

Merom Brachman, *Chairman*
Michael A. Flack, *Vice Chairman*
Bruce E. Bailey
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

ETHICS COMMISSION ELECTS OFFICERS AND REVIEWS REPORTS

At its meeting today, the Ohio Ethics Commission re-elected Merom Brachman as Chairman and Michael A. Flack as Vice Chairman. Mr. Brachman is a Columbus businessman and a long-time member of the Ethics Commission. Mr. Flack retired as the Vice President of Ethics and Business Practices at Nationwide Insurance.

Executive Director Paul M. Nick reviewed the Commission's 2014 statistics for Advisory Opinions, educational outreach, investigations, and Financial Disclosure. He noted, "Those figures reflect oversight of public officials and employees at all levels of government in Ohio."

The 180 Ethics educational sessions provided around the state by the Commission were attended by nearly 14,000 people, and included sessions conducted in 11 Ohio counties where the Commission had not previously had public meetings.

Also, the Commission received over 10,000 Financial Disclosure Statements in 2014 required by statute (reflecting Calendar Year 2013 information), and 60% of these filers used the Commission's online filing system.

In other business, the Commission reviewed a recent statute (H.B. 663) requiring the Commission to determine whether a conflict of interest exists between the individuals and companies who provide drugs used for lethal injection and the staff at the Department of Corrections, related to the protection of confidential information.

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