City of Huntington Beach
Code of Ethics

Preamble
The citizens of the City of Huntington Beach are entitled to responsible, fair and honest city government that operates in an atmosphere of respect and civility. Accordingly, the Huntington Beach City Council, adopts this code to:

1. Describe the standards of behavior to which its leaders and staff aspire.
2. Provide an ongoing source of guidance to elected leaders, city officials and staff in their day-to-day service to the city.
3. Promote and maintain a culture of ethics.

Pledge
On February 16, 2010, the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach adopted a Code of Ethics, which applies to all City elected or appointed officials, city employees, and members of its boards, commissions, committees, and task forces and requires the following pledge:

Code of Ethics

Responsibility

- I understand that the community expects me to serve with dignity and respect, as well as be an agent of the democratic process.
- I avoid actions that might cause the public to question my independent judgment.
- I do not use my office or the resources of the city for personal or political gain.
- I am a prudent steward of public resources and actively consider the impact of my decisions on the financial and social stability of the city and its citizens.

Fairness

- I promote consistency, equity and non-discrimination in public agency decision-making.
- I make decisions based on the merits of an issue, including research and facts.
- I encourage diverse public engagement in our decision-making processes and support the public's right to know.

Respect

- I treat my fellow city officials, staff, commission members and the public with patience, courtesy, civility, and respect, even when we disagree on what is best for the community and its citizens.

Honesty

- I am honest with all elected officials, staff, commission members, boards, the public and others.
- I am prepared to make decisions when necessary for the public's best interest, whether those decisions are popular or not.
- I take responsibility for my actions, even when it is uncomfortable to do so.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT PROCESS FOR THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH CODE OF ETHICS

- **All current elected and appointed city officials including current members of all city boards, commissions, committees, and task forces, and all current city employees will be given a copy of the newly adopted City Code of Ethics following its adoption on February 16, 2010 and asked to sign an acknowledgement form at that time.**

THEREAFTER:

- **All elected officials of the city will be given a copy of the City Code of Ethics and asked to sign an acknowledgement form at the time of their swearing in.**

- **All new employees of the city will be given a copy of the City Code of Ethics and asked to sign an acknowledgement form as part of their new employee orientation.**

- **Each new member of a city board, commission, committee, or task force will be given a copy of the City Code of Ethics and asked to sign an acknowledgement form at their first meeting.**

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH
CODE OF ETHICS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT FORM

Name _____
(Please type or print first & last name)

Title _____

Board/Department _____

Date _____

Signature _____