

OZAUKEE COUNTY CODE OF ETHICS



The Ozaukee County Code of Ethics, codified in section 2.44 – 2.47 of the Ozaukee County Code, is based on the provisions of Section 19.59 of the Wisconsin Statutes and applies to all county officials and all county employees

2.44 Code of Ethics

- (1) No county official or employee may use his or her public position or office to obtain financial gain or anything of substantial value for the private benefit of himself or herself or his or her immediate family, or for an organization with which he or she is associated.
- (2) No person may offer or give to a county official or employee, directly or indirectly, and no county official or employee may solicit or accept from any person, directly or indirectly, anything of value if it could reasonably be expected to influence the county official's or employee's vote, official actions or judgment, or could reasonably be considered as a reward for any official action or inaction on the part of the county official or employee.
- (3) No county official or employee may:
 - (a) Take any action substantially affecting a matter in which the official or employee, a member of his or her immediate family, or an organization with which the official or employee is associated has a substantial financial interest.
 - (b) Use his or her office or position in a way that produces or assists in the production of a substantial benefit, direct or indirect, for the county official or employee, one or more members of the official's or employee's immediate family either separately or together, or an organization with which the official or employee is associated.
 - (c) This code is based on the provisions of Section 19.59 of the Wisconsin Statutes and applies to all county officials and all county employees.

2.45 Private Interest in Public Contracts

- (1) No county official or employee may do any of the following:
 - (a) In the official's or employee's private capacity, negotiate or bid for or enter into a contract in which the official or employee has a private pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, if at the same time the official or employee is authorized or required by law to participate in the official's or employee's capacity as such official or employee in the making of that contract or to

perform in regard to that contract some official function requiring the exercise of discretion on the official's or employee's part.

(b) In the official's or employee's capacity as such official or employee, participates in the making of a contract in which the official or employee has a private pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, or performs in regard to that contract some function requiring the exercise of discretion on the official's or employee's part.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to contracts in which any single public official or employee is privately interested that do not involve receipts and disbursements by the county aggregating more than \$15,000 in any one year.

2.46 Use or Disclosure of Confidential Information

(1) No county official or employee shall knowingly use confidential information for actual or anticipated personal gain or for the actual or anticipated gain of any other person. Nor shall a county official or employee, without proper legal authorization, disclose confidential information gathered in the course of public employment to an unauthorized person.

2.47 Incompatible Employment

(1) No county official or employee shall engage in or accept private employment or render service for private interest when such employment or service is in conflict with the proper discharge of his or her official duties.

Section 19 of the Wisconsin State Statutes further describes the General Duties of Public Officials and serves as a good general resource to all elected officials