



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, September 29, 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/87299857830 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

13th Meeting

1. Call to Order.
2. Motion to approve minutes of Open Session held on September 1, 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.) Carter Wilkie, a member of the Little Compton Planning Board, who also serves as the planning board's designee on the Little Compton Agricultural Conservancy Trust, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether the Code of Ethics prohibits him from participating in planning board discussions and decision-making regarding matters involving properties that abut other properties which are either owned by the trust or are properties on which the trust owns an easement. [Staff Attorney Popova Papa]
 - b.) Shannon Massaroco, a former member of the board of trustees of Sheila C. "Skip" Nowell Academy, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether the Code of Ethics prohibits her from accepting employment with the academy as its Director of Health and Wellness, given her former position on its board of trustees. [Staff Attorney Popova Papa]

- c.) Julie M. Diep, a certified court staff interpreter employed by the Rhode Island Judiciary, who in her private capacity owns and operates Lozada Diep Interpreting Services, LLC, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether she is prohibited by the Code of Ethics from registering her private business as a vendor on the State of Rhode Island's Master Price Agreement list in order to provide language services to various non-state and state agencies, excluding the Rhode Island Judiciary. [Staff Attorney Popova Papa]
 - d.) Charlotte R. Spinkston, the interim executive director of the Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, who is also a registered vendor on the statewide Master Price Agreement list as an American Sign Language interpreter, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether the Code of Ethics prohibits her simultaneous service in both positions. [Staff Attorney Giusti]
5. Petition for Adoption of Regulations: Discussion and vote to consider a petition filed by Nicole Solas, relating to expanding the protections provided by R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-5(m).
 6. Motion to go into Executive Session, to wit:
 - a.) Motion to approve minutes of Executive Session held on September 1, 2026, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a), (2), & (4).
 - b.) Litigation update re: 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).
 - c.) Motion to return to Open Session.
 5. Motion to seal minutes of Executive Session held on September 29, 2026.
 6. Report on actions taken in Executive Session.
 7. New Business proposed for future Commission agendas and general comments from the Commission.
 8. 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 September 24, 2026