

City of Atlanta Board of Ethics 2009 Highlights by the Numbers

- Provided ethics training in 20 training sessions to 124 new employees, 417 current employees, and 60 citizens
- Gave timely ethics advice in two formal advisory opinions, seven informal advisory letters, and 121 advisory emails; and responded to four requests for waivers and approval for outside employment, 30 requests for verbal advice, and 84 requests for general information about ethics
- Responded to 78 percent of all requests for advice within seven days
- Distributed Ethics Advisory on Use of City Property during Campaigns to all candidates for municipal office
- Drafted and distributed Ethics Advisory on Post-Employment Rule and distributed to all cabinet members and to council members leaving office
- Closed 15 ethics cases: approved three settlement agreements, issued one public reprimand, and dismissed eight cases for lack of probable cause, and administratively dismissed two ethics cases and 29 non-ethics complaints for lack of jurisdiction
- Issued 12 cease and desist notices to candidates for municipal office
- Received 218 Integrity Line calls, referred 47 calls (22%) to departments for investigation, referred 69 calls (32%) to departments for internal review, and closed 143 cases
- Resolved 33 financial disclosure cases involving delinquent filers: conducted 23 board hearings, issued 30 letters of reprimand and one public reprimand, and referred 10 cases to the Office of the Solicitor
- Collected \$26,950 in fines and repayment of expenses in ethics cases and collected \$2,025 in late fines in financial disclosure cases
- Achieved a timely filing rate of 87 percent and an overall filing rate of 98 percent of the 1,680 persons required to file the 2009 Financial Disclosure Statement
- Awarded the Transparent Diamond Award to eight departments and six boards with exemplary financial disclosure filing records
- Held two efilings days in the Atrium and responded to 590 requests for assistance
- Mailed "Ethical Guidelines for Board Members" to 30 new city board members and "Ethical Guidelines for NPU Officers" to 26 new NPU officers
- Issued two reports -- *Ethics Is the Only Deal: The First Five Years of the Atlanta Ethics Office* (March 2009) and the *2008 Integrity Line Annual Report* (Oct. 2009)
- Published a spring issue of the newsletter, *Ethics Matters*
- Two board members reappointed – John Lewis (Gate City Bar Association) and MaryAnne Gaunt (League of Women Voters) -- and Ethics Officer Ginny Looney reappointed
- Held eight board meetings, three committee meetings, two board retreats, and adopted board bylaws