

Counties with Ethics Ordinances  
February 2009

County	Local Ethics Provisions	What Does It Cover? (i.e., gifts, voting conflicts, lobbying requirements, business relationship restrictions)
Broward	Yes	Broward County has an existing ethics code (Article V, Conflict of Interest; online at municode.com). The Charter Review Commission asked in 2008 whether the voters of Broward wanted to create an Ethics Commission with the sole purpose of drafting a Code of Ethics for the county commissioners. The amendment passed. The new Ethics Commission is currently being staffed (Feb. 2009). In accordance with the ballot language, this Commission must have an Ethics Code for consideration by the Broward County Commission by March 2010.
Clay	Yes	The County Charter, Sec. 2.2.A, required the county to adopt an ethics code that contained standards of conduct for members of the Board, the County Manager, the County Attorney, the County Auditor, all other elected or appointed County Officers including the Superintendent of Schools and members of the School Board, and the deputies and employees of all such officers. The Code of Ethics must supplement and not contradict or supersede any statutory or administrative standards of conduct which apply to any such officer or employee. The Code of Ethics may include provisions defining offenses, establishing an ethics board to hear and determine charges, and prescribing penalties within the limits allowed by law. The Code cannot conflict with the power of the Governor to suspend county officers or of the Senate to remove them from office, or the power of the people to recall them from office. The code itself is online at municode.com, Art. IX, Ch. 2.
Collier	Yes	
Desoto	No	
Escambia	Yes	There is a Board policy on ethics.
Franklin	No	
Gilchrist	No	
Hendry	Yes	Hendry County has an ethics resolution because grant agreements from the State involving federal funds required the county to have a code of ethics with provisions somewhat stricter than state law.
Indian River	Yes	Online at municode.com, section 104.06.
Lake	Yes	Lake County has additional ethics provisions for Board employees (not Board members) that prohibit the acceptance of any gift from any person or entity which the County does business with or which the county regulates. We also have a lobbyist registration ordinance which requires lobbyists to

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		register at the time of lobbying.
Leon	Yes	Ordinance on lobbying. Board policy on ethics.
Levy	No	Levy does not have a separate ethics ordinance. The county has ethics provisions in its personnel manual which primarily reference that employees must comply with Chapter 112, part III, F.S.
Martin	No	Additional language in HR manual; no code of ethics adopted as resolution or enacted as ordinance.
Monroe	Yes	Monroe County has a lobbying ordinance concerning prior officers and employees. It is available on municode.com at Code Sections 2-527 through 2-533 (as of March 2009, the numbering system will be changed). There are also ethics provisions in Monroe's Personnel Policies and Procedures; they are strict.
Orange	Yes	Orange County has adopted a local code of ethics and the relevant ordinances are attached. The main one is 2008-15, Local Code of Ethics, which contains provisions relevant to quarterly financial disclosure, criteria to determine appearance of conflict (for purposes of abstaining from voting due to appearance of conflict), a modified gift ban, and other disclosure requirements. Because counties are NOT exempt from Florida's public records laws for complaints received for an alleged violation, the investigation and penalties provisions of this ordinance will not take effect until such time as the county has a public records exemption. A bill is pending on this issue in the Florida Legislature in the 2009 session. The Orange County Code of Ordinances is online at municode.com. Regulation of Lobbying Activities can be found at Chapter 2, Article X, and the Local Code of Ethics can be found at Chapter 2, Article XIII.
Palm Beach		The County adopted a resolution in the early 1990s that essentially restates Florida's code of ethics. The county also has a lobbyist registration ordinance and a cone of silence regulation to limit certain communications during the competitive selection process.
Pinellas	Yes	Pinellas had its own code but repealed it in 1998. In its place, the county simply adopted the state code's language as its own. However the county does have some special sections dealing with lobbyists. They are located at Section 2-189 and Sections 26-271 through 275 of the Pinellas County Code. The Pinellas County Code is available online at: <a href="http://www.pinellascounty.org/attorney/Code.htm">http://www.pinellascounty.org/attorney/Code.htm</a> The County does have a statement of ethics, applicable to the classified and exempt service employees, and it can be found at page 56 of the Personnel Manual at this website:

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		<a href="http://www.co.pinellas.fl.us/persnl/pdf/employee_manual06.pdf">http://www.co.pinellas.fl.us/persnl/pdf/employee_manual06.pdf</a>
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