

FLUVANNA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' CODE OF ETHICS

Recognizing that persons holding a position of public trust are under constant observation, and recognizing that maintaining the integrity and dignity of public office is essential for securing a high level of public confidence in our institutions of government, each member of the Board of Supervisors pledges to aspire to the following ethical standards:

- 1. Actively promote public confidence in county government through our actions.
- 2. Promote decisions that serve the public interest and promote the greatest public good.
- 3. Seek to find and use the most equitable, efficient, effective and economical means for getting tasks accomplished.
- 4. Adopt policies and programs that support the rights and recognize the needs of all citizens regardless of race, sex, age, religion, creed, country of origin or handicapping conditions.
- 5. Recognize and support the public's right to know the public's business.
- 6. Involve citizens in the decision making process and welcome divergent points of view.
- 7. Respond to the public in ways that are complete, clear and easy to understand.
- 8. Maintain a respectful attitude toward colleagues, County staff, and citizens during meetings, discussions, and deliberations, and allow sufficient opportunity for them to present their views and perspectives.
- 9. Be a good listener, carefully considering all opinions and points of view.
- 10. Respect and protect privileged or otherwise confidential information (e.g., personnel matters, litigation).
- 11. Be informed on the background on issues before board meetings.
- 12. Work in partnership with other governmental agencies, political subdivisions, and organizations to further the interest of the county.
- 13. Carefully guard against conflict of interest or its appearance in our actions or decisions.
- 14. Avoid outside interests that will interfere or conflict with the public's best interest.
- 15. Do not accept gifts, services, or any object of value from any source offered to influence a decision.
- 16. Maintain loyalty to the highest moral principles and to the people of Fluvanna County.
- 17. Comply with all laws and regulations applicable to an elected official and those governing the conduct of meetings.
- 18. Never use any information gained confidentially in the performance of governmental duties as a means of making private profit.
- 19. Expose through appropriate means and channels, corruption, misconduct, or neglect of duty when discovered.
- 20. Recognize that interaction with the media is a vital link in maintaining good communication with the public.
- 21. Pledge to honor and uphold these principles, ever conscious that public office is a public trust.