

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ETHICS (2018-2019)

Pursuant to Sec. 2-582 of the City of Racine Code of Ethics, the Board of Ethics submits this report to the Mayor and Common Council.

ADOPTION OF GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES

Pursuant to Sec. 2-584(a) of the Code of Ethics, the board adopted guidelines and procedures for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the Code of Ethics.

IMPLEMENTATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The Code of Ethics of the City of Racine requires that all elected city officials and designated city employees file a Statement of Economic Interests. It is the responsibility of the Board of Ethics to develop the necessary forms, provide them to officers and employees, and monitor filing of the completed forms. In the 2018-2019 report period, all except two of the elected officials and designated employees filed the required Statement of Economic Interests. The board has directed the City Clerk to initiate the process of withholding salary until these statements are filed.

The code also requires that all appointed officers who serve on city boards, committees and commissions without salary are required to file a certification that the officer has received a copy of the laws and ordinances related to conduct prohibited in the state and city codes of ethics and that he or she has read such provisions and agrees to

abide by the applicable standards of conduct. The previous certification form had fallen out of use. In the 2018-2019 reporting period, the board has adopted a new form which will be circulated to all current nonsalaried appointees required to file the certification and to future appointees as they are appointed.

DISPOSITION OF COMPLAINTS

The Code of Ethics authorizes the Board of Ethics to receive and act upon complaints alleging violations of the Code of Ethics. One complaint was received during the 2018-2019 reporting period. The Board of Ethics declined to accept it because it did not meet the requirements of Sec. 2-584(b) of the code and of the board Guidelines and Procedures.

DISPOSITION OF REQUEST FOR ADVISORY OPINION

The Code of Ethics authorizes the Board of Ethics to answer requests for advisory opinions regarding application of the Code of Ethics. The Board received one request for an advisory opinion in the 2018-2019 reporting period and issued an opinion in response to the request following a hearing.

There is also a pending advisory opinion request carried over from the 2017-2018 reporting period. The board deferred action on the request until a related court case has been resolved.

BOARD OF ETHICS MEMBERSHIP

The Board of Ethics was composed of the following members for the period covered by this report:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Term expires:</u>
Mary Wyant (chair)	May 1, 2019
Tony Martinez	May 1, 2020
Robert Mozol	May 1, 2021
Yeprem Kelegian	May 1, 2022
Ernest J. Ni'A	April 30, 2023
Karri Hemmig	April 30, 2024

In addition, the board has been staffed by City Attorney Scott Letteney, Deputy City Attorneys Nicole Larsen and Nhu Arn, and City Clerk Tara Coolidge. They have done outstanding work for the board.

SUMMARY

Administration of the reporting and certification requirements of the Code of Ethics was accomplished smoothly and successfully in 2018-2019. The Board of Ethics is privileged to assist in implementing the city Code of Ethics.