



ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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Commission to Consider Creating ACC Code of Ethics

(Phoenix) Arizona Corporation Commissioner Tom Forese launched the first step for Commissioners to adopt an ACC Code of Ethics. Commissioner Forese opened a docket for Commissioners to gather input. The Commission will also hold a formal workshop to get the public's insight on what that code should look like. "It is not uncommon for an elected body to have a code of ethics and it is long overdue that the commission should have one," said Commissioner Forese. "The creation of a code of ethics will allow us to bring in the brightest legal minds and discuss the conduct of commissioners; whether it involves campaign finance concerns, commissioners registered as lobbyists, or the proper use of travel funds. It is time for commissioners to put our house in order."

"I fully support Commissioner Forese's initiative and look forward to working with him on this important issue," said Chairman Doug Little.

The Commission is already subject to state laws regarding conflicts of interest, prohibitions on accepting gifts from lobbyists, and other unethical practices. The Commission will explore a Code of Ethics that goes above the minimum standards set by statute.

The Commission will be looking to other commissions and regulatory agencies for guidance in this process. The docket will be available by the end of the day. The date for the workshop is still to be determined.