

County of Putnam  
Local Law # 10 of 2015  
(Passed at Regular Full Meeting October 6, 2015)

**APPROVAL/LOCAL LAW AMEND CHAPTER 55/CODE OF PUTNAM COUNTY ENTITLED  
“ETHICS, CODE OF, AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE”**

**A Local Law to Amend Section 55-2 of Chapter 55 of the Code of Putnam County entitled  
“Ethics, Code of, and Financial Disclosure”- “Definitions”**

**Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the County of Putnam, as follows:**

**Section 1.**

**Section 55-2 of the Putnam County Code entitled “Definitions” is hereby amended to  
read as follows:**

**§ 55-2. Definitions.**

**Unless otherwise stated or unless the context otherwise requires, when used in this  
chapter:**

**APPEAR and APPEAR BEFORE -- Communicating in any form, including, without  
limitation, personally, through another person, by letter, by email or other electronic  
means, or by telephone.**

**BOARD OF ETHICS -- The Board of Ethics of the County of Putnam established pursuant  
to § 55-12.**

**COUNTY -- The County of Putnam. "County agency" means any Putnam County  
department or division, board, commission or bureau of any Putnam County department  
but shall not include the County Court.**

**COUNTY OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE -- Any officer or employee of the County, whether  
paid or unpaid, elected or appointed, and includes, without limitation, all members of any  
office, board, body, advisory board, council, commission, agency, department, district,  
administration, division, bureau, or Board of Ethics of the County. "County officer or  
employee" shall not include:**

- A. A judge, justice, officer, or employee of the unified court system;**
- B. A volunteer firefighter or civil defense volunteer; or**
- C. A member of an advisory board of the County if, but only if, the advisory board has  
no authority to implement its recommendations or to act on behalf of the County or to  
restrict the authority of the County to act. No entity established pursuant to the  
General Municipal Law of the State of New York shall be deemed an advisory board  
for purposes of this Subsection.**

**CUSTOMER OR CLIENT**

- A. Any person to whom a County officer or employee has supplied goods or services  
during the previous 24 months having, in the aggregate, a value greater than \$5,000;  
or**
- B. Any person to whom a County officer's or employee's outside employer or business  
has supplied goods or services during the previous 24 months having, in the  
aggregate, a value greater than \$5,000, but only if the County officer or employee  
knows or has reason to know the outside employer or business supplied the goods**

or services.

**GIFT and FINANCIAL BENEFIT** -- Shall include any money, service, license, permit, contract, authorization, loan, travel, entertainment, hospitality, or any promise thereof or any other gratuity or promise thereof or anything of value. A financial transaction may be a financial benefit but shall not be a gift unless it is on terms not available to the general public. "Gift" and "financial benefit" do not include campaign contributions permitted by law.

**MEMBER OF THE HOUSEHOLD** -- Any person with whom a County officer or employee lives as a single household unit.

**MINISTERIAL ACT** -- An administrative act carried out in a prescribed manner not allowing for substantial personal discretion.

**OUTSIDE EMPLOYER OR BUSINESS**

**A. Means:**

- (1) Any activity, other than service to the County, from which the County officer or employee receives compensation for services rendered or goods sold or produced;
- (2) Any entity, other than the County, of which the County officer or employee is a member, officer, director, or employee and from which he or she receives compensation for services rendered or goods sold or produced; or
- (3) Any entity in which the County officer or employee has an ownership interest of 5% or more.

**B.** For purposes of this definition, "compensation" shall not include reimbursement for necessary expenses, including travel expenses.

**PERSON** -- Includes individuals and entities.

**RELATIVE** -- A spouse, child, stepchild, sibling, half-brother, half-sister, parent, stepfather, stepmother, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, uncle, aunt, niece, nephew, and first cousin. "Relative" shall also include any person claimed as a dependent on the New York State individual tax return of a County officer or employee.

## Section 2.

This Local Law shall become effective immediately.

**BY POLL VOTE: ALL AYES. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**