

Prohibited Conduct

Participating in prohibited conduct constitutes a conflict of interest with the Town.

A. It is in violation of this ordinance for any official of town government to:

(1) In his or her official capacity: approve or vote upon any matter in which he or she or any family member has personal financial interests or quid pro quo, and known conflicts that may exist between the official of town government and his or her family members, the principals and the issue under deliberation.

(2) Knowingly enter into any discussion, testimony, or deliberation without first publicly and for the record, stating all personal financial interests or quid pro quo, and known conflicts that may exist between said official of town government and his or her family members, the principals and the issue under deliberation, as may be known by the official of town government.

(3) Knowingly participate in the conduct of business of the town without disclosing all known conflicts of interest.

(4) Knowingly using town property or labor for personal use.

(5) Knowingly use town property or labor to unfairly influence the political cause of any candidate for public office or any political party. Nothing in the foregoing sentence shall prevent political candidates or parties from holding public meetings on town owned property or prevent an official of town government from exercising and carrying out the responsibilities and obligations of his or her office.

(6) Use any proprietary information acquired through or by virtue of his or her official position for his or her pecuniary benefit or for the pecuniary benefit of any other person or business. The foregoing does not apply to information available to the general public.

(7) Otherwise than provided by law for the proper discharge of his or her official duties, directly or indirectly request or receive any compensation from anyone other than the town in relation to any particular matter in which the town is a party or has a direct and substantial interest.

(8) Otherwise than provided by law for the proper discharge of his or her official duties directly promise or offer compensation as referred to in this ordinance.

(9) Knowingly accept a gift with a value in excess of ten dollars (\$10.00), or allow acceptance of such a gift by a family member from any individual, group, or corporation knowingly dealing with an area of town government in which the official of town government has an interest or jurisdiction. The foregoing does not apply to gifts from family members.

(10) Knowingly give false information concerning interests, and known conflicts.

(11) Knowingly sign a purchase order where there is a pecuniary interest with the vendor(s) or supplier(s).

(12) Knowingly fail to cooperate with the Conflict of Interest Committee, or other authorized investigating authority – the Board of Selectmen or Town Manager, in the investigation of any complaint alleging a violation of the tenets of this ordinance. However, this does not apply to someone who chooses to take the fifth amendment to avoid incriminating themselves.

Prohibited Conduct - Continued:

(13) Knowingly, without merit or cause, file a petition alleging a violation of this Ordinance, to cause harm to an Official's reputation.

B. Officials of Town Government, whose compensation is paid in whole or in part from the town treasury, shall not appear in his or her official capacity on behalf of a private interest before any town board. Selectmen, however, may appear without compensation or favor, on behalf of constituents or in the performance of public or civic obligations.

C. Officials of town government, whose compensation is paid in whole or in part from the town treasury, shall not represent private interests, other than his or her own, in any actions or proceedings against the interest of the town in any litigation to which the town is a party.

Petition Process

The person(s) submitting a petition to the Conflict of Interest Committee alleging a violation of the Town of Plaistow Conflict of Interest Ordinance, adopted March 12, 2002, must complete a Petition of Alleged Violation form and must mail it to the PO Box indicated on the form. If the violation is within the jurisdiction of the Committee's authority, the Petitioner and the Respondent shall be notified to meet with the Conflict of Interest Committee at a non-public meeting. The petitioner and or the respondent will be requested to attend this meeting and will be required to provide evidence and/or pertinent information relating to the alleged violation(s).

It is in violation of the Town of Plaistow Conflict of Interest Ordinance, to knowingly, without merit or cause, file a petition alleging a violation of this Ordinance to cause harm to an Official's reputation.

**Available Information:
Conflict of Interest Ordinance
COI Committee Bylaws
Petition of Alleged Violation/s form
Tri-Fold of Prohibited Conduct**



Town of Plaistow, NH Conflict of Interest Ordinance:

Prohibited Conduct

**Town of Plaistow
Conflict of Interest Committee
PO Box 903, Plaistow, NH 03865
Meet 3rd Tues. 7PM, Plaistow Public Library**

http://www.plaistow.com/Pages/PlaistowNH_BComm/conflict

coiopc-tri-fold Est.10/17/2013