



**ETHICS ADVISORY COMMISSION
PRELIMINARY PANEL MINUTES
February 27, 2006 – 5DN Conference Room**

06-0470

Members Present: Calvin Bluiett, Vice-Chair
Linda Sorrells, Commissioner
Gloria Tarpley, Commissioner
Roger Wedell, Commissioner (observing capacity only)

Staff Present: Shirley Acy, City Secretary
Deborah A. Watkins, Assistant City Secretary
Jesus Toscano, Assistant City Attorney
Gwen Satterthwaite, Assistant City Attorney
Lisa Christopherson, Assistant City Attorney
Michelle M. Calloway, Ethics Commission Coordinator
Lois Dillard, Records Manager
Monesia Davis, City Secretary's Office

Others present: Councilmember Linda Koop, Respondent
Councilmember Ron Natinsky, Respondent
Councilmember Mitchell Rasansky, Respondent

Meeting called to order at 9:08 AM and conducted per the posted agenda (Exhibit 1).

The Ethics Advisory Commission preliminary panel reviewed the sworn complaints filed by Richard P. Sheridan on February 8, 2006 against Mayor Laura Miller, Mayor Pro Tem Donald Hill, Councilmembers Blaydes, Chaney, Fantroy, Griffith, Koop, Natinsky, Oakley, Rasansky, Salazar and Thornton-Reese alleging violations of Chapter 12A; the responses submitted by Councilmembers Koop, Natinsky and Steven Wolens, Attorney for Mayor Miller, and materials filed in the City Secretary's Office.

Vice-Chair Bluiett called a recess of the meeting at 9:39 AM in order that the Ethics Advisory Commission preliminary panel could meet in executive session under Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code (Open Meetings Act) to seek the City Attorney's legal advice concerning the Code of Ethics and its implementation.

City of Dallas Ethics Advisory Commission

Following the executive session, the Ethics Advisory Commission preliminary panel reconvened in open session at 9:42 AM.

Commissioner Linda Sorrells stated for the record that she had a conflict in reference to the complaint filed against Councilmember James Fantroy. She further stated for the record that the conflict in no way pertained to the substance of the allegations filed against each individual respondent to the sworn complaints filed by Mr. Sheridan. Due to the recusal of Ethics Advisory Commission Preliminary Panel member Linda Sorrells for reasons of conflict, the complaint against Councilmember James Fantroy was not reviewed and no findings rendered (Exhibit 2). A DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT STATEMENT was sworn to and filed in accordance with Chapter 12A by Commissioner Sorrells (Exhibit 3).

The EAC *Preliminary Panel Checklist Template* was utilized for each complaint and the sworn complaints filed against Mayor Miller, Mayor Pro Tem Hill, Councilmembers Blaydes, Chaney, Griffith, Koop, Natinsky, Oakley, Rasansky, Salazar and Thornton-Reese were reviewed. The Preliminary Panel unanimously decided that the complaints failed to state a claim under Chapter 12A and were not supported by just cause. Consequently, the complaints were dismissed. Disposition of the complaints were signed and recorded by the Panel on the EAC *Preliminary Panel Findings Template* (Exhibits 4-14).

Commissioner Tarpley moved to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Sorrells and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 AM.

Vice –Chair