

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Fifty-seventh Legislature - First Regular Session

HOUSE ETHICS COMMITTEE

Report of Interim Meeting
Friday, January 17, 2025
House Hearing Room 4 -- 10:30 A.M.

Convened 10:31 P.M.

Recessed

Reconvened

Adjourned 10:40 P.M.

MINUTES RECEIVED
CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE

1/17/23

Members Present

Representative Diaz, Chairman
Representative Carter, Vice-Chairman
Representative Contreras
Representative Griffin
Representative Mathis

Members Absent

Agenda

Original Agenda -- Attachment 1

Committee Attendance

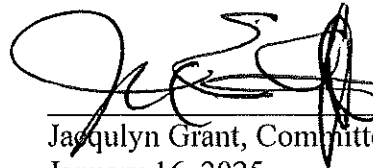
Report -- Attachment 2

Committee Rules

Report -- Attachment 3

Committee Action

<u>Bill</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Attachments</u>
	Committee Report		4
	Roll Call Vote	5-0-0-0	5
	Rule 33 -- Code of Ethics		6
	Rule 34 -- Personal Financial Interest		7



Jacquelyn Grant, Committee Secretary
January 16, 2025

(Original attachments on file in the Office of the Chief Clerk; video archives available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

INTERIM MEETING NOTICE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

HOUSE ETHICS COMMITTEE

Convened: 10:31

Adjourned: 10:40

Date: Thursday, January 16, 2025

Time: 10:30 A.M.

Place: HHR 4

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting here:
<https://www.azleg.gov/videoplayer/?clientID=6361162879&eventID=2025011031>

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Ethics Committee Rules of Procedure for the 57th Legislature
 - Presentation by House Rules Attorney
 - Discussion
 - Adoption of Committee Rules
3. House Code of Ethics and House Personal Financial Interest Rules
 - Presentation by Rules Attorney
 - Discussion
 - Adoption of Committee Recommendations
4. Adjournment

Members:

Representative Lupe Diaz, Chair
Representative Neal Carter, Vice Chair
Representative Patricia Contreras
Representative Gail Griffin
Representative Christopher Mathis

Pursuant to House Rule 30 and A.R.S. § 38-431.03, the committee may vote to go into executive session, which would not be open to the public, for the purpose of obtaining legal advice and providing directions to counsel.

01/14/2025
RA

People with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations such as interpreters, alternative formats, or assistance with physical accessibility. If you require accommodations, please contact the Chief Clerk's Office at (602) 926-3032 or through Arizona Relay Service 7-1-1.

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE
 Fifty-seventh Legislature - First Regular Session

COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE RECORD

COMMITTEE ON _____ **ETHICS** _____

CHAIRMAN: Lupe Diaz VICE-CHAIRMAN: Neal Carter

DATE	01/16/25	/25	/25	/25	/25
CONVENED	10:31m	m	m	m	m
RECESSED					
RECONVENED					
ADJOURNED	10:40				
MEMBERS					
Contreras	✓				
Griffin	✓				
Mathis	✓				
Carter, Vice-Chairman	✓				
Diaz, Chairman	✓				

✓ Present --- Absent exc Excused

RULES OF PROCEDURE

ETHICS COMMITTEE OF THE ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 57th LEGISLATURE

RULE 1. A majority of the members of the committee constitutes a quorum. The committee shall take no official action unless a quorum is present.

RULE 2. The Chairman determines the order of business.

RULE 3. The committee shall render advisory opinions pursuant to House Rule 34.

RULE 4. House Rules relating to motions which are relevant are in order including the following motions:

- a. Be adopted, be granted or be approved
- b. Be rejected or be denied
- c. Hold for further study

RULE 5. The affirmative vote of a majority of those voting is required to take any action.

