



## MONTGOMERY COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

Public Meeting, September 9, 2025

Hybrid meeting held in person and virtually via Zoom

### Minutes

#### IN ATTENDANCE:

##### Commissioners:

Elizabeth Kellar, Chair  
Rahul Goel, Vice-Chair  
Kenita Barrow  
Susan Beard  
Eric Gallun

##### Staff Members:

Erin O'Connor, Staff Director/Chief Counsel  
Hiwote Yohannes, Program Manager

Item 1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by the Chair.

Item 2. The August 2025 meeting minutes were approved with one correction.

Item 3. Ms. Yohannes updated the Commission on the number of individuals trained within the last 12 months, including a breakdown of which groups have been trained throughout the County government. Ms. O'Connor discussed upcoming in-person training dates and suggested ways the Ethics staff could expand the number of trained County employees. The Commission made several suggestions to that end. Ms. O'Connor will continue to work the issue with stakeholders and partners within the County government.

Item 4. The Ethics Commission reviewed suggested language for an outside employment condition to be attached to business owners and consultants who, in their outside employment, would potentially have a nexus to their County roles and responsibilities. The Commission asked Ms. O'Connor to spend more time on the language, and the Commission will revisit it at their next meeting.

Item 5. Ms. O'Connor noted to the Commission that the annual certification to the State Ethics Commission will be sent at the end of the month, but that there is nothing new to report to the State.

The open meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm to conduct administrative matters.

In the administrative meeting, the Commission approved all the outside employment requests as presented.

The Commission reviewed and acted on one waiver.

The Commission declined to agree with a request for reconsideration of prior guidance and a related advisory opinion.

The Commission discussed two continuing matters.

The administrative meeting adjourned at 8:19 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Erin O'Connor  
Staff Director/Chief Counsel