

Our Code of Ethics governs relationships, professional conduct and practices among Commissioners and its agents, applicant agencies, assessors and the general public.



**M**embers and representatives of the Commission shall serve with appropriate concern for the integrity of the accreditation process and with no purpose of personal gain.

**R**elationships between members or representatives of the Commission and the assessed agency shall be of such character as to promote mutual respect within the police profession and toward the goal of improving the quality of police services.

**N**o member or representative of the Commission shall act in an official capacity in any matter in which personal interest could impair objectivity.

**N**o member or representative of the Commission shall use his/her position to promote any partisan political purposes.

**N**o member or representative of the Commission shall accept any gift or favor of a nature to imply an obligation that is inconsistent with the free and objective exercise of their professional responsibilities. At the conclusion of the on-site assessment, assessors may accept a gift from the agency that is intended to serve as a remembrance of the assessment. The gift item shall be *small* in value and may only be presented on the *last* day of the assessment *after* the “exit” meeting. In the absence of the Executive Director, both the assessors and the agency shall report all items in the required manner without reservation to the Commission.

**M**embers and representatives of the Commission shall report without reservation any corrupt or unethical behavior, which could affect the integrity of the accreditation process.

**M**embers and representatives of the Commission shall maintain the integrity of private information and will neither seek personal data beyond that needed to perform official responsibilities, nor reveal information to anyone.

**A**ssessors agree to serve as representatives of the Commission and understand that their relationship with the assessed agency must remain professional and non-adversarial.

**A**ssessors shall be diligent in their responsibility to thoroughly review an agency’s compliance documentation and accurately report their findings to the Commission.

**A**ssessors shall ensure that statements in the Final Report critical of the assessed agency will be made only as they are verifiable and constructive in purpose.

**A**ssessors have access to information and records not normally available to individuals outside the agency, so inherent in the position of an assessor, is the expectation that access to this information shall *only* be used to further the process of accreditation.

**A**ssessors agree that both during and after the assessment, not to divulge to any person, firm or entity or in any way use for personal benefit, or that of another, any information obtained about the assessed agency during the course of their duties as an assessor. Assessors acknowledge that all information concerning the Commission and the agency to be certified or accredited is strictly confidential and not subject to any disclosure, expressed or implied.

**C**onflicts of interest, especially those that are obvious or personal, shall be avoided. Conflicts refer to those circumstances or relationships that might affect an assessor's objectivity, or the appearance of objectivity, if selected for the assessment.

