

his official opinion, judgment or action shall be influenced thereby, or shall be given in any particular manner or upon any particular side of any question or matter upon which he may be required to act in his official capacity, is punishable by imprisonment in a state prison not exceeding ten years, or by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or by both.

4. Code of Ethics for Officials.

(a) No public official shall decide or participate in any ruling decision, or opinion in which he has a financial interest, as owner, member, partner, officer, employee, stockholder, or other participant of or in any private business or professional enterprise that will be affected by such decision, nor shall an official participate in any ruling decision, or opinion affecting any person related to him as defined in paragraph 1 (b). This subsection shall not be construed to prohibit an official from having or holding private investment, business, or professional interests, but shall be construed to apply when such interests are or reasonably may be in conflict with the proper performance of his official duties.

(b) No public official shall act as broker, agent, attorney, representative, or employee for any person or firm, in his business dealings with the County or its agencies or agencies of the State operating for the County or represent private interests before the County or such described agencies; nor shall any public official decide or participate in a decision on any matter in which a close business or professional associate has acted in any of these capacities or represented private interests before the County or such described agencies. This shall not be construed, however, to prevent officials, or any close business or professional associates of such officials, from participating in matters with the County or such described agencies, where such participation has no relationship to the official duties of such official, nor shall the term "participation" include the preparation of surveys, architectural or site plans when such are not prepared for presentation to the board or commission upon which such member serves.

(c) No public official shall accept other employment which he may reasonably believe will impair his independence ~~or~~ OF judgment in the exercise of his official duties.

(d) No public official shall disclose confidential information acquired by him in the course of his official duties nor use such information to further his personal interests.

(e) No public official shall voluntarily appear as attorney, counsel, or otherwise represent private interests or give opinion evidence against the interests of the County or its agencies or agencies of the State operating for the County in any action or proceedings in which the County or agency or any official of the County or agency acting in his official duty is a party, except where the interests of the County or agency are incompatible or adverse one to the other, and the official has been assigned to so appear or give evidence in accordance with his duty, or where such participation in matters with the County has no relationship to the official duties of such official.

(f) No public official shall have any interest, direct or indirect, in any contract with the County Commissioners or any agency or depart-