



MONTGOMERY COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

Public Meeting of July 25, 2018

Minutes

IN ATTENDANCE:

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| Commissioners: | Steve Rosen, Chair Kenita Barrow, Vice-Chair Susan Beard Rahul Goel Bruce Romer |
| Staff Members: | Robert W. Cobb, Chief Counsel Erin Chu, Program Manager |

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

Item 2. The Commission approved the minutes from the June 6, 2018, meeting as presented.

Item 3. Robert Cobb discussed the staff's work concerning the identification and notification of persons and entities who potentially are engaged in lobbying activities requiring registration but who have not registered. The staff relies on the Council sign-in sheets and identifies persons that have signed in on multiple occasions (5 or more) but have not registered. The entities these persons appeared on behalf of were sent a generic notification about lobbying requirements in February. Subsequently, after additional staff work identified persons and entities with a considerable likelihood of triggering lobbying requirements, a June letter was sent to specific individuals, with generic instructions about lobbying registration. These letters have resulted in a number of additional registrations and many inquiries regarding the requirements.

Item 4. Mr. Cobb noted that the ethics bill passed in April became effective on July 24, 2018. This legislation, and particularly the provisions that address outside employment

of police, will be a focus of the annual certification letter to the State Ethics Commission due on October 1, 2018.

Item 5. Mr. Cobb reported that the Commission's regulations, which were first proposed in the County register in 2016, were approved by the County Council on July 24, 2018. At the same time, the Council approved the Executive Regulations concerning outside employment of police. Mr. Cobb said that he expected the ethics regulation will receive considerable attention in future ethics training initiatives. Mr. Cobb mentioned that the systems for approval of outside employment of police, consistent with the Ethics Commission regulations, are being developed.

Item 6. Pursuant to GP Art., 3-305, at 7:50 the Commission voted unanimously (Ms. Barrow was not present for the vote) to close the meeting to the public to discuss legal advice and confidential matters.

- a. The Commission considered an informal allegation and determined to take no action.
- b. The Commission considered two waiver requests and decided to grant the waivers.
- c. The Commission received legal advice from Mr. Cobb concerning a pending matter. There was no matter presented for decision.
- d. The Commission considered the requests for outside employment and approved the requests.

The meeting reopened at 8:30.

Item 7. The Commission set its next meeting for September 5, 2018.

The Public Meeting adjourned at 8:37.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert W. Cobb". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robert W. Cobb
Chief Counsel