqualify himself from any participation as a public official or employee of the agency with which he serves in any matter involving any official or employee of an agency before which a matter for which he rendered personal services was pending or of a public agency that purchased or agreed to purchase goods or services.

(F) This section shall not be construed to prohibit the performance of ministerial functions including, but not limited to, the filing, or amendment of tax returns, applications for permits and licenses, incorporation papers, and other documents.

Section 102.05

There is hereby created the Ohio ethics commission consisting of six members, three of whom shall be members of each of the two major political parties, to be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. Within thirty days of the effective date of this section, the governor shall make initial appointments to the commission. Of the initial appointments made to the commission, one shall be for a term ending one year after the effective date of this section, and the other appointments shall be for terms ending two, three, four, five, and six years, respectively, after the effective date of this section. Thereafter, terms of office shall be for six years, each term ending on the same day of the same month of the year as did the term that it succeeds. Each member shall hold office from the date of his appointment until the end of the term for which he was appointed. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which his predecessor was appointed shall hold office for the remainder of that term.

No person shall be appointed to the commission or shall continue to serve as a member of the commission if the person is subject to section 102.02 of the Revised Code other than by reason of his

appointment to the commission or if the person is a legislative agent registered under sections 101.70 to 101.79 of the Revised Code or an executive agency lobbyist registered under sections 121.60 to 121.69 of the Revised Code. Each member shall be paid seventy-five dollars for each meeting held in the discharge of his official duties, except that no member shall be paid more than eighteen hundred dollars in any fiscal year. Each member shall be reimbursed for expenses actually and necessarily incurred in the performance of his official duties.

The commission shall meet within two weeks after all members have been appointed, at a time and place determined by the governor. At its first meeting, the commission shall elect a chairman and other officers that are necessary and shall adopt rules for its procedures. After the first meeting, the commission shall meet at the call of the chairman or upon the written request of a majority of the members. A majority of the members of the commission constitutes a quorum. The commission shall not take any action without the concurrence of a majority of the members of the commission.

The commission may appoint and fix the compensation of an executive director and other technical, professional, and clerical employees that are necessary to carry out the duties of the commission.

The commission may appoint hearing examiners to conduct hearings pursuant to section 102.06 of the Revised Code. The hearing examiners have the same powers and authority in conducting the hearings as is granted to the commission. Within thirty days after the hearing, the hearing examiner shall submit to the commission a written report of his findings of fact and conclusions of law and a recommendation of the action to be taken by the commission. The recommendation of the hearing examiner may be approved, modified, or disapproved by the commission, and no recommendation shall become the findings of the commission until so ordered by the commission. The findings of the commission shall have the same effect as if the hearing had been conducted by the commission. Hearing examiners appointed pursuant to this section shall possess the qualifications the commission requires. Nothing contained in this section shall preclude the commission from appointing a member of the commission to serve as a hearing examiner.

Section 102.06

(A) The appropriate ethics commission shall receive and may initiate complaints against persons subject to this chapter concerning conduct alleged to be in violation of this chapter or section 2921.42 or 2921.43 of the Revised Code. All complaints except those by the commission shall be by affidavit made on personal knowledge, subject to the penalties of perjury. Complaints by the commission shall be by affidavit, based upon reasonable cause to believe that a violation has occurred.

(B) The appropriate ethics commission shall investigate complaints, may investigate charges presented to it, and may request further information, including the specific amount of income from a source, from any person filing with the commission a statement required by section 102.02 or 102.021 of the Revised Code, if the information sought is directly relevant to a complaint or charges received by the commission pursuant to this section. This information is confidential, except that the commission, in its discretion, may share information gathered in the course of any investigation with, or disclose the information to, the inspector general, any appropriate prosecuting authority, any law enforcement agency, or any other appropriate ethics commission. If the accused person is a member of the public employees retirement board, state teachers retirement board, school employees retirement board, board of trustees of the Ohio police and fire pension fund, or state highway patrol retirement board, or is a member of the bureau of workers' compensation board of directors, the appropriate ethics commission, in its discretion, also may share information gathered in the course of an investigation with, or disclose the information to, the attorney general and the auditor of state. The person so requested shall furnish the information to the commission, unless within fifteen days from the date of the request the person files an action for declaratory judgment challenging the legitimacy of the request in the court of common pleas of the county of the person's residence, the person's place of employment, or Franklin county. The requested information need not be furnished to the commission during the pendency of the judicial proceedings. Proceedings of the commission in connection with the declaratory judgment action shall be kept confidential except as otherwise provided by this section. Before the commission proceeds to take any formal action against a person who is the subject of an investigation based on charges presented to the commission, a complaint shall be filed against the person. If the commission finds that a complaint is not frivolous, and there is reasonable cause to believe that the facts alleged in a complaint constitute a violation of section 102.02, 102.021, 102.03, 102.04, 102.07, 2921.42, or 2921.43 of the Revised Code, it shall hold a hearing. If the commission does not so find, it shall dismiss the complaint and notify the accused person in writing of the

dismissal of the complaint. The commission shall not make a report of its finding unless the accused person requests a report. Upon the request of the accused person, the commission shall make a public report of its finding. The person against whom the complaint is directed shall be given reasonable notice by certified mail of the date, time, and place of the hearing and a statement of the charges and the law directly involved and shall be given the opportunity to be represented by counsel, to have counsel appointed for the person if the person is unable to afford counsel without undue hardship, to examine the evidence against the person, to produce evidence and to call and subpoena witnesses in the person's defense, to confront the person's accusers, and to cross-examine witnesses. The commission shall have a stenographic record made of the hearing. The hearing shall be closed to the public.

