



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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City of Scranton employees to receive new Ethics Code

(SCRANTON, PA) — Mayor Wayne E. Evans, City of Scranton, announced today that all City employees will be required to review and acknowledge receipt of the City's Ethics Code.

All City employees will receive a copy of the Code of Ethics and will review, sign and date the new policy for inclusion in their personnel files. The Code explicitly defines prohibited behaviors, such as conflicts of interest, gifts, nepotism, fraudulent activity, and misuse of City property and/or personnel, and clearly outlines procedures for reporting infractions while also protecting those who come forward to report potential misconduct.

The administration, along with City Council and the City Controller's Office, is in the process of establishing a complete Board of Ethics. Once City Council approves the Controller's choice, the full board will be in place. Mayor Evans said it is important to move swiftly in these matters, particularly in light of issues within all levels of government.

"Although my tenure is relatively short by most standards, I feel we have a responsibility to our citizens, and to those who will lead the next administration, to be as proactive as possible as we work to improve accountability within City Hall," Mayor Evans said. "It's imperative that we shift from some of the accepted practices of the past, and implement new protocols immediately. I know City employees will welcome this as we move forward. Once the Board is seated, we hope to work with the Board to conduct informational sessions for employees on how the Code will impact their future conduct." The newly-established Board of Ethics will conduct its first meeting tonight.

Implementing the new Code is part of a series of initiatives the City is taking to require accountability for its public servants. The City recently adopted a new Vehicle Policy and City Council voiced support for the expected audits for City gas card usage. "We are now exploring the addition of a GPS system for the City Vehicle Fleet as another level of transparency," Mayor Evans said.

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Members of the public interested in reviewing the new City of Scranton Code of Ethics may review it in person at City Hall during regular business hours, or download a copy from the City's website at www.scrantonpa.gov.

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