



Honesty - Integrity - Character

**Palm Beach County
Commission on Ethics**

The Historic 1916 Courthouse
300 N. Dixie Hwy, Suite 450
West Palm Beach, FL 33401
561.355.1915
FAX: 561.355.1904
Hotline: 877.766.5920
E-mail:

ethics@palmbeachcountyetics.com

Commissioners

Rodney G. Romano, Chair
Michael H. Kugler, Vice Chair
Carol E. A. DeGraffenreidt
Peter L. Cruise
Vacant

Executive Director

Christie E. Kelley

General Counsel

Vacant

Intake & Compliance Manager

Gina A. Levesque

Investigator

Abigail Irizarry

Investigator

Mark A. Higgs

News Release

For immediate release:
Contact:

April 7, 2022
Christie E. Kelley, Executive Director
(561) 355-1937

Summary of Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics Meeting Held on April 7, 2022

The Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics (COE) took the following action at its monthly public meeting held on April 7, 2022.

One complaint was heard in executive session. The complete file is on the COE website at: <http://www.palmbeachcountyetics.com/complaints.htm>.

C22-002: After considering the investigative report, probable cause recommendation, and statements by the COE advocate and Respondent, the COE found that probable cause did not exist and dismissed the matter.

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

RQO 22-004: A member of the Lake Worth Beach Historic Resources Preservation Board (HRPB) asked if the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics (Code) prohibits him from participating in discussions or voting on matters before the HRPB regarding the renovation and new construction at the Gulfstream Hotel, when he owns a unit in a condominium within 400 feet of the hotel.

The COE opined as follows: Because the area in the immediate vicinity of the Gulfstream Hotel consists of approximately 115 property owners, his interest in the area is less than one percent. There is also nothing in the facts that currently show that the location of his property provides a unique circumstance wherein his personal gain or loss by this vote would exceed significantly that of other property owners in the immediate vicinity of the Gulfstream Hotel. Therefore, because the economic gain or loss from the Gulfstream Hotel project affects a class large enough so as to remove any prohibited individual financial benefit, he is not prohibited from voting on or participating in discussions on the renovation and new construction plans for the hotel.

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

###