

WATER AUTHORITY OF WESTERN NASSAU COUNTY

CODE OF ETHICS

WHEREAS, Section 2824 subdivision 1 of the Public Authorities Law, subsection (d) requires Board members of Public Authorities to “adopt a code of ethics applicable to each officer, director and employee that, at a minimum, includes the standards established in Section seventy-four of the public officers law, ...” and

WHEREAS, the Water Authority of Western Nassau County (hereinafter, “Water Authority”) is desirous of establishing standards in compliance with the law which foster confidence in the public that the Water Authority’s directors, officers and employees are carrying out their duties in an appropriate manner free of conflicts of interest and in an ethical manner.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of the Water Authority hereby adopts the following standards for ethical behavior:

(A) No Director, officer or employee of the Water Authority should accept other employment which will impair his or her independence of judgment in the exercise of his or her official duties.

(B) No director, officer or employee of the Water Authority should accept employment or engage in any business or professional activity which will require him or her to disclose confidential information which he or she has gained by reason of his or her official position or authority.

(C) No director, officer or employee of the Water Authority, except under judicial direction or order, should disclose confidential information acquired by him or her in the course of his or her official duties nor use such information to further his or her personal interests.

(D) No director, officer or employee of the Water Authority should use or attempt to

use his or her official position to secure unwarranted privileges or exemptions for himself, herself or others.

(E) No director, officer or employee of the Water Authority should engage in any transaction as representative of the Water Authority with any business entity in which he or she has a direct or indirect financial interest that might reasonably tend to conflict with the proper discharge of his or her duties.

(F) A director, officer or employee of the Water Authority should not, by his or her conduct, give reasonable basis for the impression that any person can improperly influence him or her or unduly enjoy his or her favor in the performance of his or her official duties, or that he or she is affected by the kinship, rank position or influence of any party of person.

(G) A director, officer or employee of the Water Authority should abstain from making personal investments in enterprises which he or she has reason to believe may be directly involved in decisions to be made by him or her or which will otherwise create substantial conflict between his or her duty in the public interest and his or her private interest.

(H) A director, officer or employee of the Water Authority should endeavor to pursue a course of conduct which will not create any appearance among the public that he or she is likely to be engaged in acts that are in violation of his or her trust.

(I) No director, officer or employee of the Water Authority employed on a full-time basis nor any firm or association for which such an officer or employee is a member nor corporation a substantial portion of the stock of which is owned or controlled directly or indirectly by such director, officer or employee, should sell goods or services to any person, firm, corporation or association which is licensed or whose rates are fixed by the Water Authority in which such director, officer or employee serves or is employed.

VIOLATIONS

In addition to any penalty contained in any other provision of law, any such director, officer or employee who shall knowingly and intentionally violate any of the provisions of this section may be fined, suspended or removed from office or employment in the manner provided by law. Any such individual who knowingly and intentionally violates the provisions of paragraph b, c, d or i shall be subject to a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed ten thousand dollars and the value of any gift, compensation or benefit received as a result of such violation. Any such individual who knowingly and intentionally violates the provisions of paragraph a, e or g shall be subject to a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed the value of any gift compensation or benefit received as a result of such violation.

ADDITIONAL PROHIBITION

No person who has served as a director, officer or employee of the Water Authority shall after the termination of such service or employment render services before the Water Authority or receive compensation for any such services rendered on behalf of any person, firm, corporation or other entity in relation to any case or transaction with respect to which such person was directly concerned, or participated in, during the period of his or her service or employment with the Water Authority.

EXCEPTIONS

No director, officer or employee of the Water Authority shall be deemed in violation of any of the provisions hereof by reason of holding a municipal position such as, but not limited to, Supervisor, Councilperson, Mayor, Trustee, Administrator, Town Attorney or Village Attorney for any of the jurisdictions within the Water Authority of Western Nassau County District and such individual shall not be prohibited from appearing before the Water Authority and

expressing his or her official position on any issue, notwithstanding the prohibitions of the foregoing paragraph.

DISCLOSURE

Any director, officer or employee who has, will have, or later acquires an interest in or whose spouse or child has, will have, or later acquires an interest in any actual or proposed contract, purchase agreement, lease agreement, or other agreement, including oral agreement with the Authority, shall publicly disclose the nature and extent of such interest in writing to his or her immediate supervisor and to the Board of Directors as soon as he or she has knowledge of such actual or prospective interest. Such written disclosure shall be made part of and set forth in the official record of the proceedings of the Board.

IMPLEMENTATION OF CODE OF ETHICS

This Code of Ethics shall be provided to all directors, officers and employees upon commencement of employment and shall be reviewed annually and shall be

- (a) distributed to every director, officer and employee of the Water Authority;
- (b) posted publicly and conspicuously in the main office of the Water Authority;
- (c) posted on the Water Authority's website; and
- (d) maintained as a record available for public inspection, without a FOIL request.