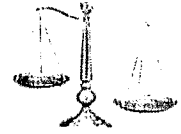




LYSIA H. BOWLING
CITY ATTORNEY



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City of Pensacola City Council
FR: Lysia H. Bowling, City Attorney *243*
DATE: August 3, 2015
SUBJECT: Recommendation that Mayor and City Council require board member appointees to participate in annual ethics training

Standards of conduct for elected and appointed municipal public officers under ethics laws¹ are applicable to all Mayor and City Council board member appointees. Changes to state ethics laws during the 2014 legislative session require only elected municipal officers, not appointed municipal officers, to take a minimum of four hours of ethics training each year, beginning January 1, 2015². Presently, no required ethics training is specifically written into state law, local ordinances or associated bylaws pertaining to board members appointed by Mayor and City Council.

In light of recent confusion concerning what facts and circumstances constitute a voting conflict and how board members should respond if a voting conflict is presented, it is evident that all board member appointees require clarity and education regarding the ethical responsibilities of public office.

It is recommended that Mayor and City Council require board member appointees to participate in ethics training similar to the required annual training for elected municipal officers.

¹Florida Statutes, Chapter 112, Part III, Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees, Section 112.311 et seq. Charter for the City of Pensacola, Section 9.01, Code of Ethics

Pensacola, Florida – Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2-6. Code of Ethics

²Florida Senate Bill 846, ch. 2014-183, s.2