

Board Member Code of Conduct



Source: PFLAG National

Date: October 2015

The board commits itself and its members to ethical and businesslike conduct. This includes proper use of authority and appropriate decorum when acting as board members.

1. Members must represent undivided loyalty to the interests of all the members of PFLAG. This accountability supersedes any conflicting loyalty such as that to advocacy or interest groups (including such groups within the organization) and membership on other boards or staffs. It also supersedes the personal interest of any board member acting as a consumer of the organization's services.
2. Members must avoid conflict of interest with respect to their fiduciary responsibility.
3. There must be no self-dealing or any conduct of private business or personal services between any board member and PFLAG except as procedurally controlled to assure openness, competitive opportunity and equal access to "inside" information.
4. When the board is to decide upon an issue, about which a board member has an unavoidable conflict of interest, that member shall absent herself or himself without comment not only from the vote, but also from the deliberation.
5. Board members must not use their positions to obtain employment in the organization for themselves, family members or close associates. Should a member desire employment, he or she must first resign.
6. Members will annually disclose their involvements with other organizations, with vendors or any other associations that might produce a conflict.
7. Board members will respect the confidentiality appropriate to issues of a sensitive nature.
8. Board members will be dues paying members of PFLAG who support the mission of the organization.
9. Board members are expected to attend and fully participate in all scheduled meetings of the Board unless they notify the President in advance of unavoidable absence.
10. Board members will be prepared to fully participate in the work of the board, including between-meetings work of board committees.
11. Members are expected to be knowledgeable about PFLAG issues and policies and be prepared to fully participate in the work of the board, speak on behalf of PFLAG or to respond to requests for public comment. They must make clear that they speak as individual board members.
12. Members are volunteers who serve without pay.
13. By a majority vote, the board may request the resignation, and declare the seat vacant, of any member of the board who has not fulfilled their board duties or adhered to the board Code of Conduct.