

FY 2024-25 Proposed Budget and Multi-Year Capital Plan

Commission on Ethics and Public Trust

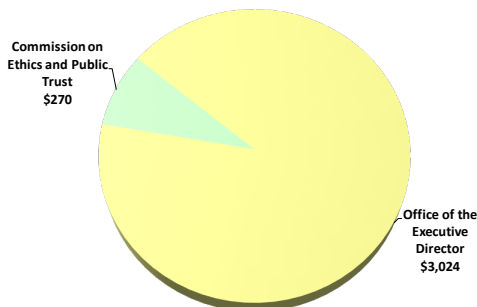
The Commission on Ethics and Public Trust (Ethics Commission) is an independent agency with advisory, investigatory and quasi-judicial powers. The purpose of the Ethics Commission is to promote and enforce high standards of ethical conduct in government and to build and maintain confidence in public servants.

As part of the General Government strategic area, the Ethics Commission is dedicated to reinforcing public trust in the administration of government by informing County and municipal elected officials, employees, the public and the private sector about the County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance (County Ethics Code), and the various municipal ethics ordinances. The Ethics Commission is authorized to investigate complaints and render advisory opinions related to the following County or municipal legislation: the County Ethics Code including sections related to Lobbyist Registration and Cone of Silence, the Citizens' Bill of Rights, Ethical Campaign Practices, the Employee Protection Ordinance and the Public Service Honor Code. It also provides guidance on State of Florida Public Records and Government in the Sunshine laws. Community outreach and educational programs are crucial components of the Ethics Commission's mission. The Ethics Commission hosts a wide array of programs to educate the public on issues concerning ethics, good governance and accountability through town hall meetings, panel discussions and training workshops, as well as local and national conferences and forums.

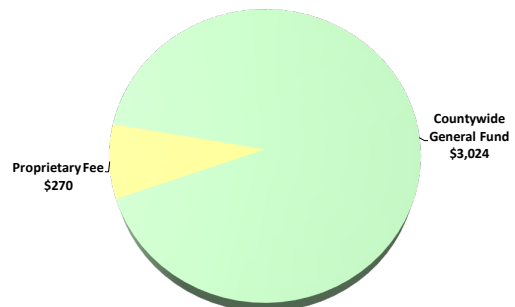
The Ethics Commission, by Board ordinance, has jurisdiction extending to municipalities within Miami-Dade County. Its jurisdiction also extends to certain lobbyists, contractors and vendors. The Ethics Commission works closely with the Office of the Inspector General and the State Attorney's Office, as well as other criminal law enforcement agencies.

FY 2024-25 Proposed Operating Budget

Expenditures by Activity (dollars in thousands)



Revenues by Source (dollars in thousands)



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TABLE OF ORGANIZATION

<u>OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</u>	
Provides administrative support to the Ethics Commission; recommends legislative and policy initiatives that promote ethical government and accountability; issues and approves ethics opinions; supervises and participates in ethics training programs for public officials, employees and candidates for elected office.	
<u>FY 23-24</u> 17	<u>FY 24-25</u> 17

The FY 2024-25 total number of full-time equivalent positions is 17

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DIVISION: OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Commission on Ethics and Public Trust promotes and enforces high standards of ethical conduct in government and builds and maintains confidence in public servants.

- Conducts investigations of official and/or employee misconduct in County and municipal governments and processes complaints that are filed by third parties to be heard by the Ethics Commission
- Manages, assigns and reviews enforcement actions undertaken by the Ethics Commission investigators and the Commission Advocate
- Provides training for government officials and personnel, candidates for office, students and the business community regarding ordinances under the purview of the Ethics Commission and ethical practices in government
- Recommends legislative and policy initiatives that promote ethical government and accountability; liaises with the community through outreach activities, including speeches, media events, reports and publications
- Responds to requests for advisory opinions by officials, employees and contractors under the authority of the Ethics Commission
- Responsible for the day-to-day operation of the agency including budget and personnel functions
- Manages and supports the prosecution of cases before the Ethics Commission and refers cases for criminal prosecution or other disposition(s) with appropriate agencies
- Acts as repository for county financial disclosures and outside employment statements

