

Finger Lakes Regional Telecommunications Development Corp.

Code of Ethics

**Section 1.** It is the purpose of this policy to promulgate the rules of ethical conduct for the members, officers and employees of FLRTDC. These rules shall serve as a guide for official conduct of the officers and employees of FLRTDC. This Code of Ethics, as adopted, shall not conflict with, but shall be in addition to any prohibition of article eighteen of the General Municipal Law or any other general or special law relating to ethical conduct and interest in contracts of local development corporations, municipal officers and employees.

**Section 2. Definitions.**

(a) **“Member, Officer or Employee”** means a board member, officer or employee of FLRTDC.

(b) **“Interest”** means a pecuniary or material benefit accruing to a member, officer or employee unless the context otherwise requires.

**Section 3. Standards of Conduct.** Every officer or employee of FLRTDC shall be subject to and abide by the following standards of conduct:

(a) The following Rule taken from the Public Officers Law sets forth the governing principle of this policy:

“No member, officer or employee should have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, or engage in any business or transaction or professional activity or incur any obligation of any nature, which is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his other duties in the public interest.”

(b) **Gifts.** He or she shall not directly or indirectly, solicit any gift; or accept or receive any gift have a value of seventy-five dollars or more, whether in the form of money, services, loan, travel, entertainment, hospitality, thing or promise, or any other form, under circumstances in which it could be reasonably be inferred that the gift was intended to influence him or her, or could reasonably be expected to influence him or her in the performance of his or her official duties or was intended as a reward for any official action on his or her part.

(c) **Confidential Information.** He or she shall not disclose confidential information acquired by him or her in the course of his or her official duties to use such information to further his or her personal interest.

(d) **Appearance before FLRTDC.** He or she shall not participate in any discussions, presentations, or deliberation by or on behalf of FLRTDC or any entity with which he or she is affiliated. In the event such a matter comes before FLRTDC, he or she shall be excused from any participation and shall take reasonable steps to insure that the entity with which he or she is

affiliated him or her from the application or contracting process.

(e) **Disclosure of interest in Corporate activity.** To the extent that he or she knows any private interest in any activity of FLRTDC officer or employee who participates in the discussion shall publicly disclose on the official record the nature and extent of any direct or indirect financial or other private interest he or she has in such activity.

(f) **Investments in conflict with official duties.** He or she shall not invest or hold any investments directly or indirectly in any financial business, commercial or other private transaction, which creates a conflict with his or her official duties.

(g) **Private employment.** He or she shall not engage in, solicit, negotiate for or promise to accept private employment or render services for private interests when such employment or service creates a conflict with or impairs the proper discharge of his official duties without following the guidelines set forth in subsection (d) above.

(h) **Future employment.** He or she shall not, after the termination of service or employment with FLRTDC, appear before it in relation to any cases, proceeding or application in which he or she personally participated during the period of his or her services or employment or which was under his or her active consideration.

**Section 4.** Nothing herein shall be deemed to bar or prevent the timely filing by a present or former member officer or employee of any claim, account, demand or suit against the FLRTDC member of his family arising out of any personal injury or property damage or for any lawful benefit authorized or permitted by law.

**Section 5. Distribution of Code of Ethics.** The Chairman of the Board of Directors of the FLRDC shall cause a copy of this code of ethics to be distributed to every member, officer and employee of FLRTDC within thirty days after the effective date of this resolution. Each member, officer and employee elected or appointed thereafter shall be furnished a copy before entering upon the duties of his office or employment.