RULE 6. A roll call vote shall be taken on final action of any business before the committee. On a roll call vote the names of committee members shall be called alphabetically by surname, except the Chairman shall be called upon last. Each member present shall be allowed to pass on one call of the roll, and shall vote "yes" or "no" (aye, nay) or respond "present." Members may change their votes before the announcement of the results and members may explain their vote on any business before the committee.

RULE 7. Whenever a motion is adopted in the committee on a divided vote, any member may request a minority report.

RULE 8. With the exception of executive sessions ordered by a majority of the committee constituting a quorum, all committee meetings shall be open to the other Members of the Legislature, the press and public so long as a proper decorum is maintained.

RULE 9. In the absence of the Chairman, some other committee member designated by the Speaker shall preside.

RULE 10. The Chairman shall prepare a notice of the date, time, place and general description of the matters to be considered in each meeting and shall distribute copies to committee members, the Information Desk and the Chief Clerk's Office by at least the previous day before each committee meeting.

RULE 11. Written Committee minutes shall be filed with the Chief Clerk's Office within a reasonable time but not later than two weeks from time of completion of meetings. Attendance records of all committee meetings shall be filed with the Chief Clerk's Office within 24 hours from time of completion of meetings.

RULE 12. The Rules of the Arizona House of Representatives for all other procedures and business before the committee are adopted and shall prevail in the Ethics Committee.

RULE 13. The Chairman shall receive any sworn complaint alleging unethical conduct. Complaints shall be in writing, signed by the Member or Members filing the complaint, and notarized. The sworn complaint shall contain: (a) a statement of fact within the Complainant's personal knowledge describing the alleged unethical conduct; (b) the law or House Rule that is alleged to have been violated, and; (c) all documents alleged to support the complaint.

RULE 14. The Chairman shall review and may distribute a copy of each complaint and supporting documentation to all members of the Committee and to the member who is the subject of the complaint. The member who is the subject of a distributed complaint shall have the opportunity to respond to the complaint in writing.

RULE 15. In any evidentiary hearing before the Ethics Committee, the member who is the subject of the complaint shall be present and have the right to present evidence and to examine all of the evidence against the member, the right to cross-examine witnesses, and the right to be represented by counsel of the member's choice and at the member's expense.

ETHICS COMMITTEE REPORT
ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Fifty-Seventh Legislature – First Regular Session

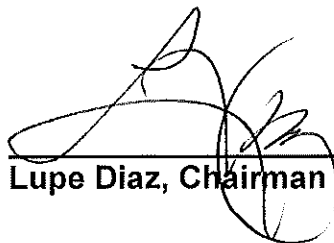
January 16, 2025

Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Ethics reports that it has had under consideration

**Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest (Personal Financial Interest) Rules
adopted as House Rules 33 and 34, on January 16, 2025.**

**and respectfully recommends that in the opinion of this Committee the same are
approved as written and adopted.**



Lupe Diaz, Chairman

nc

**ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Fifty-seventh Legislature - First Regular Session**

ROLL CALL VOTE

COMMITTEE ON _____ ETHICS _____ BILL NO. _____

DATE January 16, 2025


MOTION: That Rules 33+34
be approved and
affirmed

	PASS	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT
Contreras		✓			
Griffin		✓			
Mathis		✓			
Carter, Vice-Chairman		✓			
Diaz, Chairman		✓			
		5	0	0	0

APPROVED:



LUPE DIAZ, Chairman
NEAL CARTER, Vice-Chairman



COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Attachment 5 _____

RULE 33
CODE OF ETHICS

A. No member shall:

1. Intentionally solicit, accept or agree to accept from any source, whether directly or indirectly and whether by himself or through any other person, any personal financial benefit, including any gift for himself or another, upon an agreement or understanding that his vote, opinion, judgment, exercise of discretion or other action as a public official will thereby be influenced.

2. Disclose or use information designated by law as confidential in any manner prohibited by law.

3. Knowingly disclose or use, other than in the performance of his official duties, information gained as a result of his official position and which is not available to the general public, for his personal financial benefit or the financial benefit of any other person, including compensation from any employment, transaction or investment entered into that utilizes or is based upon such information.