(C)(1)(a) If, upon the basis of the hearing, the appropriate ethics commission finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the facts alleged in the complaint are true and constitute a violation of section 102.02, 102.021, 102.03, 102.04, 102.07, 2921.42, or 2921.43 of the Revised Code, it shall report its findings to the appropriate prosecuting authority for proceedings in prosecution of the violation and to the appointing or employing authority of the accused. If the accused person is a member of the public employees retirement board, state teachers retirement board, school employees retirement board, board of trustees of the Ohio police and fire pension fund, or state highway patrol retirement board, the commission also shall report its findings to the Ohio retirement study council.

(b) If the Ohio ethics commission reports its findings to the appropriate prosecuting authority under division (C)(1)(a) of this section and the prosecuting authority has not initiated any official action on those findings within ninety days after receiving the commission's report of them, the commission may publicly comment that no official action has been taken on its findings, except that the commission shall make no comment in violation of the Rules of Criminal Procedure or about any indictment that has been sealed pursuant to any law or those rules. The commission shall make no comment regarding the merits of its findings. As used in division (C)(1)(b) of this section, "official action" means prosecution, closure after investigation, or grand jury action resulting in a true bill of indictment or no true bill of indictment.

(2) If the appropriate ethics commission does not find by a preponderance of the evidence that the facts alleged in the complaint are true and constitute a violation of section 102.02, 102.021, 102.03, 102.04, 102.07, 2921.42, or 2921.43 of the Revised Code or if the commission has not scheduled a hearing within ninety days after the complaint is filed or has not finally disposed of the complaint within six months after it has been heard, it shall dismiss the complaint and notify the accused person in writing of the dismissal of the complaint. The commission shall not make a report of its finding unless the accused person requests a report. Upon the request of the accused person, the commission shall make a public report of the finding, but in this case all evidence and the record of the hearing shall remain confidential unless the accused person also requests that the evidence and record be made public. Upon request by the accused person, the commission shall make the evidence and the record available for public inspection.

(D) The appropriate ethics commission, or a member of the commission, may administer oaths, and the commission may issue subpoenas to any person in the state compelling the attendance of witnesses and the production of relevant papers, books, accounts, and records. The commission shall issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents upon the request of an accused person. Section 101.42 of the Revised Code shall govern the issuance of these subpoenas insofar as applicable. Upon the refusal of any person to obey a subpoena or to be sworn or to answer as a witness, the commission may apply to the court of common pleas of Franklin county under section 2705.03 of the Revised Code. The court shall hold proceedings in accordance with Chapter 2705. of the Revised Code. The commission or the accused person may take the depositions of witnesses residing within or without the state in the same manner as prescribed by law for the taking of depositions in civil actions in the court of common pleas.

(E) At least once each year, the Ohio ethics commission shall report on its activities of the immediately preceding year to the majority and minority leaders of the senate and house of representatives of the general assembly. The report shall indicate the total number of complaints received, initiated, and investigated by the commission, the total number of complaints for which formal hearings were held, and the total number of complaints for which formal prosecution was recommended or requested by the commission. The report also shall indicate the nature of the inappropriate conduct alleged in each complaint and the governmental entity with which any employee or official that is the subject of a complaint was employed at the time of the alleged inappropriate conduct.

(F) All papers, records, affidavits, and documents upon any complaint, inquiry, or investigation relating to the proceedings of the appropriate ethics commission shall be sealed and are private and confidential, except as otherwise provided in this section and section 102.07 of the Revised Code.

(G)(1) When a complaint or charge is before it, the Ohio ethics commission or the appropriate prosecuting authority, in consultation with the person filing the complaint or charge, the accused, and any other person the commission or prosecuting authority considers necessary, may compromise or settle the complaint or charge with the agreement of the accused. The compromise or settlement may include mediation, restitution, rescission of affected contracts, forfeiture of any benefits resulting from a violation or potential violation of law, resignation of a public official or employee, or any other relief that is agreed upon between the commission or prosecuting authority and the accused.

(2) Any settlement agreement entered into under division (G)(1) of this section shall be in writing and be accompanied by a statement of the findings of the commission or prosecuting authority and the reasons for entering into the agreement. The commission or prosecuting authority shall retain the agreement and statement in the commission's or prosecuting authority's office and, in the commission's or prosecuting authority's discretion, may make the agreement, the statement, and any supporting information public, unless the agreement provides otherwise.

(3) If a settlement agreement is breached by the accused, the commission or prosecuting authority, in the commission's or prosecuting authority's discretion, may rescind the agreement and reinstitute any investigation, hearing, or prosecution of the accused. No information obtained from the accused in reaching the settlement that is not otherwise discoverable from the accused shall be used in any proceeding before the commission or by the appropriate prosecuting authority in prosecuting the violation. Notwithstanding any other section of the Revised Code, if a settlement agreement is breached, any statute of limitations for a violation of this chapter or section 2921.42 or 2921.43 of the Revised Code is tolled from the date the complaint or charge is filed until the date the settlement agreement is breached.

