

TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Although a Council member may be drawn from a specific interest group, Council Members must represent the interest of the entire Walton County tourism community as a whole.
2. Council Members shall not take any action that would undermine the actions of the TDC or the Walton County BCC. Regardless of their personal viewpoint, Council Members shall not speak against, or in any way undermine TDC solidarity once a vote has been made.
3. Council Members are expected to attend all Council meetings including strategic planning sessions and Council members shall also make every effort to attend the annual meeting and any TDC workshops.
4. Council Members shall avoid, in fact and in perception, conflicts of interest and disclose to the Chair and the Tourism Director, in a timely manner, any possible conflicts, assuring compliance with state statutes.
5. Council Members' contributions to discussions and decision making shall be positive and constructive.
6. Council Members' interactions in meetings shall be courteous, respectful, and free of animosity.
7. Council Members shall know and adhere to the TDC/BCC's governance and financial policies, as well as those established by the State of Florida.
8. Council Members shall be prepared for meetings, having read pre-circulated material in advance of the meeting.
9. Council Members shall not attempt to exercise individual authority or undue influence over the Tourism Department, other Council Members, or staff. The Tourism Department staff reports to the Tourism Director and the Tourism Director reports directly to the Walton County Administration. It is the Tourism Director's responsibility to hire, terminate and delegate the staff to fulfill the Tourism Department's goals and mission.
10. Council Members must notify the Tourism Director once they have filed their intent to run for any political office.
11. Council Members shall conduct themselves in an ethical and professional manner at all times and shall be governed by all practices and policies pertaining to the Walton County TDC adopted by the Walton County BCC and by Florida's Code of Ethics.
12. Council Members will review and make recommendations with the state/county required cent allocation in mind.
13. Council Members must immediately notify the Tourism Director in writing if they leave their current employment that qualifies them to hold their seat and shall additionally

immediately notify the Tourism Director in writing upon any event that results in an individual no longer qualifying as an elector of Walton County.

14. At all times, members of the Council shall be current in the payment of any and all tourist development tax assessments (bed taxes). This requirement shall apply to members both individually and to any entity of which the member is a part of or with which they conduct business. Additionally, this requirement shall apply to any entity of which the member is an owner or operator. This prohibition against delinquency in payment shall not require the Tourism Department or staff thereof to specifically notify Council Members in any method beyond standard delinquency notifications issued by the Clerk of Court.

Noncompliance with any of the above provisions shall constitute grounds for removal from the Tourist Development Council, upon majority vote of the Walton County Board of County Commissioners.

Applicant: _____

Date: _____