

MINUTES
BOARD OF ETHICS PUBLIC MEETING

September 17, 2025

11:15 a.m.

In-Person at the Dutchess County Legislative Conference Room

Present:

Peter M. Forman, Chair
Paul Piastro
Rex Bridges
David Lemon
Kathleen Martin, *absent*
Christian R. Cullen, Counsel

The meeting was called to order by Chair Forman at 11:25 a.m. A quorum was present.

Item 1. Move to Closed Session

Paul Piastro moved to commence a closed session which was seconded by Rex Bridges. The motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session Held and Members Returned to Public Meeting

Item 2. Determination of Application

Paul Piastro moved to confirm the determination of the Board of Ethics in that it does not recommend the proposal for promotion as it is a violation of Section 5(L) of the Code of Ethics, Nepotism. The motion was seconded by David Lemon. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Forman continued that the Bureau Chief position, although may report directly to the Chief Assistant District Attorney, and there is a Memorandum of Understanding giving Chief Assistant District Attorney administrative authority, the Chief Assistant District Attorney is an at-will appointment, and the concern of the Board is that the Memorandum of Understanding might not prohibit the District Attorney from ensuring that his wife be given a promotion that other members might feel is not appropriate given their relationship and there is concern for morale issues within the District Attorney's office and that may be the reason why the County

adopted the Code of Ethics. The Board feels it needs to uphold those provisions of the Code of Ethics.

Item 3. Adjournment

Peter Forman moved to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Rex Bridges. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting concluded at 11:50 a.m.