Section 102.07

No member, employee, or agent of the Ohio ethics commission, board of commissioners on grievances and discipline of the supreme court, or joint legislative ethics committee shall divulge any information or any books, papers, or documents presented to the commission, joint legislative ethics committee, or board of commissioners on grievances and discipline without the consent, in writing, of the appropriate ethics commission, unless such books, papers, or documents were presented at a public hearing, except as provided in section 102.06 of the Revised Code.

No person shall divulge information that appears on a disclosure statement and is required to be kept confidential under division (B) of section 102.02 of the Revised Code.

Section 102.08*

***** *See also following version of this section and explanation after that version.*

(A)(1) Subject to division (A)(2) of this section, the board of commissioners on grievances and discipline of the supreme court and the house and senate legislative ethics committees may recommend legislation relating to ethics, conflicts of interest, and financial disclosure and shall render advisory opinions with regard to questions concerning these matters for persons for whom it is the appropriate ethics commission. When the appropriate ethics commission renders an advisory opinion relating to a special set of circumstances involving ethics, conflict of interest, or financial disclosure under Chapter 102. or section 2921.42 or 2921.43 of the Revised Code, the person to whom the opinion was directed or who was similarly situated may reasonably rely upon the opinion and shall be immune from criminal prosecutions, civil suits, or actions for removal from his office or position of employment for a violation of Chapter 102. or section 2921.42 or 2921.43 of the Revised Code based on facts and circumstances covered by the opinion, if the opinion states there is no violation of Chapter 102. or section 2921.42 or 2921.43 of the Revised Code. Except as otherwise provided in division (A)(2) of this section, the appropriate ethics commission shall include in every advisory opinion it renders a statement as to whether the set of circumstances described in the opinion constitutes a violation of section 2921.42 or 2921.43 of the Revised Code. The appropriate ethics commission shall provide a continuing

program of education and information concerning the provisions of Chapter 102. and sections 2921.42 and 2921.43 of the Revised Code and other provisions of law pertaining to ethics, conflicts of interest, and financial disclosure. As used in division (A) of this section, "appropriate ethics commission" does not include the Ohio ethics commission.

(2) The board of commissioners on grievances and discipline of the supreme court shall issue advisory opinions only in a manner consistent with Rule V of the Supreme Court Rules for the Government of the Bar of Ohio.

(B) The Ohio ethics commission may recommend legislation relating to ethics, conflicts of interest, and financial disclosure and may render advice with regard to questions concerning these matters for persons for whom it is the appropriate ethics commission. When the Ohio ethics commission renders a written formal or staff advisory opinion relating to a special set of circumstances involving ethics, conflict of interest, or financial disclosure under Chapter 102. or section 2921.42 or 2921.43 of the Revised Code, the person to whom the opinion was directed or who was similarly situated may reasonably rely upon the opinion and shall be immune from criminal prosecutions, civil suits, or actions for removal from his office or position of employment for a violation of Chapter 102. or section 2921.42 or 2921.43 of the Revised Code based on facts and circumstances covered by the opinion, if the opinion states there is no violation of Chapter 102. or section 2921.42 or 2921.43 of the Revised Code. The commission shall provide a continuing program of education and information concerning the provisions of Chapter 102. and sections 2921.42 and 2921.43 of the Revised Code and other provisions of law pertaining to ethics, conflicts of interest, and financial disclosure. [Am. Sub. H.B. 285, effective 03-02-94.]

Section 102.08*

* *See also preceding version of this section and explanation below.*

(A) The Ohio ethics commission, the board of commissioners on grievances and discipline of the supreme court, and the joint legislative ethics committee may recommend legislation relating to ethics, conflicts of interest, and financial disclosure, and render advisory opinions with regard to questions concerning these matters for persons for whom it is the appropriate ethics commission.

(B) When the Ohio ethics commission or the board of commissioners on grievances and discipline of the supreme court renders an advisory opinion relating to a special set of circumstances involving ethics, conflict of interest, or financial disclosure under Chapter 102., section 2921.42, or section 2921.43 of the Revised Code, the person to whom the opinion was directed or who was similarly situated may reasonably rely upon such opinion and shall be immune from criminal prosecutions, civil suits, or actions for removal from his office or position of employment for a violation of Chapter 102., section 2921.42, or section 2921.43 of the Revised Code based on facts and circumstances covered by the opinion, if the opinion states there is no violation of Chapter 102., section 2921.42, or section 2921.43 of the Revised Code.

(C) When the joint legislative ethics committee renders an advisory opinion that has been publicly sought and that relates to a special set of circumstances involving ethics, conflicts of interest, or financial disclosure under Chapter 102. or section 2921.42 or 2921.43 of the Revised Code, the person to whom the opinion was directed or who was similarly situated may reasonably rely upon such opinion and shall be immune from criminal prosecutions, civil suits, or actions for removal from his office or position of employment for a violation of Chapter 102. or section 2921.42 or 2921.43 of the Revised Code based on the facts and circumstances covered by the opinion, if the opinion states that there is no violation of Chapter 102. or section 2921.42 or 2921.43 of the Revised Code. When the joint legislative ethics committee renders an advisory opinion that has been publicly sought, the advisory opinion is a public record available under section 149.43 of the Revised Code.

