



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
**RHODE ISLAND ETHICS COMMISSION**  
40 Fountain Street  
Providence, RI 02903  
(401) 222-3790 (Voice/TT)  
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## **NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING**

### **AGENDA**

#### **12<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

**DATE:** Tuesday, August 19, 2025

**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.

**PLACE:** Rhode Island Ethics Commission  
Hearing Room – 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
40 Fountain Street  
Providence, RI 02903

**LIVESTREAM:** The Open Session portions of this meeting will be livestreamed at:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84591015403>

1. Call to Order.
2. Motion to approve minutes of Open Session held on July 29, 2025.
3. Director's Report: Status report and updates regarding:
  - a.) Complaints and investigations pending;
  - b.) Advisory opinions pending;
  - c.) Access to Public Records Act requests since last meeting;
  - d.) Financial disclosure; and
  - e.) General office administration;

4. Advisory Opinions:

- a.) The Honorable Jason Knight, a legislator serving as a member of the Rhode Island House of Representatives, who in his private capacity is a criminal defense attorney licensed to practice in Rhode Island and Massachusetts, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether he is prohibited by the Code of Ethics from re-applying to be included on the list of court-appointed attorneys to represent indigent clients in the Rhode Island criminal courts. [Staff Attorney Radiches]
- b.) Samantha Contreras, a staff interpreter for the Rhode Island Supreme Court, who in her private capacity owns and operates SC Interpreting and Translation Services, LLC, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether she is prohibited by the Code of Ethics from registering her private business as a vendor for the State of Rhode Island in order to provide language services to various non-state and state agencies, excluding the Rhode Island Judiciary. [Staff Attorney Radiches]
- c.) The Town of New Shoreham Town Council, by and through its solicitor, Nicholas A. Solitro, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether one or more town council members may, pursuant to the Rule of Necessity, participate in the town council's consideration of a proposed ordinance that would regulate the operation of courtesy shuttles by local business owners, notwithstanding the stated conflicts of interest by those town council members, so that the town council can achieve a necessary quorum of three members. [Staff Attorney Radiches]
- d.) Mark Schwager, a member of the East Greenwich Town Council, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether he qualifies for a hardship exception to the Code of Ethics' prohibition against representing himself before the East Greenwich Historic District Commission, a municipal agency over which the town council has appointing authority, in order to request approval of the replacement of three windows and a door at his primary residence. [Staff Attorney Papa]

5. Motion to go into Executive Session, to wit:

- a.) Motion to approve minutes of Executive Session held on July 29, 2025, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) & (4).
- b.) In re: Robert L. Lombardo, Complaint Nos. 2025-3 & 2025-5, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) & (4).

- c.) In re: Jeffrey McCormick, Complaint No. 2025-6, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) & (4).
- d.) Motion to return to Open Session.
- 6. Motion to seal minutes of Executive Session held on August 19, 2025.
- 7. Report on actions taken in Executive Session.
- 8. New Business proposed for future Commission agendas and general comments from the Commission.
- 9. Motion to adjourn.

ANYONE WISHING TO ATTEND THIS MEETING WHO MAY HAVE SPECIAL NEEDS FOR ACCESS OR SERVICES SUCH AS A SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER, PLEASE CONTACT THE COMMISSION BY TELEPHONE AT 222-3790, 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE SCHEDULED MEETING. THE COMMISSION ALSO MAY BE CONTACTED THROUGH RHODE ISLAND RELAY, A TELECOMMUNICATIONS RELAY SERVICE, AT 1-800-RI5-5555.

*Posted on August 14, 2025*