



*Honesty - Integrity - Character*

**Palm Beach County  
Commission on Ethics**

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# News Release

For immediate release:  
Contact:

October 4, 2018  
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## Summary of Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics Meeting Held on October 4, 2018

The Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics (COE) took the following actions at its monthly public meeting held on October 4, 2018.

One advisory opinion was approved. The full opinion is published and available at:  
<http://www.palmbeachcountyethics.com/opinions.htm>.

**RQO 18-015:** A municipal police officer asked if it would violate the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics if he serves on the municipality's Police Pension Board when he may vote on items that will affect his pension benefits.

**The COE opined as follows:** Because his appointment to the board is required by municipal ordinance and by Florida statutes, he will only have a voting conflict if there are circumstances unique to him as the voting official which would enable him to gain (or lose) more than the other members of the class vested or those who will become vested in the municipality's Police Pension. If such a circumstance arises, he must abstain from both voting and participating in the matter, publicly disclose the nature of the conflict, file a State of Florida Conflict Form (Form 8B), and submit a copy of the conflict form to the COE. However, where a vote by him would affect all members of the class equally, no voting conflict would exist.

A detailed explanation of all agenda items is available at  
<http://www.palmbeachcountyethics.com/meetings.htm>.

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