



# Prohibited Conduct

## RMC § 2.78.060(E)

---

### Endorsements for Compensation Prohibited

August 6, 2026

Board of Ethics

RiversideCA.gov

1

## CHAPTER 2.78 CODE OF ETHICS/CONDUCT

### Established

- \* The Riverside City Council established a code of ethics and conduct that apply to the Mayor, members of the City Council, and all members of appointed boards, commissions and committees

(RMC § 2.78.010).

### Purpose

- \* The purpose of this Code of Ethics/Conduct is to achieve fair, ethical, and accountable local government for the City of Riverside

(RMC § 2.78.020).



2

RiversideCA.gov

2

## COMPLAINANT QUALIFICATION

To submit a complaint, a party must either:

- \* Live, work (including vendors/contractors) or attend school in Riverside; unless
- \* The alleged violation took place outside the boundaries of the City of Riverside and the complaining party personally witnessed or observed the alleged violation *(RMC § 2.78.040F)*.



3

RiversideCA.gov

3

## RMC § 2.78.060(E) PROHIBITED CONDUCT

City of Riverside public officials shall refrain from:

- \* Endorsing/recommending **for compensation** any commercial product or service;
- \* In the name of the City of Riverside or in their official capacity
- \* Within the **jurisdictional boundaries** of the City;
- \* Without prior approval of a City Council policy.



4

RiversideCA.gov

4

## PROHIBITED ENDORSEMENTS FOR COMPENSATION

Examples of prohibited endorsements or recommendations of commercial products/services for profit include:

- Planning commissioner accepting payment to endorse an architecture firm at a construction seminar held at the Riverside Convention Center.
- Councilmember accepting payment to recommend XYZ food distribution company to restaurant owners in the City of Riverside.
- Board of ethics member accepting payment to endorse, on behalf of the City, a cryptocurrency company during a Memorial Day celebration at Fairmount park.



5

RiversideCA.gov

5

## EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to the prohibition of public officials endorsing products/services for compensation:

- If the endorsement or recommendation of the commercial product or service occurs outside the City's jurisdictional boundaries;
- Prior approval of a City Council policy.



6

RiversideCA.gov

6

# CONCLUSION

QUESTIONS?



7

RiversideCA.gov