

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.

(6) Contracts. No public official shall have any interest, direct or indirect, in any contract with the county commissioners or any agency or department or receive any benefit or profit therefrom except as provided under subsection (g) of this section.

(7) Ex parte communications generally. When a public official shall receive any ex parte communication concerning a case where a determination or decision is required by law to be made only after a public hearing for interested parties, such official shall make the ex parte communication public and a part of the record of such proceedings.

(8) Ex parte communications with public officials. When a public official shall receive any ex parte communication dealing with the merits of a case wherein that official's determination or decision is required by law to be made only after a public hearing for interested parties, and if the communication be oral, the substance of such communication shall be duly noted for the purposes of the record, and if such communication be in writing, then the entire writing shall be placed upon the record.

(e) Any public official who has, will have or later acquires an interest in any actual or proposed contract with Prince George's County, shall publicly disclose the nature and extent of such interest in writing to the office of the senior resident judge of the circuit court for Prince George's County as soon as he has knowledge of such actual or prospective interest. Notwithstanding the provisions of this [section] SUBSECTION, disclosures shall not be required in the case of an interest in a contract described in [section 61A-7 hereof] SUBSECTION (G) OF THIS SECTION.

(f) Any public official who willfully and knowingly violates the foregoing provisions of [sections 61A-4 and 61A-5] SUBSECTIONS (D) AND (E) of this [subtitle] SECTION is punishable by imprisonment for not more than two (2) years, or by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars [(\$1,000.00)], or by both.

(g) The provisions of [section 61A-4] SUBSECTION (D) of this [subtitle] SECTION shall not apply to:

(1) A contract with a person, firm, corporation or association in which a public official has an interest solely by reason of employment as an employee thereof, if the remuneration of such employment will not be directly affected as a result of such contract and the duties of such