



Honesty - Integrity - Character

**Palm Beach County
Commission on Ethics**

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News Release

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

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

Commissioner Michael Kridel was elected as Chair for the COE, and Commissioner Peter Cruise was elected as Vice-Chair. They will serve one-year terms.

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 25-003: An employee asked if the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics (Code) would prohibit veterinarians who are employed with Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control from accepting outside employment with other providers of low cost spay and neuter programs when these outside employers are Palm Beach County vendors?

The COE opined as follows: Generally, the Code prohibits public employees from accepting concurrent employment, directly or indirectly, with any "outside employer" that is a vendor of their public employer unless certain criteria are satisfied. However, considering the facts as presented, the scenario here is one of first impression for the COE, and a limited exception based on the sole source provider is being implemented in this specific situation.

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

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