



## BROWARD OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

---

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 25, 2018

#### ***92% of Broward's Elected Officials in Compliance with Ethics Code Requirements to Take, Certify Ethics Training***

Broward Inspector General John W. Scott announced today that the Broward Office of the Inspector General (OIG) issued an [Ethics Compliance Review](#) reporting that 92% of Broward's current elected officials who were in office in 2017 are in substantial compliance with their obligation under the Broward Code of Ethics for Elected Officials (the Ethics Code) to certify that they took four hours of ethics training in calendar year 2017.

There is good cause to believe that 14 municipal elected officials failed to meet the certification requirement. Thus, the OIG is commencing an investigation into whether these officials violated the Ethics Code by failing to make the certification, failing to file the certification for public inspection, failing to take the training, or some combination. Following its investigation, if appropriate, the agency will commence ethics enforcement proceedings by filing ethics complaints under Broward County Charter [Section 10.01](#).

At the beginning of the OIG's review, there were just 65% of current elected officials whose certifications were filed for public inspection, that is, made available on a searchable internet database. We then communicated and worked with municipal clerks and office holders, during which time we received evidence that an additional 37% came into compliance.

The [Ethics Code](#) applies to all members of the Board of County Commissioners, the members of each municipality, and each municipal mayor within Broward County. It provides for several standards of conduct, including the requirement that each new elected official take and certify four hours of ethics training within 120 days of taking office and that each incumbent official take and certify four hours of training each calendar year.

---

John W. Scott, *Inspector General*

One North University Drive, Suite 111 • Plantation, Florida 33324 • (954) 357-7873 • Fax (954) 357-7857

[www.browardig.org](http://www.browardig.org) • (954) 357-TIPS