



Elected Officials' Ethics Pledge

To assure public confidence, I am committed to promoting integrity in city government by placing the best interest of the City of Atlanta above my own financial or personal interests.

1. I will not use my office to secure special advantage or benefit for myself, my family, or other persons and will seek to avoid situations that may give the perception of an impropriety. When uncertain about the right thing to do, I will ask the Ethics Office or the Board of Ethics for advice.
2. I will not solicit or accept money or a personal gift, meal, ticket, travel, entertainment, or other thing of value from a prohibited source unless the gift falls within one of the 13 exceptions to the ban on gratuities.
3. I understand that I may accept awards given in recognition of my public service, nominal gifts from representatives of other governments, gifts accepted on behalf of my district or the City, and perishable items of nominal value that are shared with public visitors and staff. I agree to file a Gift to the City Report disclosing gifts that my office receives on behalf of my district or the City.
4. I understand that I may accept reasonable meals and refreshments provided to me in my official capacity at a public, civic, charitable, or non-profit event, convention, or conference.
5. I understand that I may accept reimbursement from prohibited sources of my travel and training expenses in connection with a speaking engagement, teaching, participation on a professional or civic panel, and attendance at a conference and agree to file a Travel Disclosure Report when a non-city source pays for travel or training that I perform in an official capacity.
6. I understand that I may not accept tickets in my official capacity to entertainment and athletic events, except when I am performing an official duty at the event.
7. I will not solicit or accept anything of value that is calculated to influence my vote, decision, or the exercise of my official authority. I will use my public office only to solicit for city projects and programs. In my solicitations, I will make a broad appeal for public support and not target prohibited sources, make certain the gift is given to my district or the City and not to me personally, and file a gift report disclosing the gift to the City.
8. I will use public property, vehicles, equipment, labor, and services only for official city business and will not request or allow its use for the private advantage of any individual or private entity.

9. I will not knowingly vote or participate in any matter in which I have a financial or personal interest and will not participate in any bid, proposal, contract, or subcontract if my immediate family, employer, prospective employer, a related business entity, or I have a financial or personal interest. I agree to file a Conflict of Interest Disclosure Report concerning any vote or decision in which I recuse myself due to a conflict of interest.
10. I will refrain from working for any business or entering into any contract to provide goods and services to the City of Atlanta unless the business is conducted through a sealed competitive bid process.
11. I will not represent any individual or private interest for pay before any city agency while serving as an elected official. I understand that I am permitted to appear before a city agency on behalf of my constituents or in the performance of my civic duties as long as I am not compensated for the appearance.
12. I will not represent any individual or private interest for pay in any litigation in which a city agency is involved, in any action in the Municipal Court where the City is the plaintiff, and in any proceeding in conflict with the interests of the City.
13. I will not hold investments, engage in private employment, or be paid to render services for a private interest when the work is adverse to and incompatible with the proper discharge of my official duties.
14. I will not disclose any confidential information that I learn in my official capacity.
15. I will file my annual financial disclosure statement by the filing deadline and file any conflict of interest, travel, or gift to the City reports when they are due.
16. I understand that the City has a one-year cooling off period and for one year after leaving office I will not appear before the City Council or any other city agency and will not work on any matter for pay in which I was directly concerned, personally participated, actively considered, or about which I acquired knowledge while with the City.

I, _____, acknowledge that I have received and read this pledge and agree to abide by the City's Code of Ethics. I understand that the most current copy of the Code of Ethics is at the Board of Ethics website and that I can seek training or advice from the Board of Ethics or Ethics Office if I need guidance on how to avoid a conflict of interest.

Signature

Date

2/17/2010