



**OHIO ETHICS COMMISSION**  
**William Green Building**  
**30 West Spring Street, L3**  
**Columbus, Ohio 43215-2256**  
**Telephone: (614) 466-7090**  
**Fax: (614) 466-8368**

[www.ethics.ohio.gov](http://www.ethics.ohio.gov)

---

## *Investigation Confidentiality at the Ohio Ethics Commission*

The Ohio Ethics Commission is often asked why the Commission's investigations are confidential. Under state law, the Commission may share information with other law enforcement authorities when relevant and necessary to the conduct of an investigation. Otherwise, the statute deems any complaints, charges, or investigations handled by the Ohio Ethics Commission private and confidential. (see statutory language below)

The Commission is likewise prohibited from commenting on the merit of its findings. Only upon the dismissal of a complaint and the request of the accused, may the Ohio Ethics Commission report its findings and/or make public the evidence and record. The confidentiality protects those accused, the accusers, and the integrity of the investigative process.

### ***Section 102.07***

*No member, employee, or agent of the Ohio ethics commission, board of commissioners on grievances and discipline of the supreme court, or joint legislative ethics committee shall divulge any information or any books, papers, or documents presented to the commission, joint legislative ethics committee, or board of commissioners on grievances and discipline without the consent, in writing, of the appropriate ethics commission, unless such books, papers, or documents were presented at a public hearing, except as provided in section 102.06 of the Revised Code. No person shall divulge information that appears on a disclosure statement and is required to be kept confidential under division (B) of section 102.02 of the Revised Code.*