

Merom Brachman, *Chairman*
Maryann B. Gall, *Vice Chair*
Bruce E. Bailey
Betty Davis
Michael A. Flack



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

ETHICS COMMISSION ELECTS OFFICERS AND ISSUES ADVISORY OPINION

The Ohio Ethics Commission yesterday unanimously re-elected Merom Brachman as Chairman and Maryann B. Gall as Vice Chair. Mr. Brachman is a Columbus businessman and a long-time member of the Ethics Commission. Ms. Gall is a tax attorney headquartered in Columbus. She has served on the Commission since January 2011.

At its meeting, the Commission also issued an advisory opinion to State Treasurer Josh Mandel. The Treasurer requested guidance on whether he could refinance his home mortgage with a bank that does business with the Treasurer's office.

The Ethics Commission advised that because he was an ordinary customer of the bank, the Ethics Law does not prohibit him from refinancing his home mortgage with the bank, as any other similarly situated borrower would, nor from continuing to participate in his official capacity in public matters affecting the bank.

In other business, the Commission heard reports on financial disclosure, public outreach and communication efforts and confidential reports on pending investigations.

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