(D) When the joint legislative ethics committee renders a written opinion that has been privately sought and that relates to a special set of circumstances involving ethics, conflicts of interest, or financial disclosure under Chapter 102. or section 2921.42 or 2921.43 of the Revised Code, the written opinion does not have the legal effect of an advisory opinion issued under division (C) of this section. When the joint legislative ethics committee renders a written opinion that has been privately sought, the written opinion is not a public record available under section 149.43 of the Revised Code. The proceedings of the legislative ethics committee

relating to a written opinion that has been privately sought shall be closed to the public and records relating to these proceedings are not public records available under section 149.43 of the Revised Code.

The person to whom a written opinion is issued under this division may request the committee to issue the written opinion as an advisory opinion. Upon receiving such a request and with the approval of a majority of the members of the committee, the committee may issue the written opinion as an advisory opinion. If the committee issues the written opinion as an advisory opinion, the advisory opinion has the same legal effect as an advisory opinion issued under division (C) of this section and is a public record available under section 149.43 of the Revised Code.

(E) The joint legislative ethics committee shall issue an advisory opinion under division (C) of this section or a written opinion under division (D) of this section, whether it is publicly or privately sought, only at a meeting of the committee and only with the approval of a majority of the members of the committee.

(F) The appropriate ethics commission shall provide a continuing program of education and information concerning the provisions of Chapter 102. and sections 2921.42 and 2921.43 of the Revised Code and other provisions of law pertaining to ethics, conflicts of interest, and financial disclosure. [Am. Sub. H.B. 492, effective 05-12-94.]

***** *R.C. 102.08 was amended by Am. Sub. H.B. 285 (eff. 03-02-94) and Am. Sub. H.B. 492 (eff. 05-12-94). Harmonization pursuant to R.C. 1.52 is in question. Both versions are presented here.*

Section 102.09

(A) The secretary of state and the county board of elections shall furnish, to each candidate for elective office who is required to file a financial disclosure statement by section 102.02 of the Revised Code, a financial disclosure form, and shall notify the appropriate ethics commission, within fifteen days of the name of the candidate, and of the subsequent withdrawal, disqualification, or death of the candidate. The candidate shall acknowledge receipt of the financial disclosure form in writing.

(B) The secretary of state and the county board of elections shall furnish to each person who is appointed to fill a vacancy for an unexpired term in an elective office, and who is required to file a financial disclosure statement by section 102.02 of the Revised Code, a financial disclosure form, and shall notify the appropriate ethics commission within fifteen days of being notified by the appointing authority, of the name and position of the public official and the date of appointment. The person shall acknowledge receipt of the financial disclosure form in writing.

(C) The public agency or appointing authority that employs, appoints, or promotes any public official or employee who, as a result of such employment, appointment, or promotion, is required to file a financial disclosure statement by section 102.02 of the Revised Code, shall, within fifteen days of the employment, appointment, or promotion, furnish the public official or employee with a financial disclosure form, and shall notify the appropriate ethics commission of the name and position of the public official or employee and the date of employment, appointment, or promotion. The public official or employee shall acknowledge receipt of the financial disclosure form in writing.

(D) Within fifteen days after any public official or employee begins the performance of official duties, the public agency with which the official or employee serves or the appointing authority shall furnish the official or employee a copy of Chapter 102. and section 2921.42 of the Revised Code, and may furnish such other materials as the appropriate ethics commission prepares for distribution. The official or employee shall acknowledge their receipt in writing. The requirements of this division do not apply at the time of reappointment or reelection.

Section 102.99

(A) Whoever violates division (C) of section 102.02 or division (C) of section 102.031 of the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

(B) Whoever violates division (D) of section 102.02 or section 102.021, 102.03, 102.04, or 102.07 of the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

CHAPTER 2921.

Section 2921.01 As used in sections 2921.01 to 2921.45 of the Revised Code:

(A) "Public official" means any elected or appointed officer, or employee, or agent of the state or any political subdivision, whether in a temporary or permanent capacity, and includes, but is not limited to, legislators, judges, and law enforcement officers. "Public official" does not include an employee, officer, or governor-appointed member of the board of directors of the nonprofit corporation formed under section 187.03 of the Revised Code.

(B) "Public servant" means any of the following:

(1) Any public official;

(2) Any person performing ad hoc a governmental function, including, but not limited to, a juror, member of a temporary commission, master, arbitrator, advisor, or consultant;

(3) A person who is a candidate for public office, whether or not the person is elected or appointed to the office for which the person is a candidate. A person is a candidate for purposes of this division if the person has been nominated according to law for election or appointment to public office, or if the person has filed a petition or petitions as required by law to have the person's name placed on the ballot in a primary, general, or special election, or if the person campaigns as a write-in candidate in any primary, general, or special election. "Public servant" does not include an employee, officer, or governor-appointed member of the board of directors of the nonprofit corporation formed under section 187.03 of the Revised Code.

(C) "Party official" means any person who holds an elective or appointive post in a political party in the United States or this state, by virtue of which the person directs, conducts, or participates in directing or conducting party affairs at any level of responsibility.

(D) "Official proceeding" means any proceeding before a legislative, judicial, administrative, or other governmental agency or official authorized to take evidence under oath and includes any proceeding before a referee, hearing examiner, commissioner, notary, or other person taking testimony or a deposition in connection with an official proceeding.