Strategic Plan Objectives

- GG1-1: Support a customer-focused organization by providing convenient access to information and services, and by ensuring processes are easy to navigate

Departmental Objectives	Performance Measures	Measure Type	Good Direction	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	FY 23-24	FY 23-24	FY 24-25
				Actual	Actual	Budget	Projection	Target
Improve the image of County Government	Number of complaints filed*	IN	↔	62	51	50	50	50
	Number of requests for opinions and inquiries filed**	IN	↔	300	322	250	250	200
	Number of investigations handled*	OP	↔	77	59	75	65	50
	Number of Hotline, Mailbox and General Inquiries Responses	OP	↔	515	441	350	650	500
	Number of Ethics trainings, workshops and outreach	OP	↔	91	92	100	100	100
	Number of reports and/or findings provided to selection committees***	OP	↔	2,261	1390	1,500	1400	1400

*Bill CS/SB 7014, passed by the Florida Legislature, preempts local ethics commissions from ordering the investigation of possible ethics violations in the absence of a third-party sworn complaint. This legislation is anticipated to significantly impact the Ethics Commission's investigatory function and lessen its investigation workload

**Due to the passage of Amendment 10 to the State of Florida Constitution on November 6, 2018, the Sheriff's Office, Supervisor of Elections, Clerk of the Court and Comptroller, Tax Collector, and Property Appraiser will now be run independently of County government. These changes will reduce the number of employees covered by the ethics code and likely the number of opinions issued by the agency in future

***As per BCC Resolution R-62-22 amending IO 3-34, which directed the Ethics Commission to provide reports and findings regarding any vendor or proposed subcontractor under consideration during a competitive procurement process to the selection committee

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- During FY 2024-25, the Ethics Commission will assume performance of the financial disclosure and outside employment repository function from the Elections Department, due to the establishment of an independent Supervisor of Elections through passage of Amendment 10 to the State of Florida Constitution
- The FY 2024-25 Proposed Budget includes a transfer of \$130,000, as required under Ordinance 10-56, from the Office of the Clerk Lobbyist Trust Fund to support ethics training and conference expenditures including, but not limited to, educational materials and personnel expenditures

SELECTED ITEM HIGHLIGHTS AND DETAILS

Line-Item Highlights	(dollars in thousands)				
	Actual FY 21-22	Actual FY 22-23	Budget FY 23-24	Projection FY 23-24	Proposed FY 24-25
Advertising	0	1	0	0	0
Fuel	0	0	0	0	0
Overtime	2	0	0	0	0
Rent	0	0	0	0	0
Security Services	0	0	1	0	0
Temporary Services	0	0	0	0	0
Travel and Registration	0	1	6	1	4
Utilities	6	7	8	5	8

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OPERATING FINANCIAL SUMMARY

(dollars in thousands)	Actual FY 21-22	Actual FY 22-23	Budget FY 23-24	Proposed FY 24-25
Revenue Summary				
General Fund Countywide	2,322	2,535	2,717	3,024
Carryover	207	111	111	0
Fees and Charges	145	144	140	140
Lobbyist Trust Fund	133	126	130	130
Total Revenues	2,807	2,916	3,098	3,294
Operating Expenditures				
Summary				
Salary	1,914	1,976	2,150	2,262
Fringe Benefits	665	727	805	877
Contractual Services	12	2	10	11
Other Operating	68	61	91	97
Charges for County Services	34	38	33	33
Capital	3	1	9	14
Total Operating Expenditures	2,696	2,805	3,098	3,294
Non-Operating Expenditures				
Summary				
Transfers	0	0	0	0
Distribution of Funds In Trust	0	0	0	0
Debt Service	0	0	0	0
Depreciation, Amortizations and Depletion	0	0	0	0
Reserve	0	0	0	0
Total Non-Operating Expenditures	0	0	0	0

(dollars in thousands)	Total Funding		Total Positions	
Expenditure By Program	Budget FY 23-24	Proposed FY 24-25	Budget FY 23-24	Proposed FY 24-25
Strategic Area: General Government				
Commission on Ethics and Public Trust	381	270	0	0
Office of the Executive Director	2,717	3,024	17	17
Total Operating Expenditures	3,098	3,294	17	17