

# Florida's Code of Ethics and its Commission on Ethics

Presented to the Board of  
Trustees of Florida  
Agricultural and Mechanical  
University

September 15, 2016

# Presented by

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# History of Florida's Ethics Laws

- Relatively recent emphasis
- Post-Watergate
- Governor Askew—Sunshine Amendment
- Commission on Ethics
- Part III, Chapter 112, Florida Statutes

# Florida Commission on Ethics

- Nine members (appointed)
- Meets approximately every six weeks
- Administers Article II, Section 8, Florida Constitution, and Part III, Chapter 112, Florida Statutes
- Handles ethics complaints, issues advisory opinions, and administers financial disclosure laws

# Persons Governed by the Ethics Laws

- Public officers
- Public employees
- Local government attorneys
- Not Federal employees and officers
- Not Article V Florida judges and justices
- Not most independent contractors

# Types of Ethics Laws/Standards

- Financial disclosure requirements
- Gift bans
- Gift disclosures
- Expenditure bans
- Voting/participation conflicts
- Anti-nepotism
- Various “flat out” Prohibitions
- Agency/locality additional standards

Thank you!