

TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION  
P.O. Box 12070, Austin, Texas 78711-2070  
(512) 463-5800

Chris Flood, Chair  
Patrick W. Mizell, Vice Chair  
Randall H. Erben  
Sean Gorman

Geanie W. Morrison  
Richard S. Schmidt  
Joseph O. Slovacek  
Mark Strama

## MEETING AGENDA

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Date and Time: 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, September 17, 2025  
Location: Room E1.014, Capitol Extension, Austin, Texas

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**INFORMATION ON HOW TO VIEW AND/OR PARTICIPATE IN THE ONLINE  
BROADCAST OF THIS MEETING WILL BE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE ON THE  
DAY OF THE MEETING HERE:**

[https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/meetings/meetings\\_2025-2029.php#2029](https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/meetings/meetings_2025-2029.php#2029)

1. Call to order; roll call.
2. **Executive session pursuant to Section 551.071, Government Code, Consultation with Attorneys; Section 551.074, Government Code, Personnel Matters; Sections 571.039, .40, Government Code, confidential sworn complaint matters, Closed Meeting.**

A. Discussion of pending litigation to seek legal advice relating to the following:

- i. Cause No. D-1-GN-17-001878: *Texas Ethics Commission v. Michael Quinn Sullivan*, in the 250<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court, Travis County, Texas; Cause No. 03-17-00392-CV: *Michael Quinn Sullivan v. Texas Ethics Commission*, in the Third Court of Appeals at Austin, Texas; Cause No. 03-21-00033, *Michael Quinn Sullivan v. Texas Ethics Commission*, in the Third Court of Appeals at Austin, Texas; and Cause No. 18-0580: *Michael Quinn Sullivan v. Texas Ethics Commission*, in the Supreme Court of Texas. Cause No. D-1-GN-21-003269: *Michael Quinn Sullivan v. Texas Ethics Commission*, in the 459<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court, Travis County, Texas; and related case, Cause No. 03-22-00133-CV: *Michael Quinn Sullivan v. Texas Ethics Commission*, in the Third Court of Appeals, Austin, Texas.
- ii. Case No. 4:23-cv-00808-P, *Institute for Free Speech, a nonprofit corporation and public interest law firm, vs. J.R. Johnson in his official and individual capacities as Executive Director of the Texas Ethics Commission; Mary Kennedy, Chris Flood, and Richard Schmidt in their official capacities as commissioners of the Texas Ethics Commission; and Randall Erben, Chad Craycraft, Patrick Mizell, Joseph Slovacek, and*

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*For more information, contact James Tinley, Executive Director, at (512) 463-5800.*

*Steven Wolens, in their individual and official capacities as commissioners of the Texas Ethics Commission, in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Fort Worth Division.*

- iii. Cause No. PD-0310-23, *Ex Parte John Morgan Stafford*, in the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.
  - iv. Cause No. 2023-DCL-01478, *Valleywide Pharmacy and DMI, Inc., vs. Texas Ethics Commission, by and through its Executive Director, J.R. Johnson, in his official capacity*, in the 445th Judicial District Court, Cameron County, Texas.
  - v. Civil Action 1:24-CV-500, *LIA Network v. J.R. Johnson, in his official capacity as Executive Director of the Texas Ethics Commission, et al.*, in the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas, Austin Division.
  - vi. Cause No. 2024-DCL-03953, *Ruben Cortez, Jr. v. Texas Ethics Commission*, in the 404<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court, Cameron County, Texas.
  - vii. Cause Nos. PD-0522-21, PD-0523-21, PD-0524-21, & PD-0525-21, *Ex Parte Robbie Gail Charette*, in the Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas.
  - viii. Cause No. 25-0679, *Christopher D. Paddie, Sr. v. Texas Ethics Commission, et al.*, in the 71<sup>st</sup> Judicial District Court, Harrison County, Texas.
- B. Discussion of contemplated litigation and to seek legal advice regarding the collection of imposed penalties.
- C. Discussion and possible action related to personnel matters, including the potential hiring of a general counsel.
- D. Confidential sworn complaint matters under Section 571.139 of the Government Code.
- E. Deliberations of pending motions in the formal hearing of Sworn Complaint SC-3230109, In the matter of Chris Paddie.
- F. Reconvene in open session.

3. Recess or continue to “Agenda 2” noticed for the same time and place as this agenda.

**CERTIFICATION:** I certify that I have reviewed this document and that it conforms to all applicable Texas Register filing requirements. Certifying Official & Agency Liaison: James Tinley, Executive Director.

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**NOTICE:** Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, an individual with a disability must have an equal opportunity for effective communication and participation in public meetings. Upon request, the Texas Ethics Commission will provide auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the deaf and hearing impaired, readers, and large print or Braille documents. In determining the type of auxiliary aid or service, the Commission will give primary consideration to the individual's request. Those requesting auxiliary aids or services should notify Margie Castellanos at (512) 463-5800 or RELAY Texas at (800) 735-2989 two days before this meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Please also contact Ms. Castellanos if you need assistance in having English translated into Spanish.