

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
OF THE RHODE ISLAND ETHICS COMMISSION
REGULATION SUBCOMMITTEE B**

January 10, 2006

The Rhode Island Ethics Commission Regulation Subcommittee B held its 1st meeting following the conclusion of the regularly scheduled full Ethics Commission meeting on Tuesday, January 10, 2006 at the Rhode Island Ethics Commission conference room, located on the 8th floor of 40 Fountain Street, Providence, Rhode Island, pursuant to the notice published at the Commission Headquarters and at the State House Library.

The following subcommittee members were present:

Barbara Binder, Vice Chair James V. Murray

George E. Weavill, Jr., Secretary James C. Segovis

Richard E. Kirby

Also present were Staff Attorney Macall Robertson and Administrative Assistant Tracy Teixeira. Commission Executive Director Kent A. Willever was present for part of the meeting.

At approximately 11:45 a.m., the Vice Chair Binder opened the meeting.

The subcommittee confirmed that it was tasked by the Ethics Commission to review the application of the Code of Ethics and determine whether to amend the provisions relating to revolving door. After discussion, the members determined by consensus that the subcommittee will study issues such as former state and municipal employees appearing before their former agency in their private employment, municipal officials and employees seeking or accepting additional municipal employment while holding their positions, the hardship exceptions, and the current one-year period of time persons subject to the Code must wait under the revolving door provisions.

Vice Chair Binder acknowledged H. Philip West, Jr., Executive Director of Common Cause of Rhode Island, who briefly shared his knowledge on the origin of the Code provisions that provide, in general, that state officials and employees cannot seek or accept additional state employment while holding their positions, specifically referencing Regulation 5007 and R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 36-14-5(n) and (o). He noted that no counterpart restrictions exist in the Code with regard to municipal officials and employees.

The Commission staff was tasked with outlining the revolving door provisions of the Code, researching advisory opinions relating to the issues under consideration, and surveying certain other jurisdictions' rules on these issues. Additionally, the

Commission staff was tasked with obtaining the Rhode Island Supreme Court case and staff memorandum pertaining to the Commission's authority to amend the Code of Ethics. The results of this research should be made available to the subcommittee members in advance of the next meeting.

The subcommittee agreed to meet again following the Ethics Commission's meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 2006.

By consensus, the subcommittee adjourned at approximately 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Macall S. Robertson
Staff Attorney**