

TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION
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Chris Flood, Chair
Patrick W. Mizell, Vice Chair
Randall H. Erben
Sean Gorman

Geanie W. Morrison
Richard S. Schmidt
Joseph O. Slovacek
Mark Strama

MEETING AGENDA

Date and Time: 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, February 11, 2026
Location: Room E1.014, Capitol Extension, Austin, Texas

INFORMATION ON HOW TO VIEW AND/OR PARTICIPATE IN THE ONLINE BROADCAST OF THIS MEETING WILL BE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE ON THE DAY OF THE MEETING HERE:

https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/meetings/meetings_2025-2029.php#2025

1. Call to order; roll call.
2. Discussion and possible action related to outside counsel contracts for certain lawsuits filed against either the Texas Ethics Commission and/or commissioners.
3. Discussion regarding dates for the next quarterly Commission meeting.
4. Approve minutes for the following meetings:
 - o Executive Session – December 10, 2025; and
 - o Public Agenda – December 10, 2025.

RULEMAKING

Rule Adoption

5. Discussion and possible action on the adoption or proposal and publication in the Texas Register regarding re-adoption of Chapter 20 of the TEC rules, related to reporting political contributions and expenditures, including an amendment to § 18.10 (Guidelines for Substantial Compliance for a Corrected/Amended 8-day Pre-election Report) which is affected by this re-adoption.
6. Discussion and possible action on the adoption or proposal and publication in the Texas Register regarding re-adoption of Chapter 34 of the TEC rules, related to regulation of lobbyists.
7. Discussion and possible action regarding the implementation of SB 293 (89R) related to

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the methodology by which the TEC may make equitable adjustments to the dollar amount on which the standard service retirement annuity is computed for the elected class of pension recipients. Possible action includes the adoption or proposal and publication in the Texas Register of 1 Tex. Admin Code § 50.3 regarding the equitable adjustments of pensions.

Rule Publication

8. Discussion and possible action on the proposal and publication in the Texas Register regarding re-adoption of Chapter 16 of the TEC rules, related to facial compliance.
9. Discussion and possible action on the proposal and publication in the Texas Register regarding re-adoption of Chapter 26 of the TEC rules, related to political and legislative advertising.
10. Discussion and possible action on the proposal and publication in the Texas Register regarding re-adoption of Chapter 45 of the TEC rules, related to conflicts of interest.
11. Discussion and possible action on the proposal and publication in the Texas Register regarding re-adoption of Chapter 46 of the TEC rules, related to disclosure of interested parties.
12. Discussion and possible action on the proposal and publication in the Texas Register of new Chapter 7 of the TEC rules, related to contract procedures.
13. Discussion and possible action regarding TEC's comprehensive review of its rules.

ADVISORY OPINIONS

14. Advisory Opinion Request No. AOR-740: Whether asking questions of or requesting a formal written opinion from certain state officials, without suggesting an answer to the questions, would require registration under Chapter 305, Texas Government Code.

This opinion construes Chapter 305 of the Government Code and specifically construes Sections 305.003(a)(3) and 305.030 of the Government Code.

15. Advisory Opinion Request No. AOR-741: Whether a video recorded with students at a charter school is political advertising for the purposes of Sections 255.003 and 255.001 of the Election Code.

This opinion construes Section 255.003 and 255.001 of the Election Code.

16. Advisory Opinion Request No. AOR-742: Whether the revolving door prohibition in Section 572.069 of the Government Code would prohibit a

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former employee of a state agency from accepting certain employment.

This opinion construes Section 572.069 of the Government Code.

17. Advisory Opinion Request No. AOR-744: Whether a tax rate election (“TRE”) flier prepared by a school district (the “district”) is political advertising for the purposes of Section 255.003 of the Election Code.

This opinion construes Section 255.003 of the Election Code.

18. Advisory Opinion Request No. AOR-745: Whether a video constitutes political advertising for the purposes of the Election Code’s prohibition against using public funds for political advertising.

This opinion construes Section 255.003 of the Election Code.

ADMINISTRATIVE WAIVER OF FINES

19. Discussion and possible action on appeals of determinations made under 1 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 18.11, 18.25 and 18.26 relating to administrative waiver or reduction of a civil penalty to an untimely filed report, for the following filers:

Staff Recommendation: Waiver

- A. Alexander, Troy R. (00010227)
- B. Garner, Britt J., Campaign Treasurer, Blue Action Democrats – Southwest Austin (dissolved) (00082469)
- C. Givens-Davis, Amber N. (00069505)
- D. Ivey III, Ben L. (00089429)

Staff Recommendation: Reduction

- E. Bickers, Leland, Campaign Treasurer, Save Austin Now PAC (00085302)
- F. Hunsucker, Michael R. (00053200)
- G. Martin-Lane, Andrea (00069228)
- H. Ticknor, Corey (00087238)

Staff Recommendation: No Further Reduction or Waiver

- I. Hotze, Dr. Steven, Campaign Treasurer, Woodfill of Texas PAC (00088405)

OTHER MATTERS

For more information, contact James Tinley, Executive Director, at (512) 463-5800.

20. Briefing and discussion of actions taken or in-progress to implement move of Texas Ethics Commission from Sam Houston Building to Barbara Jordan Building.
21. Briefing and discussion of various Commission policies, including Alternative Dispute Resolution, Commission policy-making responsibility, contracts and negotiated rulemaking.
22. Adjourn.

CERTIFICATION: I certify that I have reviewed this document and that it conforms to all applicable Texas Register filing requirements. Certifying Official & Agency Liaison: James Tinley, Executive Director.

NOTICE: Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, an individual with a disability must have an equal opportunity for effective communication and participation in public meetings. Upon request, the Texas Ethics Commission will provide auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the deaf and hearing impaired, readers, and large print or Braille documents. In determining the type of auxiliary aid or service, the Commission will give primary consideration to the individual's request. Those requesting auxiliary aids or services should notify Margie Castellanos at (512) 463-5800 or RELAY Texas at (800) 735-2989 two days before this meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Please also contact Ms. Castellanos if you need assistance in having English translated into Spanish.