

THE ADVISOR

High moral and ethical standards are essential to assure the trust, respect, and confidence of the people of Alaska.



SELECT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE ETHICS

November 2025

2026 Ethics Committee Public Member Vacancy

The Select Committee on Legislative Ethics has a public member vacancy. Public members are selected by the Chief Justice of the Alaska Supreme Court and ratified by two thirds of each house of the legislature. Public members serve a three-year term.

A Public Member may not be a legislator, a legislative employee, an elected or appointed official required to make disclosure under [AS 39.50](#) (public official financial disclosure), an officer of a political party, a candidate for public office, or a registered lobbyist.

Considerations for Public Members:

- Members are only provided per diem and travel expenses to attend meetings,
- Members must file Financial Disclosures with APOC, and
- The Committee normally meets four to six times/year in Anchorage or Juneau.

➡ **CORRECTION:** Interested individuals may apply to be a public member of the committee by sending a letter of interest along with a resume to **Chief Justice Susan Carney, Alaska Supreme Court, 303 K St., Anchorage, AK 99501**. Include your political party affiliation as noted on your voter registration on file with the Alaska Division of Elections.

Please inform friends or colleagues that you feel would be an asset to the Ethics Committee to submit a letter of interest and resume to the Chief Justice's office.

Learn more about the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics at <http://ethics.akleg.gov/>.

Committee Members

Joyce Anderson, Chair
Skip Cook
Carl White
Conner Thomas
Deb Fancher
Senator Gary Stevens
Senator Robert Yundt
Representative Kevin McCabe
Representative Alyse Galvin

Kevin Reeve
Administrator

DISCLAIMER: Information in this newsletter is given as a general overview.

Your circumstances may require more specific information and advice.

Contact the Ethics Office if you have any questions as to whether your intended action is in compliance with the Ethics Act AS 24.60.

You Ask, We Answer

May a legislator distribute seasonal greeting cards to constituents and others who have contacted the office regarding legislative issues?

Yes. Seasonal greeting cards mailed to constituents in your district have a legislative purpose. A legislator is permitted to send seasonal greeting cards with the use of state resources. Legislative staff may address the cards and sign the cards. Legislative funds may be used to purchase the cards and mail the cards. You may also send seasonal greeting cards to individuals who are not your constituents or to organizations that have contacted you or your legislative office concerning an issue, or worked with you regarding a matter of legislative concern. Seasonal greeting card mailings outside of these parameters, for example, to constituents of one political party only or to family members and personal friends, is prohibited. [AS 24.60.030\(a\)\(2\)\(E\)](#)

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Constituent Services: What is Allowed, What is Not?

Constituents generally do not know the laws, rules, and regulations of particular state agencies and they lack knowledge about how to access needed services. Legislative offices often serve as a link between constituents and state government.

The Ethics Committee defines constituent service as assisting constituents in navigating government bureaucracy and developing a line of communication between a government agency and a constituent. The legislative purpose behind constituent service is threefold:

- to move the constituent's concerns forward,
- to make sure everyone involved knows what they need to know, and
- to urge the government agency to take timely action.

Keep in mind there is a difference between performing constituent services as defined by the committee and advocating for a constituent's **private interest or benefit**. To advocate is to plead the cause of another.

[AS 24.60.030\(a\)\(2\)](#) prohibits the use of public resources for the private benefit of a legislator, legislative employee, or another person. Examples of prohibited activities include serving as a personal representative for a constituent, negotiating a settlement with a state or other government agency for a constituent, obtaining records on behalf of a constituent, or pursuing an appeal with a government agency for a constituent.

The fact a constituent may receive a private benefit, such as a monetary award for a favorable solution to an issue, in and of itself is not considered a private benefit under [AS 24.60.030\(a\)\(2\)](#).

[AO 08-03](#) contains examples that will be helpful when working on constituent issues.

Ethics Complaints and Confidentiality

Complaints filed with the Ethics Committee are initially confidential.



The first step in the complaint process is a preliminary examination of the complaint by the Ethics Administrator to determine whether the allegations in the complaint, if true, would amount to a violation of the Legislative Ethics Act. If the committee determines there is no violation of the Act, the complaint is dismissed and remains confidential.

If the committee determines an investigation is warranted, the subject of the complaint may waive confidentiality for themselves but they cannot waive confidentiality for others.

If a legislator or legislative employee mentions the existence of a confidential complaint, the Ethics Committee may initiate a complaint against the person talking *about* the complaint.

See [Complaint H 17-03](#) for more information. **Contact the Ethics Office at 907-269-0150 with questions.**

Contact the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics

Mailing Address:
PO Box 90251
Anchorage, AK 99509-0251

Physical Location:
Anchorage Legislative Office Building
1500 W Benson Blvd Suite 220
Anchorage, AK 99503

Phone: 907-269-0150
FAX: 907-269-0152
Email: Ethics.Committee@akleg.gov
Website: <http://ethics.akleg.gov/>

Disclosure Notes

Here's a Tip!



To avoid filing a late disclosure for a gift of travel

A gift of travel for a legislative purpose disclosure is due within 60 days of the first (or only) day of travel.

If you accept a gift of travel for a legislative purpose and the deadline is approaching, and you have not received a statement from the donor with the gift value, the Ethics Office advises you to reach out to the donor and request the information.

If the donor does not provide the information in a timely manner, file your disclosure using your best estimate as to the value of the gift.

When the donor supplies the exact gift value amount, contact the Ethics Office and ask that your disclosure be amended to show the correct gift value.

File Ethics Disclosures Online. It's Easy!

1. Go to <http://intranet.akleg.gov/> & scroll down to click on **Login** in the **File an Ethics Disclosure** section.
2. Enter the filer's computer login (not email address) and password. NOTE: If the filer is a legislator, use the legislator's computer login and password.
3. Click on **Sign in**.
4. Click on the type of disclosure you want to file.
5. Complete the form using drop down menus when available. Remember, **gifts of travel are for the purpose of obtaining information about matters of legislative concern**. Provide complete information about the donor, a one or two sentence narrative that addresses how the information obtained is a matter of legislative concern, and **attach a copy of the agenda**.
6. Check your completed disclosure and click "Proceed."
7. Review your disclosure and if correct, press "Submit."

Need More Help Filing Your Disclosure?

Download a four-page detailed instruction handout at <https://ethics.akleg.gov/disclosures.php> or contact the Ethics Office at 907-269-0150 or 907-269-8179 if you need more information.

Are You Leaving Legislative Service?

The Ethics Act ([AS 24.60](#)) requires legislators, legislative employees, and public members of the Ethics Committee to disclose certain activities and associations. **If you leave legislative service without filing a required disclosure, [AS 24.60.115](#) requires you to file the disclosure within 90 days after leaving service.** Contact the Ethics Office if you no longer have legislative credentials and you need a paper copy of the disclosure in order to submit your disclosure.

Required disclosures include:

- Membership on a Board of Directors
- State Benefit and Loan Programs
- Representation for Compensation
- State Contracts, Leases, and Grants over \$5000
- Close Economic Association
- Close Economic Association - *Lobbyist Spouse*
- Gift of Travel and/or Hospitality
- Gift of Travel and/or Hospitality Primarily for Matters of Legislative Concern - *Family Member*
- Gift of Legal Services
- Gift for Compassionate Reasons
- Sanctioned Charity Event - *For use only when event is NOT a "matter of legislative concern"*
- Sanctioned Charity Event - *Family Member - For use only when event is NOT a "matter of legislative concern"*

Filing prior to leaving your job is simplest. We encourage doing so before leaving legislative service. Contact the Ethics Office at 907-269-0150 for more information.