

CITY OF STAMFORD
Board of Ethics

ANNUAL REPORT

Pursuant to
Section 19-4.E(2) of
The Stamford Municipal Code of Ethics

June 21, 2016

This Annual Report has been prepared by the Board of Ethics of the City of Stamford (the “Board”), and is delivered to the Mayor and the President of the Board of Representatives pursuant to Section 19-4.E(2) of The Stamford Municipal Code of Ethics (the “Code”). It is for the period beginning July 7, 2015 (the date of the Board’s last Annual Report) and ending June 21, 2016 (the “Report Period”).

The Board engaged in the following activities during the Report Period:

1. Advisory Opinions

During the Report Period, the Board received seven requests for and issued five advisory opinions. Most of the requests involved questions of potential conflicts of interest.

2. Formal Complaints

The Board did not receive any ethics complaints this year.

3. Board Members

The Board welcomed two new members, Monica Smyth and Fred Springer. The Board has voted to report the attendance record of each Board member in the Board’s Annual Report, beginning with next year’s report.

4. Administrative Support

Despite numerous requests by the Board chairperson, the Board did not have the benefit of any administrative support this year which created several challenges for the Board. The administrative assistant who had previously been assigned to assist the Board was

relieved of that responsibility without a replacement being assigned, and without the Board being formally advised of this change. We understand that the situation is finally being rectified.

The Board thanks Valerie Pankosky for volunteering to file notices and agenda with the Town Clerk on the Board's behalf in the absence of an assigned staff person.

5. Recommendations

The Board recommends the following steps to promote greater communication and cooperation between the Board of Ethics and other City Boards and agencies:

- a. The Board meet semi-annually with a subcommittee from the Board of Representatives;
- b. The Board meet semi-annually with the Mayor and Corporation Counsel;
- c. Board of Representative Chairperson will disseminate to members of that board all advisory opinions issued by the Board of Ethics;
- d. An employee of the City will post all Board of Ethics advisory opinions and their underlying requests on the Board of Ethics website