



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

RHODE ISLAND ETHICS COMMISSION

40 Fountain Street

Providence, RI 02903

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<https://ethics.ri.gov>

NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING

AGENDA

1st Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, January 7, 2025

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: Rhode Island Ethics Commission
Hearing Room - 8th Floor
40 Fountain Street
Providence, RI 02903

LIVESTREAM: The Open Session portions of this meeting will be livestreamed at:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81158869373>

1. Call to Order.
2. Motion to approve minutes of Open Session held on December 10, 2024.
3. Director's Report: Status report and updates regarding:
 - a.) Complaints and investigations pending;
 - b.) Advisory opinions pending;
 - c.) Access to Public Records Act requests since last meeting;
 - d.) Financial disclosure;
 - e.) General office administration.
4. Advisory Opinions:

- a.) Adam M. Millard, Esq., a member of the East Greenwich Historic District Commission, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether he qualifies for a hardship exception to the Code of Ethics' prohibition on representing himself before his own agency, in order to seek a certificate of appropriateness to replace an existing shed at his home. [Staff Attorney Papa]
- b.) Scott A. Gibbs, the town administrator for the Town of North Smithfield, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether he is prohibited by the Code of Ethics from accepting part-time work as a private consultant. [Staff Attorney Papa]
- c.) Diane Hayde, a member of the New Shoreham Water District Commission and the New Shoreham Sewer District Commission, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether she qualifies for a hardship exception to the Code of Ethics' prohibition against representing herself before an agency of which she is a member in order to request from each commission an amended allocation for water and sewer usage pertaining to her properties and to seek credit for penalties paid or overpayments made relative to her water and sewer usage during the previous billing cycle. [Staff Attorney Radiches]
- d.) Andy Andujar, a member-elect of the Cranston City Council, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether he is prohibited by the Code of Ethics from privately retaining the services of one or more consultants to conduct impact studies and related research for the Petitioner's personal use when drafting various proposed municipal ordinances to be then submitted to the city council for its consideration. [Staff Attorney Radiches]

5. Motion to go into Executive Session, to wit:

- a.) Motion to approve minutes of Executive Session held on December 10, 2024, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) & (4).
- b.) In re: Anastacia Williams, Complaint No. 2024-11, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) & (4).
- c.) In re: Michael DeFrancesco, Complaint No. 2024-13, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) & (4).
- d.) Motion to return to Open Session.

6. Motion to seal minutes of Executive Session held on January 7, 2025.

7. Report on actions taken in Executive Session.
8. Preliminary discussion and voting on Petition for Adoption/Amendment of Regulations from Common Cause Rhode Island regarding gifts, financial disclosure, and procurement. [Director Gramitt]
9. Discussion and potential voting regarding adoption or amendment of Fine Schedule for Financial Disclosure Complaints consistent with Commission Regulation 520-RICR-00-00-3.30 Procedure for Complaints Relating to Financial Disclosure (1023). [Director Gramitt]
10. New Business proposed for future Commission agendas and general comments from the Commission.
11. Motion to adjourn.

ANYONE WISHING TO ATTEND THIS MEETING WHO MAY HAVE SPECIAL NEEDS FOR ACCESS OR SERVICES SUCH AS A SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER, PLEASE CONTACT THE COMMISSION BY TELEPHONE AT 222-3790, 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE SCHEDULED MEETING. THE COMMISSION ALSO MAY BE CONTACTED THROUGH RHODE ISLAND RELAY, A TELECOMMUNICATIONS RELAY SERVICE, AT 1-800-RI5-5555.

Posted on January 2, 2025