

Merom Brachman, *Chairman*  
Maryann B. Gall, *Vice Chair*  
Bruce E. Bailey  
Betty Davis  
Michael A. Flack



OHIO ETHICS COMMISSION  
William Green Building  
30 West Spring Street, L3  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-2256  
Telephone: (614) 466-7090  
Fax: (614) 466-8368

[www.ethics.ohio.gov](http://www.ethics.ohio.gov)

Paul M. Nick  
*Executive Director*

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**For more information, contact:**  
Paul M. Nick  
Executive Director  
(614) 466-7090

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### **ETHICS COMMISSION REVIEWS CONFIDENTIAL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS**

At its meeting on September 25, 2013, staff reviewed with the Ethics Commission the financial disclosure statements filed in 2013 by 46 of the 85 boards and commissions whose statements are confidential by statute. Ohio's Ethics Law requires that the statements filed by those serving in these unpaid positions shall be confidential, except for those parts of the statements that may be identified as a potential conflict of interest.

The purpose of these filings is to enable those serving to avoid any interference with the public interests that the person is required to serve in the exercise of the authority and duties of the conduct of their office. If a potential conflict of interest may exist, then the part of the disclosure statement that would indicate such potential becomes a public record.

The Commission has indicated by an asterisk on the following list those entities covered by the statute where relevant information was cited: <http://ethics.ohio.gov/disclosure/confreviewlist.pdf> The Commission will continue review of additional Ohio public entities at its upcoming meetings.

In other business, the Commission heard reports on completed 2013 advisory opinions and updates to its online education projects. In executive session, the Commission also reviewed its monthly confidential report on complaints and pending investigations of alleged violations of the Ethics Law and related statutes.