

**OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES
OF THE
PALM BEACH COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS (COE)
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

AUGUST 7, 2025

**THURSDAY
1:30 P.M.**

**COMMISSION CHAMBERS
WEISMAN GOVERNMENTAL CENTER**

MEMBERS:

Michael S. Kridel, Chair
Peter L. Cruise, Vice Chair
Michael H. Kugler
Rodney G. Romano
Kristin A. Vara Garcia

COMMISSION ON ETHICS STAFF PRESENT:

Rhonda Giger, General Counsel
Abigail Irizarry, COE Investigator II
Christie E. Kelley, COE Director III
Gina A. Levesque, COE Intake and Compliance Manager
S. Lizbeth Martin, Education and Communications Manager

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE STAFF PRESENT:

Danielle Freeman, Deputy Clerk
Karla Perez, Board Meetings Specialist

I. Call to Order

The chair called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The commissioners recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Roll Call

Present: Chair Kridel, Vice Chair Cruise, and Commissioner Romano

Absent: Commissioner Kugler and Commissioner Vara-Garcia

IV. Introductory Remarks

No comments were made.

V. Approval of Minutes from July 10, 2025

MOTION to approve the minutes. Motion by Vice Chair Cruise, seconded by Commissioner Romano, and carried 3-0.

VI. Processed Advisory Opinions (Consent Agenda)

a. RQO 25-007

MOTION to approve the consent agenda. Motion by Vice Chair Cruise, seconded by Commissioner Romano, and carried 3-0.

VII. Items Pulled from Consent Agenda

No items were pulled from the consent agenda.

VIII. Executive Director Comments

Ms. Kelley reported the following updates:

1.

In July, staff conducted presentations at the meetings of the Delray Beach Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and the City of Riviera Beach.

2.

Staff conducted ethics training courses for employees at the Town of Lake Park and the Town of Lake Clarke Shores.

3.

Staff was in the process of working on a new ethics training video as well as updating the COE's Rules of Procedures which would be brought to the committee for approval.

4.

Executive Director Richard Radcliffe was retiring at the end of the month, and Ms. Kelley thanked him for his service and partnership with the COE over the years.

IX. Commission Comments

The commissioners thanked Mr. Radcliffe for his years of service in Palm Beach County.

The commissioners expressed gratitude to Ms. Levesque for her work on the Ethics Everywhere presentation.

Ms. Levesque thanked staff and John Rouse from Public Affairs for their help with the Ethics Everywhere presentation.

X. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

XI. Adjournment

MOTION to adjourn. Motion by Commissioner Romano, seconded by Vice Chair Cruise, and carried 3-0.

At 1:36 p.m., the chair declared the meeting adjourned.

APPROVED:



Chair/Vice Chair

