
AGENDA ITEM 15A

Action

November 20, 2014 Commission Meeting

Amend the MHSOAC's Conflict of Interest Code

Summary: Under the Political Reform Act, all public agencies are required to adopt a conflict-of-interest code (code). A code designates positions required to file Statements of Economic Interests (Form 700) and assigns disclosure categories specifying the types of interests to be reported. The Form 700 is a public document intended to alert public officials and members of the public to the types of financial interests that may create conflicts of interests.

The code for the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability (MHSOAC or Commission) was issued when the Commission was still a part of the Department of Mental Health (DMH). Due to the statutory changes to the MSHOAC's authority, including making the Commission independent from DMH, and the additional staff positions, the Commission needs to update its code. Commission staff has been working with the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) to update the Commission's code so that it is in alignment with the MHSOAC's revised statutory authority, staffing structure, and with the FPPC's standard "model" conflict of interest code.

If the Commission approves the proposed amended code at the November 20, 2014, meeting, there will be a 45-day public comment period. If the Commission makes further changes to the amended code in response to comments, an additional 15-day public comment period will be required. Once final, the amended code is filed with the FPPC. The FPPC will also have a 45-day public comment period on the Commission's proposed code. At the end of the FPPC's public comment period, the FPPC either approves the code as submitted by the MHSOAC or returns it for revision.

Enclosures: Proposed Amended Conflict of Interest Code for the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission; and Written Explanation of Amendments.

Handouts: PowerPoint handout will be made available at the meeting.

Recommended Action: Accept Staff's recommendation.

Presenter: Filomena Yeroshek, Chief Counsel

Motion: The Commission approves the proposed amended Conflict of Interest Code for the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission and authorizes the Executive Director to take the necessary steps to begin the rulemaking process and to submit the approved code with the supporting documentation as required by law.