

# Ethics Commission

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Ethics Commission is to enforce the Montgomery County Code of Ethics by ensuring the ethical conduct of individuals who serve the County government.

## BUDGET OVERVIEW

The total approved FY06 Operating Budget for the Ethics Commission is \$210,270, an increase of \$21,410 or 11.3 percent from the FY05 Approved Budget of \$188,860. Personnel Costs comprise 84.8 percent of the budget for two full-time positions for two workyears. Operating Expenses account for the remaining 15.2 percent of the FY06 budget.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- ❖ *The web based Financial Disclosure System streamlined the filing process by distributing forms in a timely manner, ensuring proper completion, and routing the form to the appropriate reviewer.*
- ❖ *The Ethics Commission's web site and automated library made current and past advisory opinions available to the public.*

## PROGRAM CONTACTS

Contact Barbara McNally of the Ethics Commission at 240.777.6670 or Alexandra Shabelski of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.777.2785 for more information regarding this department's operating budget.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

### Ethics Program Compliance

The Ethics Commission administers the County's Code of Ethics by encouraging and enforcing compliance and ensuring the ethical conduct of employees of the Executive Branch, County Council, selected Boards and Commissions, the Revenue Authority, Housing Opportunities Commission, Fire Corporations, and Rescue Squads. The Commission also serves in an advisory capacity to the Washington Suburban Transit Commission. The compliance goal is achieved through the following activities:

**Education** – the Ethics Commission provides ethics education and training for County officials and employees and provides computer access to all reporting forms required under the Ethics law.

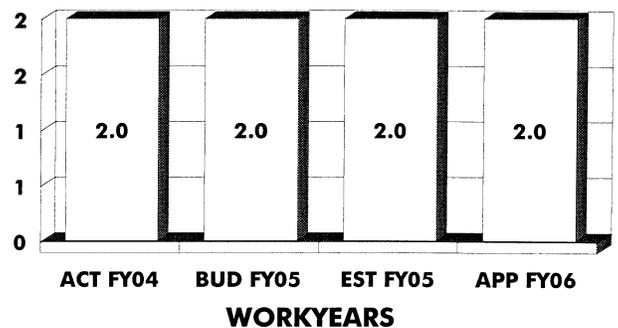
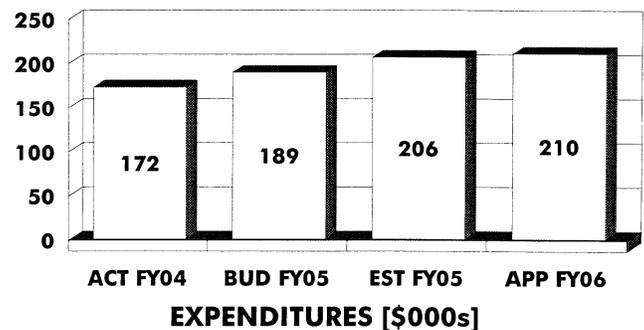
**Financial Disclosure** – the Ethics law requires specific public officials and employees to disclose financial information to avoid potential conflicts of interest.

**Lobbying Registration** – requires lobbyists to register and report

## Program Summary

	Expenditures	WYs
Ethics Program Compliance	210,270	2.0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>210,270</b>	<b>2.0</b>

## Trends



lobbying activities involving the County government when income or expenditures exceed \$500.

Outside Employment – requires employees and officials to obtain approval from the Commission to be engaged in outside employment.

**FY06 Changes**

	Expenditures	WYs
<b>FY05 Approved</b>	<b>188,860</b>	<b>2.0</b>
<b>FY06 Approved</b>	<b>210,270</b>	<b>2.0</b>

**BUDGET SUMMARY**

	Actual FY04	Budget FY05	Estimated FY05	Approved FY06	% Chg Bud/App
<b>COUNTY GENERAL FUND</b>					
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
Salaries and Wages	98,792	120,950	120,210	127,070	5.1%
Employee Benefits	37,182	48,840	45,760	51,150	4.7%
<b>County General Fund Personnel Costs</b>	<b>135,974</b>	<b>169,790</b>	<b>165,970</b>	<b>178,220</b>	<b>5.0%</b>
Operating Expenses	36,083	19,070	39,880	32,050	68.1%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	—
<b>County General Fund Expenditures</b>	<b>172,057</b>	<b>188,860</b>	<b>205,850</b>	<b>210,270</b>	<b>11.3%</b>
<b>PERSONNEL</b>					
Full-Time	2	2	2	2	—
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	—
Workyears	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	—

**FY06 APPROVED CHANGES CROSSWALK**

	Expenditures	WYs
<b>COUNTY GENERAL FUND</b>		
<b>FY05 ORIGINAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>188,860</b>	<b>2.0</b>
<b>Other Adjustments (with no service impacts)</b>		
Increase Cost: Temporary help to assist in expanded Financial Disclosure operations and general office support	15,000	0.0
Increase Cost: FY06 compensation	6,610	0.0
Increase Cost: FY06 Retirement Rate Adjustments	3,890	0.0
Increase Cost: Annualization of FY05 Personnel Costs	1,260	0.0
Increase Cost: Records Management	220	0.0
Decrease Cost: Annualization of FY05 Operating Expenses	-2,240	0.0
Decrease Cost: FY06 Group Insurance Rate Adjustments	-3,330	0.0
<b>FY06 APPROVED:</b>	<b>210,270</b>	<b>2.0</b>