

CODE OF ETHICS
TOWN OF FORESTPORT

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Forestport, Oneida County, New York as follows:

Section 1. Pursuant to the provisions of section eight hundred six of the general municipal law, the Town Board of the Town of Forestport recognizes that there are rules of ethical conduct for public officers and employees which must be observed if a high degree of moral conduct is to be obtained and if public confidence is to be maintained in our local unit of government. It is the purpose of this resolution to promulgate these rules of ethical conduct for the officers and employees of the Town of Forestport. These rules shall serve as a guide for official conduct of the officers and employees of the Town of Forestport. The rules of ethical conduct of this local law as adopted, shall not conflict with, but be in addition to any prohibition of article eighteen of the general municipal law or any other general or special law relating to ethical conduct and interest in contracts of municipal officers and employees.

Section 2. Definition. “Municipal Officer or Employee” means an officer or employee of the Town of Forestport, whether paid or unpaid, including members of any administrative board, commission, or other agency thereof. No person shall be deemed to be a municipal officer or employee solely by reason of being a volunteer fireman or civil defense volunteer, except a chief engineer or assistant chief engineer. “Interest” means a pecuniary or material benefit accruing to a municipal officer or employee unless the context otherwise requires.

Section 3. Standards of Conduct. Every officer or employee of the Town of Forestport shall be subject to and abide by the following standards of conduct:

a) **Gifts.** He/She shall not directly or indirectly, solicit any entertainment, hospitality, thing or promise, or any other form, under circumstances in which it could be reasonably inferred that the gift was intended to influence him/her, or could gift; or receive any gift having a value of twenty-five dollars or more, whether in the form of money, services, loan, travel, reasonably be expected to influence him/her, in the performance of his/her

official duties or was intended as a reward for any official action on his/her part.

b) Confidential Information. He/She shall not disclose confidential information acquired by him/her in the course of his/her duties or use such information to further his/her personal interest.

c) Representation Before One's Own Agency. He/She shall not receive, or enter into any agreement, express or implied, for compensation of services to be rendered in relation to any matter before any municipal agency of which he/she is an officer, member, or employee or of any municipal agency over which he/she has jurisdiction or to which he/she has the power to appoint any member, officer, or employee.

d) Representation Before Any Agency For A Contingent Fee. He/She shall 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 his/her municipality, whereby his/her compensation is to be dependent or contingent upon any action by such agency with respect to such matter, provided that this paragraph shall not prohibit the fixing at any time of fees based upon the reasonable value of the services rendered.

e) Disclosure Of Interest In Legislation. To the extent that he/she knows thereof, a member of the Town Board and any officer or employee of the Town of Forestport, 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 he/she has in such legislation.

f) Investments In Conflict With Official Duties. He/she shall not invest or hold any investment directly or indirectly in any financial, business, commercial.

g) Private Employment. He/she shall 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 his/her official duties.

h) Future Employment. He/she shall not, after the termination of service or employment with such municipality, appear before any board or agency of

the Town of Forestport in relation to any case, proceeding or application in which he/she personally participated during the period of his/her service or employment or which was under his/her active consideration.

I) He/she shall not engage in any threatening or intimidating behavior directed towards any other town officer, employee or citizen of the town when acting in an official town capacity.

j) He/she shall not use threatening or vulgar language when speaking with any town officer, employee or citizen of the town when acting in an official town capacity.

k) He/she shall at all times while acting in an official town capacity treat town officials, employees and citizens of the town in a courteous and respectful manner.

Section 4. 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 Town of Forestport, or any agency thereof on behalf of himself/herself or any member of his/her family arising out of any personal injury or property damage or for any lawful benefit authorized or permitted by law.

Section 5. Distribution of Code of Ethics. The Supervisor of the Town of Forestport shall cause a copy of this code of ethics to be distributed to every officer and employee of the Town of Forestport within thirty days after the effective date of this resolution. Each officer and employee elected or appointed thereafter shall be furnished a copy before entering upon the duties of his/her office or employment. The Town Clerk shall file a copy of this resolution with the State Comptroller within 30 days after its adoption.

Section 6. Penalties. 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 manner provided by law.

Section 7. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Adopted October 7, 1970

Revised January 4, 2012