

**Report on actions taken by the Rhode Island Ethics Commission
in Executive Session held on August 4, 2026:**

1. Voted (4-0) to approve the minutes of the Executive Session held on July 14, 2026.
[Reporter's Note: The vote was as follows:

AYES: Holly J. Susi; Christopher P. Callahan; Frank J. Cenerini; and
Emma L. Peterson.

ABSTENTIONS: Hugo L. Ricci, Jr.]

2. Unanimously voted (5-0) in the matter of **In re: Matthew Kent**, Complaint No. 2026-2, to initially determine that the Complaint states facts that, if true, are sufficient to constitute violations of the Code of Ethics and to authorize an investigation.

An Initial Determination is a preliminary vote that should not be construed as an opinion regarding the truth of the facts alleged in the complaint but is merely a vote to conduct an investigation into the allegations raised.

3. Received an update and discussed the litigation matter of **K. Joseph Shekarchi vs. Rhode Island Ethics Commission**, Superior Court C.A. No. PC-2026-03423. The Commission voted (4-1) to authorize the Executive Director/Chief Prosecutor to file an appeal of the order and judgment entered by the Superior Court, which granted Plaintiff Sherkarchi's complaint for declaratory judgment and dismissed the administrative appeal as moot, to the Rhode Island Supreme Court.

[Reporter's Note: The vote was as follows:

AYES: Holly J. Susi; Christopher P. Callahan; Emma L. Peterson; and Hugo
L. Ricci, Jr.

NOES: Frank J. Cenerini.]

4. Unanimously voted (5-0) to return to Open Session.