(E) "Detention" means arrest; confinement in any vehicle subsequent to an arrest; confinement in any public or private facility for custody of persons charged with or convicted of crime in this state or another state or under the laws of the United States or alleged or found to be a delinquent child or unruly child in this state or another state or under the laws of the United States; hospitalization, institutionalization, or confinement in any public or private facility that is ordered pursuant to or under the authority of section 2945.37, 2945.371, 2945.38, 2945.39, 2945.40, 2945.401, or 2945.402 of the Revised Code; confinement in any vehicle for transportation to or from any facility of any of those natures; detention for extradition or deportation; except as provided in this division, supervision by any employee of any facility of any of those natures that is incidental to hospitalization, institutionalization, or confinement in the facility but that occurs outside the facility; supervision by an employee of the department of rehabilitation and correction of a person on any type of release from a state correctional institution; or confinement in any vehicle, airplane, or place while being returned from outside of this state into this state by a private person or entity, pursuant to a contract entered into under division (E) of section 311.29 of the Revised Code or division (B) of section 5149.03 of the Revised Code. For a person confined in a county jail who participates in a county jail industry program pursuant to section 5147.30 of the Revised Code, "detention" includes time spent at an assigned work site and going to and from the work site.

(F) "Detention facility" means any public or private place used for the confinement of a person charged with or convicted of any crime in this state or another state or under the laws of the United States or alleged or found to be a delinquent child or unruly child in this state or another state or under the laws of the United States.

(G) "Valuable thing or valuable benefit" includes, but is not limited to, a contribution. This inclusion does not indicate or imply that a contribution was not included in those terms before September 17, 1986.

(H) "Campaign committee," "contribution," "political action committee," "legislative campaign fund," "political party," and "political contributing entity" have the same meanings as in section 3517.01 of the Revised Code.

(I) "Provider agreement" and "medical assistance program" have the same meanings as in section 2913.40 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 2921.42.

(A) No public official shall knowingly do any of the following:

(1) Authorize, or employ the authority or influence of the public official's office to secure authorization of any public contract in which the public official, a member of the public official's family, or any of the public official's business associates has an interest;

(2) Authorize, or employ the authority or influence of the public official's office to secure the investment of public funds in any share, bond, mortgage, or other security, with respect to which the public official, a member of the public official's family, or any of the public official's business associates either has an interest, is an underwriter, or receives any brokerage, origination, or servicing fees;

(3) During the public official's term of office or within one year thereafter, occupy any position of profit in the prosecution of a public contract authorized by the public official or by a legislative body, commission, or board of which the public official was a member at the time of authorization, unless the contract was let by competitive bidding to the lowest and best bidder;

(4) Have an interest in the profits or benefits of a public contract entered into by or for the use of the political subdivision or governmental agency or instrumentality with which the public official is connected;

(5) Have an interest in the profits or benefits of a public contract that is not let by competitive bidding if required by law and that involves more than one hundred fifty dollars.

(B) In the absence of bribery or a purpose to defraud, a public official, member of a public official's family, or any of a public official's business associates shall not be considered as having an interest in a public contract or the investment of public funds, if all of the following apply:

(1) The interest of that person is limited to owning or controlling shares of the corporation, or being a creditor of the corporation or other organization, that is the contractor on the public contract involved, or that is the issuer of the security in which public funds are invested;

(2) The shares owned or controlled by that person do not exceed five per cent of the outstanding shares of the corporation, and the amount due that person as creditor does not exceed five per cent of the total indebtedness of the corporation or other organization;

(3) That person, prior to the time the public contract is entered into, files with the political subdivision or governmental agency or instrumentality involved, an affidavit giving that person's exact status in connection with the corporation or other organization.

(C) This section does not apply to a public contract in which a public official, member of a public official's family, or one of a public official's business associates has an interest, when all of the following apply:

(1) The subject of the public contract is necessary supplies or services for the political subdivision or governmental agency or instrumentality involved;

(2) The supplies or services are unobtainable elsewhere for the same or lower cost, or are being furnished to the political subdivision or governmental agency or instrumentality as part of a continuing course of dealing established prior to the public official's becoming associated with the political subdivision or governmental agency or instrumentality involved;

(3) The treatment accorded the political subdivision or governmental agency or instrumentality is either preferential to or the same as that accorded other customers or clients in similar transactions;

(4) The entire transaction is conducted at arm's length, with full knowledge by the political subdivision or governmental agency or instrumentality involved, of the interest of the public official, member of the public official's family, or business associate, and the public official takes no part in the deliberations or decision of the political subdivision or governmental agency or instrumentality with respect to the public contract.

(D) Division (A)(4) of this section does not prohibit participation by a public employee in any housing program funded by public moneys if the public employee otherwise qualifies for the program and does not use the authority or influence of the public employee's office or employment to secure benefits from the program and if the moneys are to be used on the primary residence of the public employee. Such participation does not constitute an unlawful interest in a public contract in violation of this section.

(E) Whoever violates this section is guilty of having an unlawful interest in a public contract. Violation of division (A)(1) or (2) of this section is a felony of the fourth degree. Violation of division (A)(3), (4), or (5) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(F) It is not a violation of this section for a prosecuting attorney to appoint assistants and employees in accordance with sections 309.06 and 2921.421 of the Revised Code, for a chief legal officer of a municipal

corporation or an official designated as prosecutor in a municipal corporation to appoint assistants and employees in accordance with sections 733.621 and 2921.421 of the Revised Code, or for a township law director appointed under section 504.15 of the Revised Code to appoint assistants and employees in accordance with sections 504.151 and 2921.421 of the Revised Code.

