

TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION
P.O. Box 12070, Austin, Texas 78711-2070
(512) 463-5800

Paul W. Hobby, Chair
Chase Untermeyer, Vice Chair
Hugh C. Akin
Jim Clancy

Wilhelmina Delco
Tom Harrison
Bob Long
Tom Ramsay

AGENDA

Date and Time:	10:30 a.m., Friday, February 13, 2015
Location:	Room E1.010, Capitol Extension, Austin, Texas

1. Call to order; roll call.
2. Communication to the Commission from the public.
3. Approve minutes for the following meetings:
 - o Workshop on New Electronic Filing System – December 2, 2014;
 - o Executive session (discussion of pending lawsuits) – December 2, 2014;
 - o AM public meeting – December 2, 2014; and
 - o PM public meeting – December 2, 2014.
4. Report on the San Antonio Training Symposium.
5. Briefing and discussion of ethics legislation in the 2015 legislative session, including status of Ethics Commission legislative recommendations.

ADVISORY OPINIONS

Discussion and possible action in response to the following Advisory Opinion Requests:

6. Discussion of Opinion Request AOR-592: Whether a legislator may receive, donate to charity, or otherwise attribute to out-of-pocket expenses the proceeds from certain book sales.

This opinion request construes Section 571.001 of the Government Code, Section 251.001(5) of the Election Code, and Sections 36.07, 36.08, and 36.10 of the Penal Code.

For more information, contact Natalia Luna Ashley, Executive Director, at (512) 463-5800.

7. Discussion of Opinion Request AOR-593: Whether a current member of the Texas Legislature may use political contributions to pay the mandatory monthly assessments adopted by the owners' association of an Austin residence owned by the Legislator who does not ordinarily reside in Travis County.

This opinion request construes Section 253.035 of the Election Code.

RULEMAKING

8. Public discussion and possible action on the adoption or proposal and publication in the Texas Register of an amendment to Texas Ethics Commission Rules § 50.1 (Legislative Per Diem) relating to the legislative per diem required to be set under Article III, Section 24a, of the Texas Constitution.
9. Public discussion and possible action on the adoption or proposal and publication in the Texas Register of an amendment to Texas Ethics Commission Rules § 18.23 (Administrative Waiver of Fine).
10. Public discussion and possible action on the adoption or proposal and publication in the Texas Register of an amendment to Texas Ethics Commission Rules § 6.1 (Definitions) to add a definition of the phrase "first responder."
11. Public discussion and possible action on the adoption or proposal and publication in the Texas Register of new Texas Ethics Commission Rules §§ 18.24 (General Guidelines for Other Administrative Waiver or Reduction of Fine), 18.25 (Administrative Waiver or Reduction of Fine: Report Type I), and 18.26 (Administrative Waiver or Reduction of Fine: Report Type II).
12. Public discussion and possible action on the proposal and publication in the Texas Register of an amendment to Texas Ethics Commission Rules § 6.5 (Authority To Adopt Rules) relating to the Commission's authority to adopt rules.
13. Public discussion and possible action on the proposal and publication in the Texas Register of an amendment to Section 251.001(7) of the Election Code regarding the definition of campaign expenditure.
14. Briefing, discussion, and possible action to waive or reduce late-filing penalties in connection with certain corrected reports or to determine whether certain corrected reports as originally filed substantially complied with the applicable law for the following individuals:

For more information, contact Natalia Luna Ashley, Executive Director, at (512) 463-5800.

Patricia P. 'Pat' Baig
Joe Bernal
Edward L. 'Eddie' Bravenec
Stephen K. 'Steve' Brown, II
Cindy G. Burkett
Robert G. Button
Elijah I. Casas
James Coles
Linda J. Curtis
John P. Cyrier
Sarah M. Davis
Denise Frank
Gary W. Gates, Jr.

John F. Gay
Stephen J. Gilles
Pamela Greenroyd
Delwin Jones
Karl G. Kinsel
Rita Lucido
Marisa Marquez
Michael R. 'Mike' Martinez
Diana McIver
Jose Menendez
Thomas C. Merritt
Leslie Midgley
Mary Ann G. Perez

James I. Reaves
Augustin 'Augie' Rivera, Jr.
Martina Salinas
James C. Shaw
Joseph O. Slovacek
Allan R. Sutherlin
Vincent Tallman
Tony D. Tinderholt
Marquis C. Williams
Karen S. Witte
Lydia Wylie

15. Comments by the Executive Director.
16. Comments by the Commissioners.
17. Adjourn.

CERTIFICATION: I certify that I have reviewed this document and that it conforms to all applicable Texas Register filing requirements.

Certifying Official & Agency Liaison: Natalia Luna Ashley,
Executive Director

NOTICE: Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, an individual with a disability must have an equal opportunity for effective communication and participation in public meetings. Upon request, the Texas Ethics Commission will provide auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the deaf and hearing impaired, readers, and large print or Braille documents. In determining the type of auxiliary aid or service, the Commission will give primary consideration to the individual's request. Those requesting auxiliary aids or services should notify Margie Castellanos at (512) 463-5800 or RELAY Texas at (800) 735-2989 two days before this meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Please also contact Ms. Castellanos if you need assistance in having English translated into Spanish.