4. Enter into any contract with a public agency or have an interest in the profits or benefits of a contract entered into with a public agency by any other person or entity, unless:

(a) The total gross annual income value of the contract is less than one thousand dollars, or

(b) The contract is entered into by a business of which the member, his spouse or any minor child of whom the member has custody, owns or controls, individually or combined, less than ten percent thereof, or

(c) The contract has been awarded through public and competitive bidding pursuant to law, or

(d) The subject of the contract between a member and a public agency is an appointment or employment for which an exception exists pursuant to Article IV, Part 2, Section 4 or 5 of the Constitution of Arizona.

5. Appear for a fee on behalf of another person or entity before any public agency for the purpose of influencing such agency by use of threat to initiate or take an action in the discharge of his official duties that would be adverse to such agency.

B. For the purposes of this Rule:

1. A member shall be deemed to "have an interest in the profits of a contract" if the contract is entered into by the member or the member's spouse or any minor child of whom the member has legal custody.

2. "Public agency" means all courts and any department, agency, board, commission, institution or instrumentality of this state but does not include counties, cities and towns or any other political subdivision.

3. "Business" includes any corporation, partnership, joint venture, sole proprietorship, business trust, enterprise, organization, trade, occupation or profession.

4. "Gift" includes any gratuity, special discount, favor, service, economic opportunity, loan or other benefit received without lawful consideration and not provided to members of the public at large but does not include political campaign contributions if such contributions are publicly reported as required by law.

5. "Fee" includes any compensation but does not include benefits received pursuant to law as a result of being a legislator.

RULE 34

PERSONAL FINANCIAL INTEREST

A. A member who anticipates taking an action in the discharge of his official duties in which he may have a personal financial interest shall:

1. Prepare a written statement describing the matter to be acted upon and the nature of the potential interest; and
2. Deliver a copy of the statement to the Speaker, the Chairman of the Ethics Committee and the Chief Clerk. Such statement shall be retained by the Chief Clerk as a public record.

B. A member shall report a potential personal financial interest pursuant to subsection A as soon as the member is aware of such potential interest. If, however, such awareness occurs when the House is convened on the floor or during a meeting of a committee, subcommittee or caucus, a member shall report a potential personal financial interest as soon after the adjournment of that body as is practicable.

C. A member may abstain from taking any action in which he has a personal financial interest. Upon declining to participate in any legislative action on the floor, in committee or in subcommittee, the member shall state his decision and such decision shall be recorded in the Journal or minutes of that body. Prior to declining to vote in any legislative action on the floor, a member must first prepare a written statement describing the nature of the personal financial interest or the reason why the member is declining to vote and deliver the statement to the Office of the Chief Clerk and the office of the Speaker. If the member fails to file the statement prior to the member's declaration on the floor, the member shall be subject to Rule 14(E).

D. A member in doubt as to the propriety of any action proposed to be taken by him and involving a potential personal financial interest under this Rule may request the Ethics Committee to render an advisory opinion on the facts. The advisory opinion shall be issued not later than 5 days from the date of receipt of that request and be filed with the Speaker, the Chairman of the Ethics Committee and the Chief Clerk. Such opinion shall be retained by the Chief Clerk as a public record.

E. For the purposes of this Rule:

1. "An action in the discharge of his official duties" means introduction, sponsorship, debate, amendment, passage, defeat, approval, consideration or any other official action on any measure, amendment, confirmation, nomination, appointment, report or any other matter pending or proposed in a committee, subcommittee, caucus or on the floor of the House.

2. A personal financial interest exists if it is reasonably foreseeable that an action in the discharge of his official duties will have a material financial benefit or detriment either directly or indirectly on the member, his spouse or any minor child of whom he has legal custody, except that no personal financial interest exists if the legislator or such member of his household is a member of a class of persons and it reasonably appears that a majority of the total membership of that class is to be affected by such action.