

Article XII

Code of Ethics and Conflicts of Interest

Section 1. Responsibility of Members of the Board and Employees. This Code of Ethics shall apply to all officers and employees of the Corporation. These policies shall serve as a guide for official conduct and are intended to enhance the ethical and professional performance of the Corporation's directors and employees and to preserve public confidence in the Corporation's mission. It is accordingly the responsibility of each member of the Board and each employee to perform

- a. Each member of the Board and all employees of the Corporation shall perform their duties with transparency, without favor and refrain from engaging in outside matters of financial or personal interest, including other employment, that could impair independence of judgment, or prevent the proper exercise of one's official duties.
- b. Each member of the Board and all employees shall not directly or indirectly, make, advise, or assist any person to make any financial investment based upon information available through the director's or employee's official position that could create any conflict between their public duties and interests and their private interests.
- c. Each member of the Board and all employees shall not accept or receive any gift or gratuities where the circumstances would permit the inference that: (a) the gift is intended to influence the individual in the performance of official business or (b) the gift constitutes a tip, reward, or

- sign of appreciation for any official act by the individual. This prohibition extends to any form of financial payments, services, loans, travel reimbursement, entertainment, hospitality, thing or promise from any entity doing business with or before the Corporation.
- d. Each member of the Board and all employees shall not use or attempt to use their official position with the Corporation to secure unwarranted privileges for themselves, members of their family or others, including employment with the Corporation or contracts for materials or services with the Corporation.
 - e. Each member of the Board and all employees must conduct themselves at all times in a manner that avoids any appearance that they can be improperly or unduly influenced, that they could be affected by the position of or relationship with any other party, or that they are acting in violation of their public trust.
 - f. Each member of the Board and all employees may not engage in any official transaction with an outside entity in which they have a direct or indirect financial interest that may reasonably conflict with the proper discharge of their official duties.
 - g. Each member of the Board and all employees shall manage all matters within the scope of the Corporation's mission independent of any other affiliations or employment. Directors, including ex officio board members, and employees employed by more than one government entity shall strive to fulfill their professional responsibility to the Corporation without bias and shall support the Corporation's mission to the fullest.

- h. Each member of the Board and all employees shall not use Corporation property, including equipment, telephones, vehicles, computers, or other resources, or disclose information acquired in the course of their official duties in a manner inconsistent with State or local law or policy and the Corporation's mission and goals.
- i. Each member of the Board and all employees are prohibited from appearing or practicing before the Corporation for two (2) years following employment with the Corporation consistent with the provisions of Public Officers Law.

Section 2. Implementation of Code of Ethics. This Code of Ethics shall be provided to all members of the Board and all employees upon commencement of employment or appointment and shall be reviewed annually by the Governance Committee.

Section 3. Compliance. The members of the Board agree to comply with all applicable local and state regulations and laws regarding conflicts of interest.

Section 4. Conflict of Interest Policy. The Board shall develop, implement, and update as needed a written policy governing conflicts of interest by members of the Board. The policy shall be reviewed annually by the Governance Committee and included and incorporated into these By-Laws as Appendix A.

Section 5. Disclosure of Personal Interest and Abstention. It is the responsibility of every Board member to disclose to the Chairperson of the Board any personal or business interest in any matter that comes before the Board for

consideration. Each member of the Board shall abstain from voting on any matter in which he or she has a personal or business interest.

Section 6. Self-Dealing. The Corporation shall not engage in any transaction with a person, firm, or other business entity in which one or more of the Board members has a financial interest in such person, firm or other business entity, unless such interest is disclosed in good faith to the Board, and the Board authorizes such transaction by a vote sufficient for such purpose, without counting the vote of the interested Board member.

Section 7. Influence of Decision Makers. No member of the Board shall use his or her position to influence the judgment or any decision of any Corporation employee concerning the procurement of goods or services on behalf of the Corporation.

Section 8. No Forfeit of Office or Employment. Except as provided by law, no officer, member, or employee of the state or of any public corporation shall forfeit his or her office or employment by reason of his or her acceptance of appointment as a director, nonvoting representative, officer, or employee of the Corporation, nor shall such service as such a director, nonvoting representative, officer or employee be deemed incompatible or in conflict with such office or employment; and provided further, however, that no public officer elected to his or her office pursuant to the laws of the state or any municipality thereof may serve as a member of the governing body of the Corporation during his or her term of office.