(G) This section does not apply to a public contract in which a township trustee in a township with a population of five thousand or less in its unincorporated area, a member of the township trustee's family, or one of the township trustee's business associates has an interest, if all of the following apply:

(1) The subject of the public contract is necessary supplies or services for the township and the amount of the contract is less than five thousand dollars per year;

(2) The supplies or services are being furnished to the township as part of a continuing course of dealing established before the township trustee held that office with the township;

(3) The treatment accorded the township is either preferential to or the same as that accorded other customers or clients in similar transactions;

(4)The entire transaction is conducted with full knowledge by the township of the interest of the township trustee, member of the township trustee's family, or the township trustee's business associate.

(H) Any public contract in which a public official, a member of the public official's family, or any of the public official's business associates has an interest in violation of this section is void and unenforceable. Any contract securing the investment of public funds in which a public official, a member of the public official's family, or any of the public official's business associates has an interest, is an underwriter, or receives any brokerage, origination, or servicing fees and that was entered into in violation of this section is void and unenforceable.

(I) As used in this section:

(1) "Public contract" means any of the following:

(a) The purchase or acquisition, or a contract for the purchase or acquisition, of property or services by or for the use of the state, any of its political subdivisions, or any agency or instrumentality of either, including the employment of an individual by the state, any of its political subdivisions, or any agency or instrumentality of either;

(b) A contract for the design, construction, alteration, repair, or maintenance of any public property.

(2) "Chief legal officer" has the same meaning as in section 733.621 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 2921.421

(A) As used in this section:

(1) "Chief legal officer" has the same meaning as in section 733.621 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Political subdivision" means a county, a municipal corporation, or a township that adopts a limited home rule government under Chapter 504. of the Revised Code.

(B) A prosecuting attorney may appoint assistants and employees, except a member of the family of the prosecuting attorney, in accordance with division (B) of section 309.06 of the Revised Code, a chief legal officer of a municipal corporation or an official designated as prosecutor in a municipal corporation may appoint assistants and employees, except a member of the family of the chief legal officer or official designated as prosecutor, in accordance with section 733.621 of the Revised Code, and a township law director appointed under section 504.15 of the Revised Code may appoint assistants and employees, except a member of the family of the township law director, in accordance with section 504.151 of the Revised Code, if all of the following apply:

(1) The services to be furnished by the appointee or employee are necessary services for the political subdivision or are authorized by the legislative authority, governing board, or other contracting authority of the political subdivision.

(2) The treatment accorded the political subdivision is either preferential to or the same as that accorded other clients or customers of the appointee or employee in similar transactions, or the legislative authority, governing board, or other contracting authority of the political subdivision, in its sole discretion, determines that the compensation and other terms of appointment or employment of the appointee or employee are fair and reasonable to the political subdivision.

(3) The appointment or employment is made after prior written disclosure to the legislative authority, governing board, or other contracting authority of the political subdivision of the business relationship between

the prosecuting attorney, the chief legal officer or official designated as prosecutor in a municipal corporation, or the township law director and the appointee or employee thereof. In the case of a municipal corporation, the disclosure may be made or evidenced in an ordinance, resolution, or other document that does either or both of the following:

(a) Authorizes the furnishing of services as required under division (B)(1) of this section;

(b) Determines that the compensation and other terms of appointment or employment of the appointee or employee are fair and reasonable to the political subdivision as required under division (B)(2) of this section.

(4) The prosecuting attorney, the elected chief legal officer, or the township law director does not receive any distributive share or other portion, in whole or in part, of the earnings of the business associate, partner, or employee paid by the political subdivision to the business associate, partner, or employee for services rendered for the political subdivision.

(C) It is not a violation of this section or of section 102.03 or 2921.42 of the Revised Code for the legislative authority, the governing board, or other contracting authority of a political subdivision to engage the services of any firm that practices the profession of law upon the terms approved by the legislative authority, the governing board, or the contracting authority, or to designate any partner, officer, or employee of that firm as a nonelected public official or employee of the political subdivision, whether the public office or position of employment is created by statute, charter, ordinance, resolution, or other legislative or administrative action.

Section 2921.43

(A) No public servant shall knowingly solicit or accept, and no person shall knowingly promise or give to a public servant, either of the following:

(1) Any compensation, other than as allowed by divisions (G), (H), and (I) of section 102.03 of the Revised Code or other provisions of law, to perform the public servant's official duties, to perform any other act or service in the public servant's public capacity, for the general performance of the duties of the public servant's public office or public employment, or as a supplement to the public servant's public compensation;

(2) Additional or greater fees or costs than are allowed by law to perform the public servant's official duties.

(B) No public servant for the public servant's own personal or business use, and no person for the person's own personal or business use or for the personal or business use of a public servant or party official, shall solicit or accept anything of value in consideration of either of the following:

(1) Appointing or securing, maintaining, or renewing the appointment of any person to any public office, employment, or agency;

(2) Preferring, or maintaining the status of, any public employee with respect to compensation, duties, placement, location, promotion, or other material aspects of employment.

