



Honesty - Integrity - Character

**Palm Beach County
Commission on Ethics**

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News Release

For immediate release:

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March 4, 2021

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Summary of Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics Meeting Held on March 4, 2021

The Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics (COE) took the following actions at its monthly public meeting held on March 4, 2021.

The Executive Director updated the COE on the actions of the Review Committee at its February 25, 2021 meeting.

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

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

RQO 21-001: A city of Delray Beach employee asked (1) if the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics (code) prohibits city employees, who are recognized as employee of the month, from accepting gift cards as a part of that award if the gift cards are donated by a civic organization, and (2) if the code prohibits employees of the Delray Beach Police Department (DBPD) from accepting gift cards from a national auto parts corporation to provide to drivers as part of a traffic selective enforcement program, when neither the civic organization nor the national auto parts corporation are a city vendor or a lobbyist or principal or employer of a lobbyist who lobbies the city?

The COE opined as follows: The code does not prohibit city employees from accepting the gift cards as a part of their award for professional or civic achievement, nor does it prohibit the DBPD from accepting gift cards from a national auto parts corporation when these gift cards are offered for use solely by the municipality for a public purpose.

A detailed explanation of all agenda items is available at

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

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