Memorandum

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CITY SECRETARY DALLAS, TEXAS CITY OF DALLAS

DATE January 23, 2024

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT ETHICS ADVISORY COMMISSION 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

In accordance with Dallas City Code Chapter 8, Section 8-1.1., the Ethics Advisory Commission is submitting its Annual Report of the Commission's activities for your review.

Tom Perkins, Chair

Ethics Advisory Commission

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager Bilierae Johnson, City Secretary



ETHICS ADVISORY COMMISSION

2023

ANNUAL REPORT

ETHICS ADVISORY COMMISSION 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Ethics Advisory Commission is an advisory body having the jurisdiction to review and make findings concerning any alleged violation of Chapter 12A-50 (Code of Ethics) of the Dallas City Code. It can make findings concerning any persons subject to the provisions of the Code, including but not limited to current city officials and employees, former city officials and employees and persons doing business with the city. Complaints must be filed within one year after the date of the alleged violation(s).

The Ethics Advisory Commission has the following powers [12A-50(d)]:

- (1) Establish, amend, and rescind rules and procedures governing its own internal organization and operations in a manner and form consistent with this article.
- (2) Meet as often as necessary to fulfill its responsibilities.
- (3) Request from the city manager through the city council the appointment of such staff as is necessary to carry out the duties of the commission.
- (4) Review and dispose of informations brought by the inspector general.
- (5) Make findings of fact as necessary for the disposition of an information.
- (6) Approve, reject, or modify settlement agreements between the inspector general and respondents.
- (7) Review invoices submitted by outside council and determine whether the legal fees and costs are reasonable and necessary in accordance with Section 12A-48(b).
- (8) Make notifications and extend deadlines within the jurisdiction of the ethics advisory commission.
- (9) Advise and make recommendations to the city council concerning the city's ethics code and ethics policies.
- (10) Make determinations that complaints are vexatious, make findings of facts, and sanction persons who are deemed vexatious complainants.
- (10) Such other powers as are specifically granted in this chapter or by the city council.

[Dallas City Code, Chapter 12A, Section 50]

ETHICS ADVISORY COMMISSION MEMBERS

Chapter 12A (Code of Ethics) was amended by City Council on December 8, 2021 by Ordinance 32072, changing the composition of the Ethics Advisory Commission from seven members to 15 members appointed by the city council as a whole [12A-49(a)].

Current Members	Position	Member as of	Current Status	Terms Served
Thomas Perkins, Jr., Chair	15	9/27/19	Reappointed 10/25/23	2
VACANT	1	-	-	-
VACANT	2	-	-	-
VACANT	3	-	-	-
Juan Garcia	4	8/16/22	Reappointed 9/27/23	2
Grant K. Schmidt	5	2/12/20	Holdover 9/22/2021	1
Nicholas Rodriguez	6	10/12/21	Reappointed 9/6/23	2
VACANT	7	-	-	-
VACANT	8	-	-	-
Jennifer Stobaugh	9	6/28/22	Reappointed 9/27/23	2
Sarah Raggio	10	10/20/23	Appointed 9/27/23	1
Susan C. Bowman	11	8/10/22	Reappointed 8/23/23	2
Howard Rubin	12	9/12/22	Reappointed 9/27/23	2
Andres Villareal	13	4/10/23	Reappointed 9/20/23	1
Jadd Masso	14	4/10/23	Holdover 4/05/23	0

OTHER COMMISSIONERS SERVING IN 2022

Commissioner	Position	Original Appointment Date	Current Status
Timothy E. Powers	4	9/30/19	Resigned 9/30/23
Pam Gerber	7	11/06/15	Term Ended 9/30/23
Raha Assadi	3	8/17/21	Forfeited 10/17/23

