MONTGOMERY COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

Public Meeting of May 3, 2017

Minutes

IN ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners:  
Steve Rosen, Chair  
Rahul Goel  
Barbara Fredericks  
Claudia Herbert

Staff Members:  
Robert W. Cobb, Chief Counsel  
Kelly Uhas

Item 1. The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m.

Item 2. The Commission approved the minutes from the April 19, 2017, meeting as presented.

Item 3. Mr. Cobb discussed briefly the Ethics Commission budget which was the subject of positive action at the Government Operations Committee work-session on April 26.

Item 4. Mr. Cobb discussed the status of the financial disclosure annual filings. He indicated that there were only nine persons who had not undertaken to file a disclosure report. He reiterated that this was a product of Erin and Kelly’s diligent efforts to obtain filings from individual filers.

Item 5. Mr. Cobb discussed roll-out of the training plan for executive branch public filers that will begin this month. In particular, he mentioned the substantial level of effort associated with establishing the training program as an enforceable compliance program.
Item 6. The Commission discussed the pending regulations and a new executive regulation for police. As regards the issue of police outside employment, the Commission was interested in having the outside employment form include a box for sworn police to assert that their outside employment is not in the district to which they are assigned. The Commission approved a minor change to the ethics regulation which would delete from the definition of Security-Related Outside Employment at 19A.12.01.06.3(a), the phrase “or controlling vehicular or pedestrian traffic on or near the outside employer’s place of business.” Ms. Fredericks recommended that Mr. Cobb communicate a recommendation regarding the draft of the Executive Regulation concerning outside employment of police that the draft incorporate the notion that police may not accept or solicit referrals for their secondary employment from persons in the district in which they are assigned. Mr. Cobb said he would communicate this recommendation to Mr. Lattner in the County Attorney’s office who is working on preparing the Executive Regulation. One other issue that was discussed is the effect of the new regulatory regime on existing approvals of outside employment for police. The Commission recognized that the issue was addressed in the draft Executive Regulation, but may warrant additional consideration.

Item 7. The Commission determined that the next three Commission meetings would be on June 14, July 19, and August 23.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert W. Cobb
Chief Counsel
MONTGOMERY COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

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