



BROWARD OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 2, 2016

Former Lauderdale Lakes Commissioner Eric Haynes Violated Broward's Ethics Code

In the first-ever case to be tried under the Broward Code of Ethics for Elected Officials, former Lauderdale Lakes Commissioner Eric Haynes was found yesterday to have violated the Code.

Mr. Haynes was fined \$750 for failing to file for public inspection a copy of his 2013 Form 1 Statement of Financial Interests while serving as a Broward municipal elected official, in violation of Section 1-19(c)(7) of the Broward County Code of Ordinances. A municipal official's disclosure is "filed for public inspection" under the Code when it is filed with the clerk and its information is uploaded into the municipality's searchable internet database. This mechanism provides the public with centralized access to their municipal officials' disclosures.

Mr. Haynes was also charged with violating the Code's requirement to disclose outside employment and remuneration. The OIG presented evidence that Mr. Haynes received remuneration for his work as a managing member of multiple limited liability companies, but did not file the required disclosure. The hearing officer found Mr. Haynes was not liable because the Code provision in effect at the time did not define employment, and was unclear about whether the term "employment" encompassed self-employment for the management of limited liability companies.

The Code was originally enacted for members of the Board of County Commissioners in late 2010 and made applicable to Broward's municipal elected officials in January 2012. Substantial revisions to the Code were passed in December 15, 2015, including a new definition of employment that defines it as "providing services for any person or entity, other than the Elected Official's governmental employer, in exchange for remuneration."

The [final order](#) is subject to amendment or appeal.