



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
Website: <https://ethics.ri.gov>

NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING

DATE:	Tuesday, August 4, 2026
TIME:	9:00 a.m.
PLACE:	Rhode Island Ethics Commission Hearing Room – 8 th Floor 40 Fountain Street Providence, RI 02903
LIVESTREAM:	The Open Session portions of this meeting will be livestreamed at: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89407322402 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.



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AGENDA

11th Meeting

1. Call to Order.
2. Motion to approve minutes of Open Session held on July 14, 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.) Joshua D. Ferreira, the deputy chief of the Tiverton Fire Department, who has been selected to become the town's fire chief, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether the proposed alternate supervisory chain of command would sufficiently insulate him from conflicts of interest arising out of his anticipated new position, given that his mother is employed by the Tiverton Fire Department as it's executive administrative assistant. [Staff Attorney Radiches]
 - b.) The Honorable Frank J. Picozzi, the Mayor of the City of Warwick, requests an advisory opinion regarding what restrictions, if any, the Code of Ethics would place upon him in carrying out his official duties in the event that his grandson is selected by the Warwick Board of Public Safety for employment as a firefighter with the Warwick Fire Department. [Staff Attorney Radiches]

- c.) Rosa Gough, MSW, LICSW, an associate director of the Outpatient Services Unit within the Forensic Division at the Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals, who has been offered a position on the board of directors of the Key Program, Inc., a private, non-profit social service organization, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether the Code of Ethics prohibits her from simultaneously serving as a Key Program board member while continuing her state employment. [Staff Attorney Papa]
- d.) Matt St. Ours, 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, either personally or through a representative, before his own board, in order to allow him to seek a certificate of appropriateness to replace the roof of a rental property that he co-owns with another individual. [Staff Attorney Papa]

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

- a.) Motion to approve minutes of Executive Session held on July 14, 2026, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(1), (2), & (4).
- b.) In re: Matthew Kent, Complaint No. 2026-2, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) & (4).
- c.) K. Joseph Shekarchi vs. Rhode Island Ethics Commission, Superior Court C.A. No. PC-2026-03423, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2).
- d.) Motion to return to Open Session.

6. Motion to seal minutes of Executive Session held on August 4, 2026.

7. Report on actions taken in Executive Session.

8. New Business proposed for future Commission agendas and general comments from the Commission.

9. 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 July 30, 2026