



VERNON PARISH POLICE JURY

ETHICS POLICY

POLICY

Recognizing that as an officer, official, volunteer, or employee of the Vernon Parish Police Jury, whether appointed or elected, paid or unpaid, is filling a position of public trust, responsibility, and authority endowed by the State of Louisiana, the Vernon Parish Police Jury, individually and collectively, are governed by the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics.

APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all officers, officials, volunteers, or employees of the Vernon Parish Police Jury.

This policy is effective on the date of approval and **supersedes and replaces all prior policies** and understandings, whether oral or written, relating to the subject matter hereof.

GENERAL STATEMENT

Certain actions of officers, officials, volunteers and employees of the Vernon Parish Police Jury, whether appointed or elected, paid or unpaid, may be considered improper, and in some circumstances, illegal. Actions which may present a conflict of interest, acceptance of gifts, or solicitations, or gratuities, abuse of authority of office or position, and decisions regarding the employment of a family member of an official are all subject to statutory restrictions. The ethical conduct of officers, officials, volunteers, and employees of the Vernon Parish Police Jury, whether appointed or elected, paid or unpaid, shall be in accordance with state law.

TRAINING

All officers, officials, volunteers and employees of the Vernon Parish Police Jury, whether appointed or elected, paid or unpaid, must complete one hour of ethics training per year. Newly elected officials must complete this training within 90 days of taking office. Education and training shall be provided by employees of the Louisiana Board of Ethics or others authorized to provide such training by the Louisiana Board of Ethics, and shall be administered through seminars or via the Internet.

Note: The Vernon Parish Police Jury is required to maintain proof of each individual who has completed ethics training.

VIOLATIONS

Violation of the Code of Ethics may result in:

- (1) Censure.
- (2) Forfeiture of any gifts and/or payments received.
- (3) Removal, suspension, reduction in pay, or a demotion of the public employee.
- (4) Up to a \$10,000 fine.
- (5) In addition to the statutory penalty, you may be fined the entire amount of economic gain from violating the Code, plus an additional 50%.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have read the above Ethics Policy and understand that I am expected to abide by the Vernon Parish Code of Ethics.

Print Name

Signature

Date: _____