

BOARD MEMBERS

Alex Matthews, Chair
Sean Coleman, Vice Chair
Patrick J. Bigley, Secretary
Khalif Ali
Samantha Bushman
Lynn Williams Davenport
Maryann Herman
Gregory M. Monaco
Jennifer P. Richnafsky

The Ethics Hearing Board is comprised of nine members, each holding a reputation of personal integrity and honesty. They are nominated by a variety of community and educational organizations and serve as volunteers.

ETHICS HEARING BOARD MEETINGS

Information about our monthly meetings and past meeting minutes are available at pittsburghpa.gov/ehb.

Contact Us

Ethics Hearing Board
City-County Building, Room 328
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone: 412-255-2122
Fax: 412-255-2680

Email: Leanne.Davis@pittsburghpa.gov

Website: pittsburghpa.gov/ehb

ETHICS HEARING BOARD

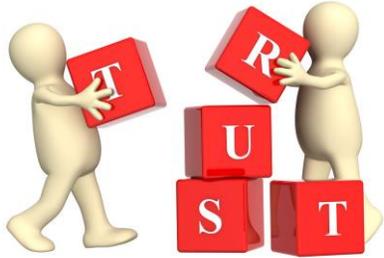
*Our mission is to
promote public trust and confidence in
public service
by fostering integrity and
impartiality within City government.*

*We support
open and transparent government, and
encourage all City officials and employees
to act with honesty,
accountability, and common sense.*

*We ensure compliance with
the Ethics Code through
investigation and enforcement.*



Ethics Matters



The Ethics Hearing Board works to preserve the trust placed in the public servants of our City.

Our Purpose

The City of Pittsburgh Ethics Hearing Board has three main functions, to:

1. Give advice on the application of the ethics provisions in the City's Code of Conduct and Home Rule Charter in accordance with § 197.13 of the Ethics Code; to
2. Conduct educational programs to promote the ethical conduct of Pittsburgh public officials and employees; and to
3. Receive and resolve complaints of unethical conduct through investigation, hearings and enforcement.

Campaign Finance:

“Campaign finance is the gateway issue to every other issue you might care about.” Ann Ravel, Former Chair, Federal Election Commission

Candidates for City-elected office (Mayor, City Council and City Controller) and their committees must file campaign finance reports and comply with contribution limitations.

Conflict of Interest: All public officials and City employees are prohibited from exerting influence to benefit themselves or their family. City officials, Board and Commission members may not participate in a vote or discussion on issues that present a conflict; instead, they must recuse themselves and disclose the conflict.

Financial Disclosures: Elected and appointed public officials, many City employees and contractors hired by the City must file financial disclosures.

Gifts: Public officials and City employees must report to the Board all gifts valued over \$100, except for gifts received from family members. There are several restrictions on gifts in our Code of Conduct. Please contact us for advice.

Use of Authority & Property: Public officials and City employees cannot receive any benefit from those having dealings with the City. They may not use their position, title, City facilities, property, information or staff for personal use.

Political Activity: There are restrictions on holding elected office as a City employee and a leave of absence may be required. Employees may not engage in any political activity during working hours, may not be compelled to contribute to a political campaign and may not give more than \$100/\$200 to their employer over a four-year term.

Nepotism: Advancing, hiring, supervising or appointing relatives is prohibited unless the Ethics Board issues a waiver based on job qualifications and the public interest.

Post-Employment Restrictions: The Ethics Code outlines specific restrictions that pertain to public officials and employees for twelve months after they leave their position with the City.

Questions:

“The main purpose of ethics laws lies not in punishing wrongdoing, but in preventing it, not in catching people, but in teaching them.” Mark Davies, Ethics Author and former NYC Ethics Director

Answers to your ethical questions are available on a quick, informal basis, or through in-depth advisory opinions that are binding upon the Board. Training is also available.