



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
**RHODE ISLAND ETHICS COMMISSION**  
40 Fountain Street  
Providence, RI 02903  
(401) 222-3790 (Voice/TT)  
Email: [ethics.email@ethics.ri.gov](mailto:ethics.email@ethics.ri.gov)  
Website: <https://ethics.ri.gov>

**NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING**

<b>DATE:</b>	Tuesday, June 23, 2026
<b>TIME:</b>	9:00 a.m.
<b>PLACE:</b>	Rhode Island Ethics Commission Hearing Room – 8 <sup>th</sup> Floor 40 Fountain Street Providence, RI 02903
<b>LIVESTREAM:</b>	The Open Session portions of this meeting will be livestreamed at: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88438852069">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88438852069</a>  <b>This is an in-person meeting held at the physical location listed above. Livestream access is being provided only as a convenience, but it is not an official meeting place and we do not guarantee virtual access to view or participate in the meeting. If the livestream virtual broadcast of the meeting is interrupted or cut off for any reason, the meeting will continue in person.</b>



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**AGENDA**

**9<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

1. Call to Order.
2. Motion to approve minutes of Open Session held on June 2, 2026.
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; and
  - e.) General office administration;
4. Advisory Opinions:
  - a.) Richard Houle, a member of the Coventry Town Council, and who in his private capacity works as an associate real estate broker, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether he is prohibited by the Code of Ethics from participating in town council discussions and decision-making relating to whether or not the town should dispose of its inventory of vacant municipal lots and buildings to private parties. [Staff Attorney Radiches]
  - b.) Henry F. Lombardi Jr., an advance/courier with the Rhode Island Secretary of State's Office, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether he is prohibited by the Code of Ethics from seeking election to the Middletown Town Council. [Staff Attorney Radiches]

- c.) Michael Peno Jr., a social caseworker employed by the Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether he is prohibited by the Code of Ethics from simultaneously engaging in advocacy work in his private capacity under the circumstances described herein and, if not so prohibited, what limitations, if any, the Code of Ethics would place upon him. [Staff Attorney Papa]
5. Hearing in the matter of In re: K. Joseph Shekarchi, Complaint No. 2026-1 on Respondent's Motion to Dismiss.
  6. Motion to go into Executive Session, to wit:
    - a.) Motion to approve minutes of Executive Session held on June 2, 2026, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) & (4).
    - b.) In re: K. Joseph Shekarchi, Complaint No. 2026-1, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) & (4).
    - c.) Annual Discussion and review re: Legal Counsel's contract pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(1).
    - d.) Motion to return to Open Session.
  7. Motion to seal minutes of Executive Session held on June 23, 2026.
  8. Report on actions taken in Executive Session.
  9. Annual Discussion and potential vote re: Legal Counsel's contract.
  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 June 18, 2026*