

February 21, 2019

**NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF  
LOCAL LAW NO. 9 OF 2018**

**ORANGE COUNTY ETHICS AND DISCLOSURE LAW**

On October 4, 2018, the Orange County Legislature amended the Orange County Ethics and Disclosure Law and its appendices to address matters raised by the Board of Ethics and its legal counsel.

The following provides highlights of the Ethics and Disclosure Law. This notice is not intended to amend or supplant Local Law No. 9 of 2018.

Local Law No. 9 of 2018, amends previously adopted Local Law No. 1 of 2017, Orange County's Ethics and Disclosure Law as follows:

**Section 5. Powers of the Board of Ethics:**

Receive Information and Act on Same (Complaints)

Authorizes the Board to develop a Complaint form; and

Authorizes the Board, upon the receipt of a complaint, and during their investigatory process, to make inquiry and to discuss the matter with the complainant to enable the Board to obtain such information as may be necessary for the Board to determine whether or not to proceed further with the complaint. See Section 5 (B) (2).

Waivers:

Deletes the Board of Ethics' authority to issue waivers from provisions of the Ethics Law but for waivers for post-employment opportunities. See Section 5 (B) (8)(a).

**Section 8. Annual Disclosure:**

Authorizes county department heads to make recommendations to the County Executive as to employees who should make annual financial disclosure based upon policy and appropriating responsibilities.

Clarifies that if the individual, who is required to file an Annual Disclosure Statement, has been in the position for a minimum of one day during the previous calendar year, even if they no longer hold that position, they shall still be required to file an Annual Disclosure Statement. See Section 8 (A).

Removes the notary requirement of the Ethics Financial Disclosure Form but now requires that the form be acknowledged, certified and signed. See Section 8 (G).

*Gail Sicina*, Chairwoman  
Orange County Board of Ethics