

Town of Paris
 Oneida County
 Sargoit NY 13456

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 839-5678

Policy Statement – The Town Board of the Town of Paris recognizes that the proper ethical conduct of its public officers and employees is essential to the enhancement and maintenance of public confidence in local government and in our free institutions generally. It is the purpose of this Code of Ethics to supplement and implement the provisions of Article 18 of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York by establishing standards of conduct for the Town's officers and employees and to establish a Board of Ethics to render advisory opinions to the Town's officers and employees with respect to these matters.

The Town of Paris has adopted this Code of Ethics which all Town officials and employees must abide. You are encouraged to review and become familiar with this Code of Ethics and to discuss any questions you may have with your Department Head.

Definitions - For the purpose of the Town of Paris' Code of Ethics, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

- **Town** – Shall mean any board, commission, district, council or other agency, department or unit of government of the Town of Paris.
- **Municipal Officer or Employee** - will mean and refer to an officer or employee of the Town of Paris, whether paid or unpaid, including members of any administrative board, commission or other agency thereof. No person will be deemed to be a municipal officer or employee solely by reason of being a volunteer firefighter or civil defense volunteer, except a chief engineer or assistant chief engineer.

Standards of Conduct – Every officer or employee is subject to, and must abide by, the following standards of conduct:

- **Gifts** - An officer or employee may not directly or indirectly solicit any gift having a value of twenty-five dollars or more, whether in the form of money, services, loan, travel, entertainment, hospitality, thing or promise or any other form, under circumstances in which it could reasonably be inferred that such gift was intended to influence the officer or employee, or could reasonably be expected to influence the officer or employee, in the performance of official duties or was intended as a reward for any official action on the officer's or employee's part;
- **Confidential information** - An officer or employee may not disclose confidential information acquired in the course of official duties or use such information to further personal interest;
- **Representation before any agency for a contingent fee** - An officer or employee may not receive or enter into any agreement, express or implied, for compensation for services to be rendered in relation to any matter before any agency of the municipality, whereby the officer's or employee's compensation is to be dependent or contingent upon any action by such agency with respect to such matter, provided that this provision will not prohibit the fixing at any time of fees based upon the reasonable value of the services rendered;

- **Disclosure of interest in legislation** - To the extent that an officer or employee knows thereof, a member of the Town Board and any officer or employee of the Town of Paris, whether paid or unpaid, who participates in the discussion or gives official opinion to the Town Board on any legislation before the Town Board shall publicly disclose on the official record the nature and extent of any direct or indirect financial or other private interest the officer or employee has in such legislation;
- **Investments in conflict with official duties** - An officer or employee may not invest or hold any investment, directly or indirectly in any financial, business, commercial, or other private transaction which creates a conflict with official duties;
- **Private employment** - An officer or employee may not engage in, solicit, negotiate for, or promise to accept private employment, or render services for private interests, when such employment or service creates a conflict with or impairs the proper discharge of official duties;
- **Future employment** - An officer or employee may not, after the termination of service or employment with the Town, appear before any board or agency of the Town in relation to any case, proceeding or application in which the officer or employee personally participated during the period of service or employment or which was under the officer's or employee's active consideration.

Violations - 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.

The Town Board is our Board of Ethics