BOARD OF ETHICS

The Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics establishes an independent Board of Ethics, which is comprised of five (5) at large community members who are appointed by City Council.

The Board of Ethics is empowered with broad authority in the enabling ordinance which includes: issuing advisory opinions regarding ethical issues, hearing inquiries and complaints, and issuing findings and recommendations regarding alleged conduct and ethics violations to City Council. To learn more, please visit: www.DurangoGov.org/ethics

FAQ’S

HOW CAN I ACCESS A COPY OF THE POLICY?
Please visit www.DurangoGov.org/ethics for a copy of the City’s Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics. Copies of the policy are also available at City Hall located at 949 E. 2nd Avenue, Durango, Colorado.

HOW DO I FILE AN INQUIRY OR COMPLAINT UNDER TO THE CITY’S CODE OF CONDUCT OR CODE OF ETHICS?
Inquiry or Complaint forms can be obtained online at www.DurangoGov.org/ethics or in the City Clerk’s office located at City Hall. All completed forms must be submitted to the City Clerk’s office located at the above address.

ARE THERE EXAMPLES OF TYPES OF ACTIVITIES THAT ARE CONSIDERED ETHICAL VIOLATIONS UNDER THE CITY’S POLICY?
1. The use of public resources for private gain;
2. Accepting any gift of $50 or more in value that is associated in any way with an official action or city contract;
3. Conflicts of interest;
4. Improper use of confidential information;
5. Other ethics matters not consistent with existing policies and the City Charter.

WHO IS COVERED UNDER THE CITY’S CODE OF CONDUCT AND CODE OF ETHICS?
The policy applies to City Officials, which includes City Council Members, Candidates for City Council, Advisory Boards and Commissions Members, the City Manager, City Attorney and Municipal Judge. The policy also applies to representatives of the City, including City Employees, Volunteers, and Independent Contractors.

DURANGO CODE OF ETHICS

In June of 2014, a group of citizens, encouraged the City Council to initiate a process to improve public trust and restore public confidence through developing and adopting a Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics for the City of Durango.

The policy, as adopted and revised, provides precise standards of conduct and enforceable guidelines that foster public trust in democratic government and uphold the public interest. It provides essential principles, defines mandatory standards of ethical conduct, and outlines written directives that identify what constitutes acceptable behavior.

The policy is intended to promote transparency, ensure accountability, and address not only apparent improprieties, but also public perceptions of the actions of public officials.
Advisory Opinion Process

Any person who is covered by the City of Durango’s Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics may submit a written request to the Board of Ethics for an advisory opinion. Advisory opinion requests should outline specific actions or conduct that are relevant to the individual’s official duties and the Code of Conduct or Code of Ethics. Advisory opinion requests should be submitted to the Board of Ethics in advance of any official action. Advisory opinions are intended to provide guidance for current and future City Officers and Boards and Commission members about ethical issues that are relevant to their service.

Inquiry Process

Any person covered by the City of Durango's Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics or any member of the public may submit an inquiry to the Board of Ethics regarding the City’s Code of Conduct or Code of Ethics Policy. Inquiries may include requests for clarification regarding the policy language, the scope and the intent of the policy, questions regarding who is covered under the policy, or questions regarding any of the processes or provisions that are outlined in the Code.