2023 ETHICS ADVISORY COMMISSION COMMISSIONER ATTENDANCE LOG

2023 MEETING DATES	PLACE	1/17/2023 REGULAR MEETING	4/18/2023 REGULAR MEETING	7/18/2023 REGULAR MEETING	7/25/2023 SPECIAL MEETING	10/17/2023 REGULAR MEETING
2023 MEETING DATES	PLACE					
Nicholas Rodriguez	01	Р	Α	CANCELLED	Α	Р
Thomas Perkins	02	Р	Α	CANCELLED	Р	Р
Raha Assadi	03	Α	Α	CANCELLED	Α	Α
VACANT (since 9/30/23)	04	Р	Р	CANCELLED	Р	V
Grant Schmidt	05	Р	Р	CANCELLED	Р	Р
Juan Garcia (appointed 8/10/22)	06	Р	Α	CANCELLED	Α	Р
VACANT (since 9/6/23)	07	Р	Р	CANCELLED	Р	V
VACANT	08	V	V	CANCELLED	Р	V
Jennifer Stobaugh (appointed 6/15/22)	09	Р	Р	CANCELLED	Р	Р
Sarah Raggio (appointed 9/27/23)	10	V	V	CANCELLED	Р	Α
Susan Bowman (appointed 8/03/22)	11	Р	Р	CANCELLED	Р	Α
Howard Rubin (appointed 8/10/22)	12	Р	Р	CANCELLED	Р	Α
Andy Villareal (appointed 4/05/23)	13	V	Р	CANCELLED	V	Р
Jadd Masso (appointed 4/05/23)	14	V	Р	CANCELLED	V	Α
VACANT	15	V	V	CANCELLED	V	V

LEGEND: A=ABSENT, P=PRESENT, PV=PRESENT VIRTUALLY, V=VACANT, T=TERM ENDED, R=REPLACED/RESIGNED

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Complaint Activity:

The Ethics Advisory Commission met as a body four times this year (see Tab 2). One complaint has been heard by the Commission.

Ethics Advisory Commission Ad Hoc Committee:

On July 25, 2023, the Ethics Advisory Commission appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to review and suggest any changes to the Ethics Advisory Commission (EAC) Rules of Procedures. The Ad Hoc Committee collaborated with the City Attorneys' Office and held meetings on August 21, 2023, and September 18, 2023.

The Ad Hoc Committee recommended presenting the proposed amendments to the full Ethics Advisory Commission for approval on October 17, 2023.

A resolution was presented and approved at the December 13, 2023, City Council Meeting, acknowledging receipt of the Ethics Advisory Commission amended Rules of Procedure adopted by the Commission on October 17, 2023.

Office of Inspector General:

Inspector General Bart Bevers met with the Commission at each meeting to provide goals and expectations of the office.

Future Goals:

The Ethics Advisory Commission will continue to emphasize education and training as integral parts to an effective city ethics program as a means of achieving an ethical climate. The Ethics Advisory Commission will also continue to identify and explore avenues for the promotion of a healthy ethical culture throughout city government.

COMPLAINANT	RESPONDENT(S)	DATE HEARD	STATUS/OUTCOME
T-marking	h	5/18/23	5/18/23 the Evidentiary Panel met and accepted the request of a continuance by the respondent's legal counsel, Kevin B. Wiggins.

COMPLAINTS ADDRESSED

			5/10/23	accepted the request of a continuance by the respondent's legal counsel, Kevin B. Wiggins.
4/21/23	Terrance Perkins; Inspector General's Office	Juan Gamez, Crew Leader - DWU	6/26/23	The Evidentiary Hearing continued on 6/26/23. Based on the evidence presented, the EAC found that Mr. Gamez violated city codes 12A-3, 12A-4(a)(4), and 12A4(a)(5). The panel recommends the council impose a reprimand and a referral for damages or injunction.
9/13/23	Inspector General's Office	Anthony Toliver, Supervisor - Sanitation	11/09/23	11/7/23, a settlement was reached between the Respondent and the Inspector General.
12/13/23	Inspector General's Office	Alandrea Gormer	2/22/24	

DATE

FILED