



ETHICS COMMISSION  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

GREG FISCHER  
MAYOR

**Louisville/Jefferson County  
Metro Government  
Ethics Commission**

**Annual Report  
July 2014-June 2015**

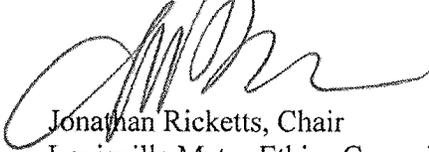
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**To Mayor Greg Fischer and the Louisville Metro Council**

The members of the Louisville Metro Ethics Commission respectfully present the fifth Annual Report on the activities of the Metro Ethics Commission in Fiscal Year 2015.

Respectfully submitted



Jonathan Ricketts, Chair  
Louisville Metro Ethics Commission

Ms Thelma Clemons  
Mr. Terry Conway  
Mr. Skip Daleure

Ms. Susan Rhodes  
Ms. Vickie Tabler  
Ms. Enid Trucios-Haynes

## **Introduction**

Fiscal Year 2014-2015 was an exceptionally quiet year for the Ethics Commission, so quiet that the Commission has not had many reasons to meet.

While there are several circumstances surrounding the lack of activity, the single most important reason is the amendment of the Ethics Ordinance to allow for administrative review of complaints prior to filing. The Commission's administrative staff now rejects complaints that do not conform to the requirements of the Ordinance and returns them to the complainant. These defective complaints no longer go to the Commission for dismissal, and are not retained in the Commission's official records.

This year four (4) complaints were rejected, none of which were corrected and resubmitted. Last year two (2) were rejected, so it seems the use of administrative review is working well.

## **TRAINING OF METRO OFFICERS AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES**

The Commission's administrative staff keeps records of all participation in training sessions, but Metro Government Human Resources Training Division, on behalf of the Commission, conducts the training.

In addition to tracking compliance with training requirements, the Commission staff also monitors the filing of financial disclosure statements. The Ethics Ordinance has been amended to require that all financial disclosures are due by April 30 of each year.

The Commission has not encountered any significant problems in obtaining compliance from Metro officials with training and disclosure requirements.

## **MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION**

The Commission established its regular meeting date as the third Thursday of each month. The Commission met in four (4) regularly scheduled meetings, and no member has been absent without excuse from more than two (2) meetings.

The meetings dates of the Commission during FY2014-2015 were as follows:

July 17, 2014  
September 18, 2014  
November 25, 2014- Special Meeting  
January 22, 2015

## **OPINIONS**

Advisory opinions are requested of the Commission in accordance LMO §21.05(B)(2). A form for requesting these opinions is available on the Commission's web site. Advisory opinions are issued based upon the information provided on the form by the requestor and can be tabled for a future meeting for further inquiry if all facts are not presented or known. Advisory opinions are addressed in open meetings, and the opinion is based upon a decision of a majority of Commission members present at the time the matter is heard. The request, discussion and opinion are reflected in the minutes of the Commission for the month in which the matter is heard.

The Commission has received one (1) request for an advisory opinion – 15-O-001.

## **COMPLAINTS**

The Commission received zero (0) complaints.

## **WEBSITE**

The Commission is cognizant of an on-going need to provide more public outreach and education on the work of the Ethics Commission. The Ethics Commission's website has become the way to provide citizens with pertinent and up-to-date information regarding all of the Commission's functions, its current board members, upcoming meeting dates and cancellations - together with the appropriate agendas and minutes, as well as the necessary forms for filing complaints or requesting advisory opinions. The website will also be a place to post Commission findings, decisions and actions taken in recent hearings in such a way that can easily be searched and accessed by the public.