

PROPOSED  
ORDINANCE NO. 14-18

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-6-3 CODE OF ETHICS;  
PROHIBITIONS; OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PENSACOLA, FLORIDA;  
PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; REPEALING CLAUSE; AND  
PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF PENSACOLA, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1.

Sec. 2-6-3. - Prohibitions.

- (a) All provisions of the State Code of Ethics are hereby adopted and incorporated by reference into the Code of the City of Pensacola, Florida, as they currently exist upon the effective date and as they may be modified or amended from time to time.
- (b) The code of ethics adopted by the city council in its rules and procedures of the city council, effective at noon, January 10, 2011, applying to the members of council and incorporating the council's regulations of council travel policies and procedures, as that code of ethics may be altered or amended by council from time to time, is hereby adopted and incorporated by reference into this chapter.
- (c) The code of ethics, adopted by the mayor and applicable to all city employees within the mayor's employment, as provided in the City of Pensacola Employment Manual, as that code of ethics may be altered or amended by the mayor from time to time, is hereby adopted and incorporated by reference into the provisions of this chapter.
- (d) All members of council shall abstain from casting their vote and shall so declare upon the record and execute the appropriate form to be filed with the city clerk, whenever they have established that they would have an appearance of a conflict of interest by casting such vote.
- (e) The mayor shall refrain from taking any action or conferring any benefit upon any person, group of persons or entity, when to do so would create a conflict of interest or circumstances establishing the appearance of a conflict of interest. In lieu of taking such action, the mayor shall designate an alternative decision-maker who shall have no interest in the transaction, no conflict of interest and no appearance of a conflict of interest, to execute the responsibility of the office of the mayor in that matter.
- (f) An official or employee must refrain from acting upon or participating in, formally or informally, a decision-making process with respect to any matter before the city, if acting on the matter, or failing to act upon the matter, may personally or financially be of personal benefit to himself, herself or a relative or business associate.
- (g) An official or employee of the City of Pensacola may not, directly or indirectly, treat anyone, including himself or herself and his or her family or business associates, preferentially or in any other manner that is not generally accorded to city residents.

- (h) An official or employee of the City of Pensacola, or a former official or employee, a contractor or a consultant, may not disclose any confidential information obtained formally or informally as part of his or her work for the city or due to his or her position with the city, or use any such confidential information to further his or her own or any other person or entity's personal or financial interests.
- (i) No official or employee may promise an appointment or use his or her influence to obtain an appointment to any position as a reward for any political activity or contribution.
- (j) No official or employee of the City of Pensacola may use, or permit others to use, any property owned by the city for profit or personal convenience or benefit, except (i) when such use is available to the public generally, or to a class of residents, on the same terms or conditions, (ii) when permitted by policies approved by the city's legislative body or executive, or (iii) when, in the conduct of official business, used in a purely incidental way for personal convenience. This applies not only to property such as vehicles, computers, office equipment, telephones and other tangible and intangible city property, but also to travel and other expense reimbursements, which may not be requested or spent on anything other than official business of the city.
- (k) No official or employee in his or her official capacity may publicly endorse products or services in any manner that associates that official or employee with the City of Pensacola. A consultant retained by the city may not represent a person or entity other than the city in any matter, transaction, action, or proceeding in which the consultant participated personally and substantially as a consultant to the city; nor may a consultant represent a person or entity in any matter, transaction, action, or proceeding against the interest of the city unless the city provides a written waiver of any such conflict.
- (l) No person seeking to become an official or employee, consultant or contractor of the City of Pensacola may make any false statement, submit any false document, or knowingly withhold information about wrongdoing in connection with employment by or rendering service to the city.
- (m) No city council member shall provide gifts of any kind to council staff that exceeds fifty dollars (\$50.00) in any calendar year; including cash and campaign contributions to staff members who are employed by council in any capacity, including contract employees.

SECTION 2. If any word, phrase, clause, paragraph, section or provision of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid or unconstitutional, such finding shall not affect the other provision or applications of the ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid or unconstitutional provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are declared severable.

SECTION 3. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take effect on the fifth business day after adoption, unless otherwise provided pursuant to Section 4.03(d) of the City Charter of the City of Pensacola.

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
President of the City Council

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk