



**Palm Beach County
Commission on Ethics**

The Historic 1916 Courthouse
300 N. Dixie Hwy, Suite 450
West Palm Beach, FL 33401
561.355.1915

FAX: 561.355.1904

Hotline: 877.766.5920

E-mail: ethics@pbcgov.org

Commissioners

Rodney G. Romano, Chair

Alan I. Blass, Vice Chair

Peter L. Cruise

Michael Kugler

Kristin A. Vara-Garcia

Executive Director

Christie Kelley

General Counsel

Rhonda Giger

Intake & Compliance Manager

Gina A. Levesque

**Education & Communications
Manager**

S. Lizabeth Martin

Investigator

Mark A. Higgs

Investigator

Abigail Irizarry

News Release

For immediate release:

Contact:

Director

June 4, 2026

Christie Kelley, Executive

(561) 355-1915

Summary of Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics Meeting Held on June 4, 2026

The Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics (COE) took the following action at its monthly public meeting held on June 4, 2026.

The COE approved two advisory opinions. The full opinions will be available on the COE's website within seven days at: <https://www.palmbeachcountyethics.com/coepub/>.

RQO 26-011: A county employee asked if the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics (Code) imposes any restrictions upon him if he were to start a contracting business in his private capacity.

COE answer: The Code does not prohibit him from working as a contractor in his private capacity as long as he does not enter into a contract or transaction with the county, either directly or indirectly, including through a contract with a county vendor when the arrangement would result in him providing goods or services to the county. The Code also prohibits the use of county time, resources, software, or equipment for outside employment or business activities. In addition, he must follow the guidance outlined in the advisory opinion.

RQO 26-012: A county employee asked if it would violate the Code if the non-profit organization of which she is a board member accepts support from a county vendor in the form of donated space and/or a sponsorship.

COE answer: The Code would not be violated if the non-profit organization of which she is a board member accepts donated space and/or a sponsorship from a county vendor because the donation is being provided to the organization rather than to her specifically, and there is no indication that she used her position as a county employee to solicit, secure, or influence the donation. Provided she follows the guidance outlined in the advisory opinion, the acceptance of such support by the organization would not violate the Code.

A detailed explanation of all agenda items is available at <http://www.palmbeachcountyethics.com/meetings.htm>.