

# D.C. BOARD OF ETHICS AND GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY FY 2024 PERFORMANCE PLAN

**DECEMBER 1, 2023** 



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#### 1 D.C. BOARD OF ETHICS AND GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

*Mission*: The Board of Ethics and Government Accountability (BEGA) is responsible to administer and enforce the District of Columbia Code of Conduct and enforce government-wide compliance with the D.C. Freedom of Information Act and the Open Meetings Act.

Services: Specifically, BEGA is responsible for nine main areas. Investigating alleged violations of the Code of Conduct, holding adversarial hearings and, where appropriate, levying sanctions; Issuing Advisory Opinions, providing safe-harbor for good-faith reliance on these opinions; Conducting mandatory ethics training for District government employees; Updating and maintaining the District Ethics Manual; Receiving and reviewing public financial disclosure statements and certifications from public officials, AdvisoryNeighborhood Commissioners, and, as of January 1, 2015, candidates for nomination for election, or election; Receiving and auditing lobbyist registration forms, termination forms, and lobbyist activity reports; Enforcing the Open Meetings Act; Monitoring the Districts compliance with the Freedom of Information Act; and Assistinggovernment agencies in the implementation of open government practices.

#### 2 2024 OBJECTIVES

Strategic Objective

Issue ethics advice in an expeditious and consistent fashion.

 $Conduct\ timely\ and\ appropriate\ investigations\ and\ enforcement\ actions.$ 

Conduct mandatory training on the Code of Conduct and produce ethics training materials.

Create and maintain a highly efficient, transparent, and responsive District government.

## **3 2024 OPERATIONS**

| Operation Title   | Operation Description  | Type of Operation |
|---|--|-------------------|
| Issue ethics advice in an exped   | itious and consistent fashion.   |                   |
| Render Timely Advice.<br>Respond to requests for<br>informal ethics advice in a<br>substantive and useful manner. | Work with staff to ensure that ethics guidance is provided to government employees who seek ethics guidance. | Daily Service     |
| Conduct timely and appropria  | te investigations and enforcement actions.   |                   |
| Monitor and support ongoing investigations to ensure timely completion.   | Track progress throughout the year and work with staff to ensure movement.                                   | Daily Service     |
| Conduct mandatory training of   | n the Code of Conduct and produce ethics training ma   | terials.          |
| Increase Training Sessions. Increase number of trainings available to District government employees.              | Allocate staff time to ensure availability when requests are made from client agencies.                      | Daily Service     |

# **4 2024 STRATEGIC INITIATIVES**

| Title | Description | Proposed   |
|-------|-------------|------------|
|       |             | Completion |
|       |             | Date       |

# 5 2024 KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND WORKLOAD MEASURES

#### Key Performance Indicators

| Measure   | Directionality    | FY 2021        | FY 2022         | FY 2023        | FY 2024<br>Target |
|---|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Issue ethics advice in an expeditious and   | consistent fash   | ion.           |                 |                |                   |
| Percent of formal written Advisory Opinions appealed to the Ethics Board  | Down is<br>Better | 0%             | 0%              | 42.5%          | 85%               |
| Percent of advice queries received<br>that were handled as informal rather<br>than formal within 72 hours                                 | Up is Better      | New in<br>2024 | New in<br>2024  | New in<br>2024 | New in<br>2024    |
| Number of formal written Advisory<br>Opinions issued within the fiscal year   | Up is Better      | New in<br>2024 | New in 2023     | New in 2024    | 3                 |
| Conduct timely and appropriate investiga  | ations and enfo   | rcement acti   | ons.            |                |                   |
| Percent of investigations resolved by dismissal, negotiated disposition, or issuance of Notice of Violation within 120 days of initiation | Up is Better      | 97%            | 92.5%           | 86.3%          | 85%               |
| Percent of complaints closed within 30 days.  | Up is Better      | New in<br>2024 | New in<br>2024  | New in 2024    | New in<br>2024    |
| Percent of final Ethics Orders issued<br>within 45 days of close of a show cause<br>hearing   | Up is Better      | New in<br>2024 | New in<br>2024  | New in<br>2024 | New in<br>2024    |
| Conduct mandatory training on the Code  | of Conduct an     | d produce et   | hics training m | naterials.     |                   |
| Percent of agency trainings held within 90 days of agency making the request  | Up is Better      | 100%           | 100%            | 100%           | 85%               |
| Percent of evaluations completed by attendees with an overall positive rating of 3 or higher on the BEGA training evaluation form         | Up is Better      | 90%            | 95%             | 95%            | 85%               |
| Percent of agency training requests granted   | Up is Better      | New in<br>2024 | New in<br>2024  | New in 2024    | New in<br>2024    |

#### Workload Measures

| Measure  | FY 2021                | FY 2022                      | FY 2023                |
|--|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Render Timely Advice. Respond to r                   | equests for informal   | ethics advice in a substant  | ive and useful manner. |
| Number of requests for informal                      | 567                    | 380                          | 435                    |
| ethics advice  |                        |                              |                        |
| Number of formal written                             | 0                      | 0                            | 1                      |
| advisory opinions issued pursuant                    |                        |                              |                        |
| to a request   |                        |                              | _                      |
| Number of formal written                             | 0                      | 2                            | 8                      |
| advisory opinions issued on the                      |                        |                              |                        |
| agency's own initiative                              |                        |                              |                        |
| Monitor and support ongoing invest                   | igations to ensure tim | ely completion.              |                        |
| Number of preliminary                                | 0                      | 0                            | 0                      |
| investigations opened based on tips                  |                        |                              |                        |
| to the hotline                                       |                        |                              |                        |
| Number of complaints received                        | 117                    | 175                          | 205                    |
| Number of preliminary                                | 0                      | 4                            | 3                      |
| investigations converted to formal                   |                        |                              |                        |
| investigations                                       |                        | -0                           |                        |
| Number of preliminary                                | 33                     | 18                           | 113                    |
| investigations dismissed                             | 0.0                    | 7.4.4                        | 77.7                   |
| Number of preliminary investigations opened based on | 80                     | 144                          | 113                    |
| information provided by means                        |                        |                              |                        |
| other than the hotline                               |                        |                              |                        |
| Number of preliminary                                | 2                      | 7                            | 10                     |
| investigations resolved with a                       | 2                      | ,                            | 10                     |
| negotiated disposition                               |                        |                              |                        |
| Number of formal investigations                      | 2                      | 1                            | 19                     |
| dismissed  | -                      | ·                            | .,                     |
| Number of formal investigations                      | 0                      | 1                            | 1                      |
| resolved after an evidentiary                        |                        |                              |                        |
| hearing ,  |                        |                              |                        |
| Number of preliminary                                | 2                      | 0                            | 7                      |
| investigations resolved after an                     |                        |                              |                        |
| evidentiary hearing                                  |                        |                              |                        |
| Number of formal investigations                      | 1                      | 18                           | 0                      |
| resolved with a negotiated                           |                        |                              |                        |
| disposition  |                        |                              |                        |
| Number of complaints dismissed.                      | 3                      | 12                           | 2                      |
| Increase Training Sessions. Increase                 | number of trainings    | available to District govern | ment employees.        |
| Number of trainings conducted                        | 57                     | 62                           | 46                     |
| Number of District Employees                         | Not Available          | Not Available                | Not Available          |
| trained . ,  |                        |                              |                        |