

## City of Corona Code of Ethics

The citizens and businesses of Corona are entitled to responsible, fair and honest local government which has earned the public's full confidence for integrity. The proper operation of democratic government requires that decision-makers be independent, impartial, and accountable to those they serve.

Accordingly, the Corona City Council has adopted this Code of Ethics to:

1. Describe the standards of behavior to which its leaders aspire;
2. Provide an ongoing source of guidance to City officials in their day-to-day service to the City; and
3. Promote and maintain a culture of ethics.

This Code of Ethics builds upon the City of Corona's ideals, which include:

1. Respect for the Individual;
2. Honor of the Public Trust; and
3. Open and Honest Communication.

Elected officials, officers, employees, members of committees and commissions, and volunteers shall comply with the laws of the Nation, the State of California and the City of Corona in the performance of their public duties. These laws include, but are not limited to: the United States and the California Constitutions; the Corona Municipal Code; laws pertaining to conflicts of interest, election campaigns, financial disclosures, employer responsibilities and open processes of government; and City ordinance and policies.

The purpose of this Code of Ethics is to set a standard of conduct for all elected officials, officers, employees, members of committees and commissions, and volunteers for the City of Corona.

### **A. We Respect the Individual**

- I treat my fellow City officials, staff and the public with patience, courtesy and civility, even when we disagree on what is best for the community.
- I promote consistency, equity and non-discrimination in public agency decision-making.

**B. We honor the public trust as stewards of the community**

- I am a steward of the public trust.
- I understand that the community expects me to serve with dignity and respect for my office, as well as to be the agent of the democratic process acting in the public interest.
- I avoid actions that may cause the public to question my independent judgment.
- I do not use my office or the resources of the City for personal or political gain.
- I am a prudent steward of public resources and actively consider the impact of my decisions on the financial and social stability of the City and its residents.
- I am prepared to make decisions in the public's best interest based on the merits and substance of the matter at hand, and to take responsibility for my actions, whether those decisions are popular or not.

**C. We maintain open and honest communication**

- I am honest and forthright with my fellow officials, the public and others, even when its uncomfortable to do so.
- I encourage diverse public engagement in our decision-making process and support the public's right to know.

We will hold ourselves as individuals and the City of Corona organization as a whole accountable for acting consistently with this Code of Ethics.

Adopted September 5, 2007