



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH CITY COUNCIL MEMO

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CITY CLERK
CITY OF
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA

To: Honorable Mayor Pro Tem and City Council Members
From: Jill Hardy, Mayor *JH*
Date: January 18, 2005
Subject: *E-Item – Annual Review of the City Code of Ethics*

At the City Council meeting of October 4, 1993, Resolution No. 6524 was adopted approving a Code of Ethics (Code) for all elected officials, officers, employees, advisory board members, commissions, and committees. The Code was amended in November of 1993 by Resolution 6540. It was amended again in August of 2003 by Resolution 2003-51 and most recently in January of 2004 by Resolution 2004-2. In the Code of Ethics it is specified that an annual review of the Code should occur each January.

As stated in the Code, its purpose is "to set a standard of conduct for all elected officials, officers, employees, and members of advisory boards, commissions, and committees of the City of Huntington Beach." The Mayor, City Administrator, and Chairpersons are responsible for accomplishing this annual review.

With this memorandum, I am formally presenting the Code to the City Council, City Administrator, Chairpersons, and City Department heads for their review and distribution as specified. Copies of the Code of Ethics as attached will be distributed to department heads and the Chairs of City Boards, Commission and Committees who will present the code to their respective employees and members.

The copy of the Code of Ethics as attached reflects all the amendments identified above.

Recommended Action:

Direct the City Clerk to record in the official minutes that the Code of Ethics was presented to the City Council, the City Administrator, Chairpersons, and City Department Directors for their review and distribution as required.

JH:pd

Attachments:

1. The Code of Ethics as approved on Jan. 20, 2004
2. Acknowledgement Form

Xc: Penelope Culbreth-Graft, City Administrator
Department Heads
City of Huntington Beach Board/Commission Chairpersons
Board/Commission Staff Liaisons

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ATTACHMENT #1

**CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH
CODE OF ETHICS
APPROVED 1/20/04**

Background

Every citizen of the City of Huntington Beach is entitled to have complete confidence in the integrity of local government. All elected officials, officers, employees, and members of advisory boards, commission, and committee of the City must help to earn that confidence by their individual and collective conduct.

Purpose

The purpose of this Code of Ethics is to set a standard of conduct for all elected officials, officers, employees, and members of advisory boards, commission and committees of the City of Huntington Beach. This policy is not intended to supersede or invalidate any statute, ordinance, or civil service rule or regulation.

Applicability

This Code of Ethics shall apply to all elected officials, officers, employees, and members of advisory boards, commissions, and committees of the City of Huntington Beach, herein called "officials".

Code Review

The City Council, City departments, and all boards, commissions, and committees are to formally review this Code of Ethics with their members annually during the month of January. The Mayor, City Administrator, and Chairpersons shall be responsible for accomplishing this review. New members of the City Council, boards, commissions, and committees and new employees are to be provided a copy of the Code of Ethics for their review when they are elected or appointed.

All elected officials, officers, employees, and members of advisory boards, commissions, and committees of the City of Huntington Beach shall sign an acknowledgment of receipt of a copy of the Code of Ethics. Said acknowledgments of the elected officials and members of boards, committees and commissions shall be maintained on file with the City Clerk. Said acknowledgments of officers and employees shall be maintained on file with the Department of Administrative Services, Human Resources Division.

Policy

The following policies, adopted by the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach constitute the official Code of Ethics for all officials of the City.

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First: All officials shall uphold the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of California, and the Huntington Beach City Charter, and carry out impartially the laws of the nation, state and municipality.

Second: All officials shall comply with all applicable provisions of state law, particularly the California Political Reform Act including but not limited to its provisions on gifts and conflicts of interest.

Third: Officials shall not engage in any activity which results in any of the following:

- (a) Use of time, facilities, equipment, supplies, or other resources of the City for the private advantage or gain for oneself or another;
- (b) Use of official information that is not available to the general public for private advantage or gain for oneself or another;
- (c) Use of the authority of their position with the City to discourage, restrain or interfere with any person who chooses to report potential violations of any law or regulation.

Fourth: Officials shall not accept, directly or indirectly:

- (a) Private advantage, gain, remuneration, or reward for oneself or another as a result of the prestige or influence of the City office, employment, or appointment;
- (b) Financial consideration from any source other than the City of Huntington Beach for performance of their official duties, except for stipends received as representatives on board, commissions or committees at a local, regional, or state level;
- (c) Employment from private interests, when such employment is compatible with the proper discharge of their official duties or may result in a conflict of interest.

Fifth: Officials shall not give special treatment or consideration to any individual or group beyond that available to any other individual.

Sixth: Officials shall not discriminate against or harass a citizen or co-worker on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, physical or mental handicap, marital status or age; harassment shall include verbal, physical, and sexual harassment.

Seventh: Except for persons appointed to boards, commissions, and committees, officials shall not lobby for remuneration on behalf of any other individual or entity other than themselves to City staff or before the City Council or any City board, commission, or committee for a period of one year after their date of severance from the City.

Eighth: All officials shall conduct themselves in a courteous and respectful manner at all times during the performance of their official City duties.

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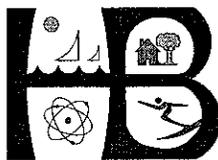
Enforcement

Any official found to be in violation of this Code of Ethics may be subject to censure by the City Council. Any member of an advisory board, commission, or committee found to be in violation may be subject to dismissal. In the case of an employee, appropriate action shall be taken by the City Administrator or by an authorized designee.

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ATTACHMENT #2

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**CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH
CODE OF ETHICS**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT

By signing this statement, I confirm that I have received a copy of the
Huntington Beach Code of Ethics
as adopted by Resolution No. 6524 of the City Council on October 4, 1993 and
amended on August 4, 2003 and January 20, 2004.

Name _____
(Please print first/last name)

Title _____

Board/Department _____

Date _____

Signature _____

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