



**Palm Beach County  
Commission on Ethics**

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# News Release

For Immediate Release

Contact:

March 6, 2015

Steven P. Cullen, Executive Director

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## Summary of Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics Meeting Held on March 5, 2015

The Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics (COE) took the following actions at its monthly public meeting held on March 5, 2015.

Two complaints, C15-001 and C15-002, were heard in executive session. One complaint, C15-005, was heard during the public meeting. All documents pertaining to these complaints are published on the COE website at <http://www.palmbeachcountyetics.com/complaints.htm>.

**C15-001:** Respondent and advocate entered into a negotiated settlement wherein respondent admitted violating the Gift law section of the Code of Ethics by knowingly accepting a gift from a person that he knows, or should know, is a lobbyist who lobbies Palm Beach County. The COE approved the negotiated settlement and dismissed the case with a Letter of Instruction finding that the violation was inadvertent, unintentional, or unsubstantial.

**C15-002:** Respondent and advocate entered into a negotiated settlement wherein respondent admitted violating the Gift law section of the Code of Ethics by giving a gift to a person who he knows is an official of Palm Beach County. The COE approved the negotiated settlement and dismissed the case with a Letter of Instruction finding that the violation was inadvertent.

**C15-005:** Respondent and advocate entered into a negotiated settlement wherein respondent admitted violating the Gift law section of the Code of Ethics by failing to file with the COE a copy of each State of Florida Quarterly Gift Disclosure form that she filed with the state in 2012, 2013, and 2014. The COE approved the negotiated settlement and dismissed the case with a Letter of Instruction finding that the violation was inadvertent and unintentional.

One advisory opinion was approved. The full opinion is published and available at:

<http://www.palmbeachcountyetics.com/opinions.htm>

**RQO 15-006:** A Palm Beach County employee asked if the Palm Beach County Post-Employment Ordinance placed any restrictions on him if he were to leave county employment and seek employment or a contract with another public entity or with a private company or organization.

**The COE opined as follows:** The Post-Employment Ordinance would not apply to him because he is not a county commissioner, a Level 1 employee, or a Level 2 employee. The Post-Employment Ordinance prohibits individuals who work in County Administration and in management-level positions, specifically county commissioners, Level 1 employees, and Level 2 employees, from representing anyone other than the county or another public entity for certain time periods.

A detailed explanation of all agenda items is available at

<http://www.palmbeachcountyetics.com/meetings.htm>.

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