



## THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT BOARD OF ETHICS

Tara H. Jackson  
Acting County Executive

Todd M. Turner  
Executive Director

Charlene Gallion, Member  
Melanie Barr-Brooks, Member  
Kara Hunt, Member  
Jasons Papanikolas, Member

### PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS Board Meeting Minutes March 12, 2025

**Present:** Charlene Gallion, Board Member (Microsoft Teams)  
Melanie Barr-Brooks, Board Member (Microsoft Teams)  
Kara Hunt, Board Member, (Microsoft Teams)  
Jason Papanikolas, Board Member (Microsoft Teams)

Todd M. Turner, Executive Director (Microsoft Teams)  
Bamidele Alexander, Legal Counsel (Microsoft Teams)  
Roslyn Walker, Compliance Officer (Microsoft Teams)  
Chelinda Bullock, Administrative Aide (Microsoft Teams)

Octavia Clapp (New Resident to Prince George's County)  
Alicia McLeod (New Resident to Prince George's County)

**Absent:** Garry Bourke, Investigator

### OPEN SESSION

#### I. OPENING OF MEETING

The Board Chair Melanie Barr-Brooks opened the Board of Ethics ("Board") meeting at approximately 5:05 pm and welcomed all in attendance. There was a quorum present with four (4) Board of Ethics Members ("Board Members") present at the start. The meeting was held virtually using Microsoft Teams.

#### II. GENERAL BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The Agenda for March 12, 2025, was approved, by a vote of 4-0.

The Meeting Minutes for February 12, 2025, was approved with one edit, by a vote of 3-0, and one (1) abstention.

### **III. BOARD CHAIR REPORT**

The Chair welcomed the new board member in attendance.

### **IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

The Executive Director (ED) informed the Board of the following Office of Ethics and Accountability (OEA) compliance activities:

- OEA continues the CY 2024 Financial Disclosure Statements (FDS) Agency/ Board/Commission compliance process and notifications to County Employees/Officials, and Board Members.
- OEA will disseminate three (3) more Public Service Announcements (PSA) to County officials/employees regarding CY2024 Financial Disclosure Statements being available for submission.
- The February 2025 Lobbyist registrations were posted to OEA's website, provided to the Executive and Legislative Branches, and in Board backup.
- The Board was notified the 2025 Lobbyist's Annual registration process is underway; and all 2024 Annual Reports are due January 31, 2025, with forty-four (44) late fee waiver requests or payments to date.

The Executive Director informed the Board of the following items:

- OEA welcomed the new board member in attendance.
- The Board was notified that OEA held an Ethics Training on March 8, 2025, with the Library Board of Trustees, and received one (1) request from the Prince George's County Police Department, scheduled for April 7, 2025.
- OEA submitted a Memo to the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) regarding an update to 2014 Executive Order No. 13-2014 regarding additional FDS required filers (FY 2024/25 OEA Office Goal) – awaiting a response.
- The Board was advised of proposed County Council ethics legislation submitted to the State Ethics Commission for review and will be before the Commission at its March 27th meeting.
- OEA will continue to coordinate with the Office of Community Relations (OCR) regarding attending community events.
- The Board was advised that the FY2026 Proposed Budget will be submitted to the Acting County Executive.
- The Board was advised that the vacant Compliance Analyst Position was approved to post.
- The Board was advised of the new appointee to the Board and a Recognition will be scheduled for the former Board Chair next month.

Finally, the Board was provided the Ethics Advice Table for March 2025, which summarized the informal ethics advice, information requests, and legal advice provided by OEA. Also, the Board was provided with a Case Status Report.

## **V. BOARD HEARING RULES OF PROCEDURES APPROVAL – RESOLUTION 2025-1**

The Board Hearing Procedures – Resolution 2025-1, was approved by a vote 3-0, and one (1) abstention.

