

COLORADO INDEPENDENT ETHICS COMMISSION

Minutes of the November 18, 2025, Meeting Meeting Conducted by Web Conference

Present: Chair Sarah Mercer, Vice-Chair Daniel Wolf, Commissioner Lori Laske, and Commissioner Cyril Vidergar.

Also Present: Dino Ioannides, IEC Executive Director; Nelson Sanchez, IEC Investigator; and Zach Fitzgerald of the Colorado Attorney General's Office.

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Chair Mercer called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.
2. The Commission invited public comment and received none.
3. The Commission unanimously (Commissioner Mercer abstaining) approved the minutes of the October 21, 2025, meeting.
4. Mr. Ioannides provided the staff report.
5. Mr. Fitzgerald indicated there were no legal updates.
6. At 9:11 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session concerning Complaint 21-31, for purposes of receiving legal advice.

II. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

7. Commissioner Wolf recused himself from discussion of Complaint 21-31.
8. The Commission met in closed session from 9:11 a.m. to 9:23 a.m. regarding Complaint 21-31.

III. GENERAL BUSINESS

9. The Commission returned to open session at 9:23 a.m.
10. Chair Mercer announced that Commissioner Wolf had recused himself from Complaint 21-31.
11. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously (Commissioner Wolf recused) approved the draft Notice of Issues for Hearing in Complaint 21-31.
12. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously (Commissioner Wolf recused) delegated the setting of the hearing and approval of subpoena requests to the assigned hearing officer in Complaint 21-31.

13. At 9:27 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session concerning Complaint 24-15, for purposes of receiving legal advice.

IV. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

14. The Commission met in closed session from 9:27 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. regarding Complaint 24-15.

V. GENERAL BUSINESS

15. The Commission returned to open session at 9:45a.m.
16. Chair Mercer announced that the Commission would issue an order in Complaint 24-15 in due course.
17. Chair Mercer announced her recusal from Complaints 25-66 through 25-82.
18. At 9:48 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session concerning Complaints 25-57, 25-58, 25-59, 25-60, 25-61, 25-62, 25-63, 25-64, 25-65, and 25-83, for purposes of receiving legal advice and which are required to be kept confidential pursuant to Article XXIX, §5(3)(b) of the Colorado Constitution.

VI. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

19. The Commission met in closed session from 9:48 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. regarding Complaints 25-57, 25-61, 25-62, 25-63, 25-64, 25-65, and 25-83.
20. Mr. Fitzgerald recused himself from discussion of Complaint 25-83.

VII. GENERAL BUSINESS

21. The Commission returned to open session at 10:30 a.m.
22. Commissioner Mercer announced that the closed session motion was overinclusive. As such, the Commission did not discuss Complaints 25-58, 25-59, and 25-60 in the closed session because the Commission had already dismissed those complaints at its previous meeting.
23. Commissioner Mercer announced that Mr. Fitzgerald recused himself from Complaint 25-83.
24. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 25-61 as frivolous.
25. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously deemed Complaint 25-62 non-frivolous.
26. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 25-63 as frivolous.

27. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 25-64 as frivolous.
28. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously dismissed Complaint 25-83 as frivolous.
29. Chair Mercer again announced her recusal from Complaints 25-66 through 25-82 and turned the meeting over to Vice-Chair Wolf.
30. At 10:36 a.m., upon motion duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to enter closed session concerning Complaints 25-66, 25-67, 25-68, 25-69, 25-70, 25-71, 25-72, 25-73, 25-74, 25-75, 25-76, 25-77, 25-78, 25-79, 25-80, 25-81, and 25-82, for purposes of receiving legal advice and which are required to be kept confidential pursuant to Article XXIX, §5(3)(b) of the Colorado Constitution.
31. Commissioner Mercer left the meeting.

VIII. CLOSED SESSION BUSINESS

32. The Commission met in closed session (Commissioner Mercer recused) from 10:36 a.m. to 11:08 a.m. regarding Complaints 25-66, 25-67, 25-68, 25-69, 25-70, 25-71, 25-72, 25-73, 25-74, 25-75, 25-76, 25-77, 25-78, 25-79, 25-80, 25-81, and 25-82.

IX. GENERAL BUSINESS

33. The Commission returned to open session at 11:08 a.m.
34. Upon motion duly seconded, the Commission unanimously (Commissioner Mercer recused) deemed the following complaints non-frivolous: Complaints 25-66, 25-67, 25-68, 25-69, 25-70, 25-71, 25-72, 25-73, 25-74, 25-75, 25-76, 25-77, 25-78, 25-79, 25-80, 25-81, and 25-82.
35. Having no further business, the Commission adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dino Ioannides
Executive Director
Colorado Independent Ethics Commission