



Honesty - Integrity - Character

**Palm Beach County
Commission on Ethics**

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News Release

For immediate release:
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February 7, 2025
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Summary of Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics Meeting Held on February 6, 2025

The Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics (COE) took the following action at its monthly public meeting held on February 6, 2025.

The COE approved one advisory opinion. The full opinion will be available on the COE's website within seven days at: <https://www.palmbeachcountyethics.com/coepub/>.

RQO 25-002: An employee asked if the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics (Code) would prohibit him from working and/or advancing within the same section as a co-worker who will soon be marrying into his family when the employee/relative falls within his chain of command.

The COE opined as follows: Generally, the anti-nepotism section of the Code does not preclude the employment or advancement of persons who are currently employed with the same governmental agency when the new familial relationship occurs. It also does not require the discharge of a person who becomes a relative after employment is established. As long as the guidance in this opinion is carefully followed, including exercising no control over the relevant promotion or employment, and abstaining from advocating for a promotion in the future, there is no prohibition from remaining or advancing within the section.

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

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