## **VI. READING OF WRITTEN STATEMENT FOR CLOSING MEETING UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT**

At 5:31 pm, a motion was made by Board Chair Melanie Barr-Brooks and seconded by Board Member Kara Hunt to close the open portion of the meeting to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosure about a particular proceeding or matter and to consult with legal counsel. The statement was read by Board Chair Barr-Brooks.

The motion was approved by a vote of 4-0. This meeting was closed under General Provisions Art. §3-305(b) for the following reasons: (2) To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals concerning a matter not related to public business, (7) To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice; and (13) To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter.

Those in attendance were as follows:

Charlene Gallion, Board Member (Microsoft Teams)  
Melanie Barr-Brooks, Board Member (Microsoft Teams)  
Kara Hunt, Board Member (Microsoft Teams)  
Jason Papanikolas, Board Member (Microsoft Teams)

Todd M. Turner, Executive Director (Microsoft Teams)  
Bamidele Alexander, Legal Counsel (Microsoft Teams)  
Roslyn Walker, Compliance Officer (Microsoft Teams)  
Chelinda Bullock, Administrative Aide (Microsoft Teams)

## **VII. CLOSED SESSION**

The Board was informed there were no FDS Waivers and Late Payments, FDS Violations, and FDS Settlement Agreements.

### **Formal Advisory Opinions:**

#### **OEA Case #25-0278e**

The Board was informed of a Financial Disclosure Statement (FDS) exemption request by a County employee regarding the annual filing of FDS. By a vote of 3-0, and one (1) abstention, the Board approved the proposed Formal Advisory letter draft.

## **Lobbyists Waiver Requests**

The Board was provided with a Lobbyists Late Fee Waiver chart and reviewed forty-four (44) late fee waiver requests and payments. By a vote of 4-0, approved OEA's recommendations on each.

## **Board Referrals:**

None.

## **Response to Recommendations:**

### **OEA Case #25-0034e**

The Board was provided with an update involving allegations that a Council Member was not a resident of their Council District. In February 2025, the Board determined that issues implicated in the investigation are not subject to the authority of the Prince George's County Code of Ethics. Therefore, this matter falls outside the board's jurisdiction. Agency review initiated.

### **OEA Case #25-0087e**

The Board was provided with an update on the investigation involving allegations of Use of County Resources/Use of Prestige of Office by a County employee engaging in political activity and inappropriate use of printing services without approval. In January 2025, the Board found that there was a reasonable basis for believing a violation had occurred and reserved taking further action for thirty (30) days to allow the agency to respond to the identified ethics violation and Board recommendation(s). The agency response was provided. By a vote of 3-0-1, the Board found there was a reasonable basis to believe a violation of the Prince George's County Code of Ethics had occurred and in lieu of conducting a hearing, the Board accepted the actions taken by the agency as appropriate to address the violation.

### **OEA Case #25-0103e**

The Board was provided with an update on the investigation involving allegations of Conflict of Interest – Secondary Employment by a County holding another position in a municipal government. In November 2024, the Board found that there was a reasonable basis for believing a violation had occurred and reserved taking further action for thirty (30) days to allow the agency to respond to the identified ethics violation and Board recommendation(s). The agency response was provided. By a vote of 3-0-1, the Board found there was a reasonable basis to believe a violation of the Prince George's County Code of Ethics had occurred and in lieu of conducting a hearing, the Board accepted the actions taken by the agency as appropriate to address the violation.

### **OEA Case #25-0159e**

The Board was provided with an update on the investigation involving allegations of a County police officer engaged in political activity in violation of the Code of Ethics by appearing in a political ad. In February 2025, the Board found that there is a reasonable basis to believe a violation of the Prince George's County Code of Ethics and reserved taking further action for

thirty (30) days to allow the agency to respond to the identified ethics violation. Agency review initiated.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

At the conclusion of all business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:28pm. The motion was approved 4-0.

The next meeting of the Board will be Wednesday, April 9, 2025, at 5:00 pm.

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