



RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL CODE 2.78 - CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT ANNUAL REVIEW PRESENTATION

GOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES COMMITTEE

September 4, 2024

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BOARD OF ETHICS RECOMMENDATIONS

Under Prohibited Conduct of the Code of Ethics, the Board of Ethics recommends separating violations pertaining to “Local Law” from “Federal and State laws” as reflected on next slide:

RMC 2.78.060 Prohibited conduct.

M. Violations of **Federal, state**, or Local Law Prohibited. *No public official of the City of Riverside shall intentionally or repeatedly violate the Charter of the City of Riverside, the Riverside Municipal Code, or any established policies of the City of Riverside affecting the operations of local government **or be convicted of violation of any state or federal law pertaining to the office which they hold.***



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BOARD OF ETHICS RECOMMENDATIONS

M. Violations of Local Law Prohibited. *No public official of the City of Riverside shall intentionally or repeatedly violate the Charter of the City of Riverside, the Riverside Municipal Code, or any established policies of the City of Riverside affecting the operations of local government.*

N. Convictions of Federal or State law affecting their office Prohibited. *No public official of the City of Riverside shall be convicted of a violation of any state or federal law that affects the performance of their duties in the office that they hold.*



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BOARD OF ETHICS RECOMMENDATIONS

RMC 2.78.070 – Written complaint procedures:

E. Complaints shall be filed with the City Clerk no later than ~~one-year~~ **three** years from the date of the alleged violation.

Recommended by
Board of Public Utilities



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BOARD OF ETHICS RECOMMENDATIONS

RMC 2.78.080 – Hearing procedures:

- O. All findings shall be approved by a majority vote of the hearing panel and recorded by the City Clerk. The hearing panel may approve such findings at the conclusion of the hearing and direct the City Clerk to prepare the statement of findings or designate members of the hearing panel to prepare the statement of findings to include recommendations for sanctions.



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BOARD OF ETHICS RECOMMENDATIONS

RMC 2.78.090 – Appeal procedures:

Recommended by
Board of Public Utilities

- A. A decision of a pre-conference or by the hearing panel of the Board of Ethics may be appealed to the City Council by either party. ~~A decision of the Board of Ethics at a pre-conference may only be appealed if the appeal is based upon a clear procedural error.~~ The appeal shall be taken by filing a written notice of appeal with the City Clerk within ten City business days following the date of the decision. The notice of appeal shall be in writing on a form provided by the City Clerk. The appealing party must specify on the appeal form the clear procedural error or abuse of discretion that was committed by the hearing panel. The City Clerk shall place the appeal on the agenda for a regular meeting of the City Council within 30 City business days of the filing of the notice of appeal. The City Clerk shall notify the parties in writing of the hearing date.



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BOARD OF ETHICS RECOMMENDATIONS

RMC 2.78.090 – Appeal procedures:

- B. If there is no appeal of the decision by the hearing panel, then the decision of the hearing panel shall become final and there shall be no further right to appeal. The City Council will ~~then~~ determine ~~if sanctions the~~ level of sanctions that should be imposed, ~~if applicable~~.



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BOARD OF ETHICS RECOMMENDATIONS

Lastly, the Board of Ethics recommends that the City Council give authority to the Board of Ethics to compel the appearance of a City representative in response to a filed complaint.



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RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Governmental Processes Committee:

1. Perform the annual review of the Code of Ethics and Conduct for its effectiveness;
2. Consider the Board of Ethics recommendations for revisions; and
3. Submit its recommendations to the City Council as required by the Riverside Municipal Code.



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