

PROPOSED

ORDINANCE NO.

1 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD
2 COUNTY, FLORIDA, PERTAINING TO ETHICS; AMENDING SECTION 1-19 OF THE
3 BROWARD COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES ("CODE"); SUPERSEDING
4 CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN
5 THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

6 (Sponsored by Senator Steve Geller)
7

8 WHEREAS, Section 1-19 of the Broward County Code of Ordinances, known as
9 the Code of Ethics for Elected Officials ("County Code of Ethics"), includes disclosure
10 requirements for members of the Broward County Board of County Commissioners (the
11 "Board") and elected municipal officials (collectively, "Elected Officials") who solicit
12 campaign contributions for other candidates for elected office;

13 WHEREAS, disclosure is required when an Elected Official is listed as a member
14 of a host committee or has signed an endorsement card that authorizes the Elected
15 Official's name to be used for fundraising activities, even when the Elected Official has
16 not personally solicited contributions to the candidate's campaign;

17 WHEREAS, disclosure is not required when an Elected Official merely endorses a
18 candidate;

19 WHEREAS, the lack of consistency in disclosure requirements for different types
20 of endorsements creates risk of inadvertent violations of the County Code of Ethics; and

21 WHEREAS, the Board finds that modifying the County Code of Ethics as provided
22 below will improve understanding of, and compliance with, the law by establishing a
23 brighter line as to when disclosures must be filed, and further finds that such modification
24 is in the best interest of the County,

25 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
26 BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA:

27 Section 1. Section 1-19 of the Broward County Code of Ordinances is hereby
28 amended to read as follows:

29 **Sec. 1-19. Code of ethics for elected officials.**

30 . . .

31 (c) *Standards of Conduct.* In addition to the provisions of Chapter 112, Part III,
32 Florida Statutes, Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees; Chapters 838 and
33 839, Florida Statutes; Title 18, Chapter 63 of the United States Code; and Chapter 26,
34 Article V of the Broward County Code of Ordinances, Section 26-67, et seq., the following
35 Standards of Conduct shall apply to each Elected Official:

36 . . .

37 (5) *Solicitation and Receipt of Contributions.*

38 . . .

39 b. Campaign Contribution Fundraising.

40 . . .

41 3. Campaign Contribution Fundraising Disclosure.

42 a) An Elected Official who solicits campaign contributions
43 for another candidate for public office must disclose, on

a form created by the Office of the County Attorney, the name of the candidate for whom the Elected Official is soliciting, the location and date of any associated event, and both the name and contribution amounts of any individual who provided contributions, directly or indirectly, to the Elected Official for subsequent delivery to the candidate. The form must be filed for public inspection within fifteen (15) days after each time the Elected Official solicits funds. ~~However, where any solicitation of funds results merely through the Elected Official being listed as a member of a host committee or merely through the Elected Official signing an endorsement card that authorizes the endorser's name to be used for fundraising activities (each, an "Indication of Support"), the Elected Official must file the required disclosure within fifteen (15) days after the earliest Indication of Support, and such disclosure will remain in effect until the conclusion of the applicable general election or for two (2) years from the date of filing such disclosure, whichever period is shorter, and the information contained thereon is not required to be updated during such period.~~

b) The disclosure requirements in this subsection do not apply where:

i) ~~a~~An Elected Official merely endorses a candidate ~~but does not expressly allow the candidate to use the Elected Official's name in any fundraising efforts, or where;~~

ii) ~~t~~The Elected Official attends or speaks at any event, including campaign fundraising events, provided the Elected Official does not ask others to make any financial contribution to the candidate's campaign and further provided the Elected Official does not receive any campaign contributions for subsequent delivery to the candidate;

iii) The Elected Official is merely listed as a member of a host committee; or

iv) The Elected Official merely signs an endorsement card that authorizes the endorser's name to be used for fundraising activities.

...

87 Section 2. Conflicting Earlier Ordinances Superseded.

88 To the extent any provision of this Ordinance, including its manner of enactment by a
89 simple majority vote of the Board, conflicts with Ordinance No. 2010-22, Ordinance No.
90 2011-19, or Ordinance No. 2015-55, this Ordinance supersedes and amends said earlier
91 ordinances solely to the extent of such conflict.

92 Section 3. Severability.

93 If any portion of this Ordinance is determined by any court to be invalid, the invalid
94 portion will be stricken, and such striking will not affect the validity of the remainder of this
95 Ordinance. If any court determines that this Ordinance, in whole or in part, cannot be
96 legally applied to any individual, group, entity, property, or circumstance, such
97 determination will not affect the applicability of this Ordinance to any other individual,
98 group, entity, property, or circumstance.

99 Section 4. Inclusion in the Broward County Code of Ordinances.

100 It is the intention of the Board of County Commissioners that the provisions of this
101 Ordinance become part of the Broward County Code of Ordinances as of the effective
102 date. The sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or relettered and the word
103 “ordinance” may be changed to “section,” “article,” or such other appropriate word or
104 phrase to the extent necessary to accomplish such intention.

106 | This Ordinance is effective as of the date provided by law.

PROPOSED

EFFECTIVE

By: /s/ Kristin M. Carter 05/28/2026
Kristin M. Carter (date)
Assistant County Attorney

By: /s/ Annika E. Ashton 05/28/2026
Annika E. Ashton (date)
Deputy County Attorney

Coding: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions from existing text. Words underlined are additions to existing text.