

Chapter 52

ETHICS, CODE OF

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[HISTORY: Adopted by the Common Council of the City of Norwich 11-24-1970. Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Officer and employees — See Ch. 85.

§ 52-1. Purpose.

This code is a moral commitment for elected and appointed employees of the City of Norwich to achieve a standard of conduct befitting their respective positions. We must raise standards to the point where it is a conspicuous example of conscientious self-regulation. For representatives to be efficient in their duties they must be both ethical and knowledgeable. The tool of knowledge is essential to satisfy the needs of the community. We must recognize the serious obligations of having been chosen to represent the common good of the City of Norwich. If the highest traditions of good government are to be upheld, then the code has been upheld. An official or employee of the City of the City of Norwich, in the conduct of performing his business, will always observe high standards of honor as well as just and equitable principles of good government with the underlying purpose.

§ 52-2. Findings; conflicts with governmental procedures.

- A. Be it shown that by resolution on November 24, 1970, the Common Council of the City of Norwich admits and recognizes the need for ethical conduct.
- B. This chapter shall not conflict with any established general municipal law that relates to the promotion of City governmental procedures.

§ 52-3. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

INTEREST — A monetary or material benefit accruing to a municipal officer or employee, his spouse, minor children and dependents; a firm's partnership or association of which such officer or employee is a member or employee; a corporation of which such officer or employee is an officer, director or employee; and a corporation any stock of which is accrued

or controlled directly or indirectly by such officer or employee unless the context otherwise requires.

OFFICIAL, OFFICER AND EMPLOYEE — A paid or unpaid officer or employee of the City of Norwich, including members of any administrative board, commission or other agency of the City.

§ 52-4. Standards.

All parties covered in this chapter shall be subject to and adhere to the following:

- A. **Discrimination.** No one shall initiate any legislation involving discrimination as to race, creed, color, sex, national origin, or political affiliation.
- B. **Gifts.** No one should solicit any gift, accept or receive any gift having a value exceeding \$25 or more in the form of money, services or entertainment, or any other form, with such gifts being purported to influence him in the performance of his official duties.
- C. **Confidential information.** No one shall disclose confidential information acquired by him in the course of his duties, nor use this information for furthering his personal interests.
- D. **Representation before one's own agency.** He shall not enter into any agreement for compensation for services to be rendered in relation to any matter before any municipal agency of which he is an officer, member or employee or has jurisdiction to appoint any member, officer or employee.
- E. **Representation for a fee.** He shall not enter into an agreement whereby his compensation is to be dependent or contingent upon any action by such agency, provided that this subsection shall not prohibit the fixing at any time of fees based upon the reasonable value of the services rendered.
- F. **Disclosure of interest in legislation.** To the extent that he knows, a member of the City, as defined in § 52-3, shall publicly disclose in the records the nature and extent of financial or other private interest he has in such legislation.
- G. **Investments in conflict with official duties.** He shall not invest or hold any investment, directly or indirectly, in any financial, business or private transaction, which create a conflict with his assigned or official duties.
- H. **Private employment.** He shall not engage in, solicit, negotiate or accept private employment for any such interest that would impair the orderly discharge of his official or assigned duties.
- I. **Future employment.** He shall not, after the termination of his appointment with the City, appear before any board or agency of the City of Norwich in relation to any case in which he personally participated during the period of his service or employment.
- J. **Goal.** All acts in his jurisdiction or employment shall be directed to furthering and improving the common good for the City of Norwich.

§ 52-5. Suits against City.

Nothing herein shall be deemed to bar or prevent the timely filing by a present or former municipal officer or employee of any claim, account, demand or suit against the City of Norwich, or any agency thereof, on behalf of himself or any member of his family arising out of any personal injury or property damage or for any lawful benefit authorized or permitted by law.

§ 52-6. Distribution to officers and employees.

The City of Norwich shall cause a copy of this Code of Ethics to be distributed to every officer and employee of the City within 30 days after the effective date. Each officer and employee elected or appointed thereafter shall be furnished a copy before entering upon the duties of his office or employment.

§ 52-7. Penalties for offenses; suspension or removal from office.

In addition to any penalty contained in any other provision of law, any person who shall knowingly and intentionally violate any of the provisions of this code may be fined, suspended or removed from office or employment, as the case may be, in the manner provided by law.