(C) No person for the benefit of a political party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political action committee, or political contributing entity shall coerce any contribution in consideration of either of the following:

(1) Appointing or securing, maintaining, or renewing the appointment of any person to any public office, employment, or agency;

(2) Preferring, or maintaining the status of, any public employee with respect to compensation, duties, placement, location, promotion, or other material aspects of employment.

(D) Whoever violates this section is guilty of soliciting improper compensation, a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(E) A public servant who is convicted of a violation of this section is disqualified from holding any public office, employment, or position of trust in this state for a period of seven years from the date of conviction.

(F) Divisions (A), (B), and (C) of this section do not prohibit a person from making voluntary contributions to a political party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political action committee, or political contributing entity or prohibit a political party, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political action committee, or political contributing entity, from accepting voluntary contributions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON THE OHIO ETHICS LAW, PLEASE CONTACT:

OHIO ETHICS COMMISSION
William Green Building
30 West Spring St., L3
Columbus, Ohio 43215-2256
Phone: (614) 466-7090
Fax: (614) 466-8368
www.ethics.ohio.gov

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OHIO ETHICS COMMISSION
William Green Building
30 West Spring Street, L3
Columbus, Ohio 43215-2256
Telephone: (614) 466-7090
Fax: (614) 466-8368

www.ethics.ohio.gov

BULLETIN — GIFTS AND ENTERTAINMENT FEBRUARY 21, 2013

I. INTRODUCTION

Public officials and employees at all levels of state and local government ask the Ethics Commission for guidance about what they can and cannot accept as gifts and entertainment from family, friends, acquaintances, and other persons. This bulletin provides guidance and explains the law prohibiting acceptance of gifts in many circumstances.[1]

What does the law prohibit?

Ohio's Ethics Law prohibits all public officials and all public employees from soliciting or accepting a gift of a substantial value, including entertainment, from any "prohibited source." A "prohibited source" is any person, company, organization, or other entity that has any of these relationships with the public agency an official or employee serves:

- Doing or seeking to do business with the agency;
- Regulated by the agency; or
- Interested in matters before the agency.

A public official or employee also cannot accept compensation for the performance of his or her public job duties from any source other than their public employer.

Who is a "public official"?

A public official is any person, paid or unpaid, and regardless of how much money he or she is paid, who is elected or appointed to a full time or part time position.

Who is a "public employee"?

A public employee is any person, paid or unpaid, and regardless of how much money he or she is paid, who is employed by a public agency in a full time or part time public job.

II. ACCEPTING GIFTS/ENTERTAINMENT

To know whether you can accept a gift, meal, or entertainment, you need to determine both:

- The value of the item; and
- The source of the item.

If the gift is substantial in value and is from one of the prohibited sources described earlier, you must return it to the giver.

However, you can accept a gift of nominal value from any giver. Gifts of nominal value include promotional items, such as a t-shirt, mouse pad, or a coffee mug.

Personal Friendship

You can also accept a gift of any value if the giver is not a "prohibited source." For example, you can accept a gift if it is clear that the gift is motivated by the giver's family relationship or a personal friendship with you, rather than by your public position. Relevant factors to consider include[2]:

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For guidance in a specific situation, please contact the Commission.

- The duration and nature of the pre-existing private relationship;
- Whether it has been common for you to exchange gifts with the giver before you became a public official or employee;
- Whether the giver personally paid for the gift or identified it for business reimbursement; and
- Whether, to your knowledge, the giver also gave the same or similar gifts to other officials or employees of your agency.

Gifts from Vendors

You are prohibited from accepting a gift or entertainment, of a substantial value, from a vendor to your agency. However:

- The Ethics Law does not prohibit you from socializing with anyone.
- If you are going to a restaurant with a vendor to your agency, and the cost of the meal will be substantial, you should pay your own way.
- If you are invited to attend an open house hosted by one of your agency's vendors, in most cases, you would be able to accept the invitation because the per-person value of an open house is unlikely to be substantial.
- If you are invited to attend an expensive event hosted by a vendor, or an event that includes expensive tickets (such as a sporting event, concert, theater performance, or any similarly valued event), you should either: (a) decline the invitation; or (b) pay the per-person cost to attend the event and the greater of the face value of, or the amount the giver paid for, the tickets.
- The Commission has said in prior advisory opinions that meals at expensive restaurants, exclusive golf outings, season tickets to games of a sports team, and travel, meal and lodging expenses are also of a substantial value.[3]

Remember that you cannot accept compensation from anyone other than the agency you serve. This means that if a vendor gives you cash or a cash-equivalent (such as a gift card) as a "thank you" for your public duties, you must return it.

III. FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

If you are required to file a financial disclosure statement with the Ethics Commission, then you may have to disclose sources of gifts you have received.

- Most filers must disclose gifts over $75.[4]
- You need to disclose **all** sources of gifts over the threshold amount -- even if the person who gave it to you is a personal friend or does not have any connection with your public agency.
- You do not need to disclose the amount or nature of the gift.
- You do not need to disclose the source of a gift if it was given to you by any of the following family members:
    - Spouse, parents, siblings, or children;
    - Grandparents or grandchildren;
    - Nephews, nieces, uncles, or aunts;
    - Brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, fathers-in-law or mothers-in-law; or
    - Any person to whom you stand in loco parentis (that is, you serve as their parent).

