

ETHICS COMMISSION

AGENCY MISSION STATEMENT:

The Ethics Commission is a constitutional state agency which promotes Oklahoma citizens' confidence in state government by:

1. Promulgating rules of ethical conduct for state officers and employees;
2. Promulgating rules of ethical conduct for state candidate and issue campaigns;
3. Providing assistance in and monitoring the disclosure of campaign financing for state and local candidates and committees, personal financial disclosure for state and county officers/employees, and registration and reporting by lobbyists;
4. Providing assistance in and monitoring the political activity and official conduct of state officers/employees in order to prevent conflicts of interest;
5. Serving as the repository and making available for public inspection and copying all required disclosure documents; and
6. Issuing opinions on and investigating and/or prosecuting alleged violations of its rules.

This mission statement was adopted by the Ethics Commission and its executive director, Marilyn Hughes, in 1991, when the constitutional commission was formed.

LEAD ADMINISTRATOR:

Here the name, title and contact information for the lead administrative person should be listed.

Lee Slater, Executive Director
405-521-3451

GOVERNANCE:

The agency is headed by an executive director employed by the Ethics Commission pursuant to Article 29 Section 2(C).

The Ethics Commission consists of five (5) members who serve for five years as follows:

- One member appointed by the governor
- One member appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the State Senate
- One member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives
- One member appointed by the Attorney General
- One member appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court

Current commission members are:

Karen Long – Chair
Thomas Walker – Vice Chair
Robert McKinney – Commissioner
Jo Pettigrew – Commissioner
John Raley - Commissioner

GOVERNANCE ACCOUNTABILITY:

Oklahoma Senate Committee on Appropriations

2012-13 Performance Report

Please provide copies of the minutes for any Commission/Board meetings the agency has had since July 1, 2010 in electronic format (Only in PDF format) Is there an attendance policy for board members/commissioners? If so, is it being followed?

There is not an attendance policy for commission members.

MODERNIZATION EFFORTS:

Please provide a listing of all government modernization efforts undertaken by the agency since July 1, 2010. Additionally, please provide any authorizing statutory changes that prompted the modernization efforts and whether those efforts have led to cost savings or additional cost burden.

All Rules, Acts, manuals and forms are available on our website;
Email reminder notices are sent to those required to file forms with the Ethics Commission, rather than by regular mail.

IT statute – all of our IT is now provided by the Office of State Finance.

These modernization efforts have led to substantial cost savings.

What steps has the agency taken to cut costs and/or eliminate waste? Are there efforts that have been successful which you believe could serve as a model for other state agencies seeking to keep costs minimal?

As mentioned above, the Ethics Commission now sends notices by email rather than regular mail and we no longer print our Rules, Acts, manuals and forms. In addition, late letters and late fee assessment notices are now sent by regular mail rather than certified mail.

CORE MISSION:

What services are you required to provide which are outside of your core mission? Are any services you provide duplicated or replicated by another agency? Are there services which are core to your mission which you are unable to perform because of requirements to perform non-core services elsewhere?

The services the Ethics Commission provides that are outside our core mission are:
Administration of the Political Subdivisions Ethics Act at the county level;

Lobbyist registration; however, lobbyist registration fees are a source of income to the commission.

None of our services are duplicated or replicated by another agency.

The services that are core to our mission which we are unable to perform because of requirements to perform non-core services elsewhere are:

ETHICS COMMISSION

Investigations and prosecutions are limited due to our small staff and insufficient budget.

PRIVATE ALTERNATIVES:

Are any of the services which are performed by the agency also performed in the private sector in Oklahoma? In other states? Has the agency been approached by any foundation, for-profit or not-for-profit corporation with efforts to privatize some of the functions of the agency?

None of our services are performed by the private sector in Oklahoma. All other states have agencies similar to ours that perform similar functions.

No, the agency has not been approached by any foundation, for-profit or not-for-profit corporation with efforts to privatize some of the functions of the agency.