

Howard County, Maryland

Howard County Ethics Commission

3450 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043
410-313-2100

May 16, 2018

The Honorable Allan Kittleman, County Executive
3430 Courthouse Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

The Honorable Mary Kay Sigaty, Council Chairperson
3430 Courthouse Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Re: Recommended Changes to Ethics Code

Dear Mr. Kittleman and Ms. Sigaty:

Howard County Code §22.203(l) requires the Ethics Commission to forward recommended changes and amendments to the County Council for enactment. Pursuant to its obligation under this section, the Ethics Commission met on May 15, 2018, to review the Boards and Commissions required to file a financial disclosure statement as set forth in HC 22.206 (c).

The Commission considered the functions of each Board/Commission and applied three criteria for determining whether a Board/Commission member should file a financial disclosure statement. The criteria are: 1) whether the duties of the Board/Commission involve a significant public interest; 2) whether the duties involve making recommendations related to financial responsibility or economic interests; and 3) whether the Board/Commission has regulatory authority such as the authority to adjudicate rights through a hearing process or otherwise have the authority to grant or revoke a license.


After review and consideration of the above factors, the Ethics Commission recommends that 22.206 (c) be removed and the following provision be added:

- (c) This section applies to members of the following boards and commissions:
 - (1) Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board;
 - (2) Animal Matters Hearing Board;
 - (3) Board of Appeals;
 - (4) Design Advisory Panel;
 - (5) Ethics Commission;
 - (6) Historic Preservation Commission;
 - (7) Housing and Community Development Board;
 - (8) Housing Commission;
 - (9) Planning Board; and
 - (10) Any other Board or Commission as recommended by the Ethics Commission.

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HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Beverly Heydon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Beverly Heydon
Assistant County Solicitor
Executive Secretary, on behalf of the Howard County
Ethics Commission

cc: Charles Fuller, Esq., Ethics Commission Chair

BH