You also don't have to disclose any gift you received by distribution from any trust established by your spouse or other relative.

IV. ASSISTANCE AND QUESTIONS

If you have any questions, please contact the Ethics Commission:

- Telephone: 614.466.7090
  [Ask for an advisory attorney.]
- Monday to Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
- Website: **www.ethics.ohio.gov**
  [Use the search term "gifts"]

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[1] *See* Ethics Commission Information Sheet #7, "Accepting Gifts, Meals, Entertainment, or Other Things of Value"

[2] *See generally* 5 C.F.R. 2635.204(b), concerning similar standards applicable to employees of the federal government.

[3] *See*, *e.g.*, Adv. Ops. No. 89-014 (travel, meals and lodging); 95-001 (professional sports tickets); and 2001-03 (golf outings).

[4] Some filers are only required by the General Assembly to disclose sources of gifts over $500, such as college or university trustees, or officials or employees of a city, school district, educational service center, or sanitary district if their public position is paid less than $16,000. For guidance on whether this threshold applies to you, please contact the Ethics Commission.

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For guidance in a specific situation, please contact the Commission.

Exhibit 7

ATHENS COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Current ACBDD Officers

- Margaret Demko, President
- Dr. Jason Jolley, Vice President
- Pam Bond, Secretary

Current ACBDD Committee Members

Ethics Committee

- Pam Bond
- Sherri Oliver
- Dr. Carolyn Bailey Lewis

Finance/Personnel Committee

- Margaret Demko
- Dr. Jason Jolley
- Dr. Leonard Allen

O.R.C. 5126.031

Appointing Ethics Council:

(A) Except as provided in division (B) of this section, annually at the organizational meeting required by section 5126.029 of the Revised Code, the chairperson of the county board of developmental disabilities shall appoint three members of the board to an ethics council to review all direct services contracts. The board's chairperson may be one of those appointed. The superintendent of the board shall be a nonvoting member of the council. The chairperson shall not appoint a person to the council if the person, or any member of the person's immediate family, will have any interest in any direct services contract under review by the council while the person serves on the council or during the twelve-month period after completing service on the council. If a council member or a member of the council member's immediate family has or will have such an interest, the chairperson shall replace the member by appointing another board member to the council.

The council shall meet regularly as directed by the board to perform its duties. Minutes shall be kept of the actions of the council. The minutes shall be part of the public record of the county board.

Any action taken by the council on direct services contracts under its review shall be in public. The council shall afford an affected party the opportunity to meet with the council on matters related to a direct services contract or any action taken by the council.

(B) If a county board establishes a policy specifying that the board is not willing to enter into direct services contracts with any person who is a board member or former board member or a member of the immediate family of a board member or former board member, the board may assume the responsibilities and perform the duties of an ethics council specified in section 5126.032 of the Revised Code. The policy shall be established by resolution adopted by a majority of the members of the board in attendance at a meeting at which there is a quorum and shall be in effect for one year after its adoption, at which time the board shall, by resolution adopted in the same manner as the initial resolution, either renew the policy or establish a new one.

Amended by 128th General Assemblych.127, SB 79, §1, eff. 10/6/2009.

Effective Date: 03-13-1997; 2005 SB10 09-05-2005; 2006 HB699 03-29-2007

Exhibit 9

ATHENS COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

2021 Regular Board Meeting Schedule

Date:	Time:	Location:
January 26	6:15pm	Remotely
February 23	6:00pm	Remotely
March 23	6:00pm	Remotely
April 27	6:00pm	Remotely
May 25	6:00pm	Remotely
June 22	6:00pm	Remotely
July	No meeting	No meeting
August 24	6:00pm	Beacon School
September 28	6:00pm	Beacon School
October 26	6:00pm	Beacon School
November	No meeting	No meeting
December 14	6:00pm	Beacon School

Exhibit 10

ATHENS COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

2021 Board Training Schedule

Date:	Time:	Location:	Topic:
March 23	5:00pm	Remotely	TBD
June 22	5:00pm	Remotely	TBD

Arian Smedley

From: Zach Saunders <zach@athenscountyprosecutor.org> on behalf of Zach Saunders
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2020 1:48 PM
To: Arian Smedley
Cc: Kevin Davis
Subject: RE: Board email addresses

Arian,

I would recommend that board members use an ACBDD-issued email address for official business. This for one protects the Board, but also the individual members. If there was a public records request for emails regarding the Board, and the individual members used his/her personal email address, it could subject that individual board member to handing over more emails (some could be of a private nature) to that entity requesting.

It would be wise for all members to have an ACBDD-issued email address.

Sincerely,

Zachary L. Saunders
Assistant Athens County Prosecutor
1 South Court Street
Athens, Ohio 45701

(740) 592-3208

From: Arian Smedley <asmedley@athenscbdd.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 15, 2020 8:32 AM
To: Zach Saunders <zach@athenscountyprosecutor.org>
Cc: Kevin Davis <kdavis@athenscbdd.org>
Subject: Board email addresses

Good morning Zach,

We hope this reaches you well.

We have a question about board member email addresses. Should all official business with our board members that's emailed be through an ACBDD-issued email address? Or can board members use the email address of their choosing?

Thanks in advance for your help.
-arian

Arian Smedley
Assistant Superintendent
Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities
801 W. Union St.
Athens, Ohio 45701
(740) 541-9588