

# PHADA

Code of Professional Ethics  
Housing Authority Commissioners



PHADA  
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**Oath of Office of A Commissioner for the**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Housing Authority**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the State of \_\_\_\_\_ according to the law and to the best of my judgment and ability.

I do further swear to be bound by the following:

1. I pledge myself to the professionalism of Housing Commissioners through my own efforts and through the mutual efforts of my colleagues and by all other proper means available.
2. I pledge to view my service on the Housing Commission as an opportunity to serve my community, my state and my nation because I support the objectives of providing a decent, safe and sanitary home and a suitable living environment for every American family.
3. I pledge that I recognize that my responsibilities are to serve in this capacity as a government official, a community leader and an advocate for the Commission, its programs and objectives.
4. I pledge myself to seek and maintain an equitable, honorable and cooperative association with fellow public housing officials and all others who are concerned with the proper and professional management of public housing developments.
5. I pledge to try to make decisions in terms of the most economical and efficient method toward the best interests of all citizens, particularly those of low and moderate income. Decisions will provide an equal opportunity to all citizens regardless of race, creed, sex or age.
6. I will recognize that my responsibility is not to make the day-to-day management decisions of the Authority, but to see that it is well run by carrying out policy making, planning and appraisal functions and by providing direction and taking formal action in support of these functions.
7. I pledge to refuse to represent special interests or partisan politics or to use this Commission for personal gain or for the gain of friends or supporters. I recognize that although I have been appointed by the city government, my responsibility is to the entire community.

## **Code of Professional Ethics for the Public Housing Commissioner**

The objectives of the Code of Ethics is to encourage professional performance by housing commissioners. The Code describes objectives which, when accepted and followed, will help to foster a beneficial relationship between the commissioners, staff and those they serve.

### **CODE**

A public housing commissioner shall be bound by the following pledge:

1. I pledge myself to the professionalism of Housing Commissioners through my own efforts and through the mutual efforts of my colleagues and by all other proper means available.
2. I pledge to view my service on the Housing Commission as an opportunity to serve my community, my state and my nation because I support the objectives of providing a decent, safe and sanitary home and a suitable living environment for every American family.
3. I pledge that I recognize that my responsibilities are to serve in this capacity as a government official, a community leader and an advocate for the Commission, its programs and objectives.
4. I pledge myself to seek and maintain an equitable, honorable and cooperative association with fellow public housing officials and all others who are concerned with the proper and professional management of public housing developments.
5. I pledge to try to make decisions in terms of the most economical and efficient method toward the best interests of all citizens, particularly those of low and moderate income. Decisions will provide an equal opportunity to all citizens regardless of race, creed, sex or age.
6. I will recognize that my responsibility is not to make the day-to-day management decisions of the Authority, but to see that it is well run by carrying out policy making, planning and appraisal functions and by providing direction and taking formal action in support of these functions.
7. I pledge to refuse to represent special interests or partisan politics or to use this Commission for personal gain or for the gain of friends or supporters. I recognize that although I have been appointed by the city government, my responsibility is to the entire community.
8. I pledge that I shall not receive, directly or indirectly, any fee, rebate, commission, discount, gratuity, or any other benefit whether monetary or otherwise for the proper professional discharge of my duties, except authorized established expenses and other benefits.
9. I will arrive at conclusions only after I have discussed matters fully with members of the professional staff and other commission members. Once a decision has been reached by the majority of the commission assembled at a meeting, I will support it graciously.

10. I will recognize that the authority is vested with the whole commission assembled in meetings and that the powers of the commission shall be vested with the commissioner thereof in office at any time.
11. I pledge to support and protect authority personnel in the performance of their duties. Where and when commissioners are involved in the employment of staff, I will vote to hire only competent and trained personnel who have been recommended by the executive director, otherwise I will support the executive director in his or her choice of hiring and handling personnel without involvement by the commission.
12. I pledge to refer all complaints, including my personal criticisms, to the executive director, and only after the failure of administrative solution will pursue such matters outside the commission while also recognizing the individual rights of a commissioner as a citizen appointee and the responsibilities such an appointment implies.
13. I pledge to observe and enforce local and state laws and regulations pertaining to the commission and the authority and the housing represented by those entities.
14. I pledge to respect the limited intent and scope of executive session and respect privileged communications from executive session and other sources for the privacy of the personnel and clients with whom we are involved.
15. I pledge myself to place honesty, integrity, industriousness, compassion and understanding above all else; to pursue my gainful efforts by study and dedication to the end that service to my housing authority and the people I serve shall always be maintained at the highest possible level.
16. I pledge to make diligent use of the time of the commission as a whole and to faithfully attend all meetings barring unforeseen conflicts in which case I shall promptly notify the chairperson or designee while respecting the rights and commitments of other commissioners and the housing authority that the commission represents.
17. I pledge myself to comply with the rules and regulations and principals of this Code of Professional Ethics.

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Subscribed and sworn to me before this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_

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My commission expires

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