# FISCAL MANAGEMENT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FINANCIAL ETHICS

CAA (LOCAL)

All Trustees, employees, vendors, contractors, consultants, volunteers, and any other parties who are involved in the Departments financial transactions shall act with integrity and diligence in duties involving the Departments fiscal resources.

**Note:** See the following policies and/or administrative regulations regarding conflicts of interest, ethics, and financial oversight:

Code of ethics:

for Board members—BBA for employees—DH

Financial conflicts of interest:

for public officials—BBFA for all employees—DBD

- Financial conflicts involving federal funds: CBB
- Systems for monitoring the Departments investment program: CDA
- Budget planning and evaluation: CE
- Compliance with accounting regulations: CFC
- Activity fund management: CFD
- Criminal history record information for employees: DC
- Disciplinary action for fraud by employees: DCD, DCE, and DF series
- No retaliation: DG

FRAUD AND FINANCIAL IMPROPRIETY The Department prohibits fraud and financial impropriety, as defined below, in the actions of its Trustees, employees, vendors, contractors, consultants, volunteers, and others seeking or maintaining a business relationship with the Department.

**DEFINITION** 

Fraud and financial impropriety shall include but not be limited to:

- 1. Forgery or unauthorized alteration of any document or account belonging to the Department.
- 2. Forgery or unauthorized alteration of a check, bank draft, or any other financial document.
- 3. Misappropriation of funds, securities, supplies, or other Department assets, including employee time.
- 4. Impropriety in the handling of money or reporting of Department financial transactions.

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- 5. Profiteering as a result of insider knowledge of Department information or activities.
- 6. Unauthorized disclosure of confidential or proprietary information to outside parties.
- Unauthorized disclosure of investment activities engaged in or contemplated by the Department.
- Accepting or seeking anything of material value from contractors, vendors, or other persons providing services or materials to the Department, except as otherwise permitted by law or District policy. [See DBD]
- 9. Inappropriately destroying, removing, or using records, furniture, fixtures, or equipment.
- 10. Failing to provide financial records required by state or local entities.
- 11. Failure to disclose conflicts of interest as required by law or Department policy.
- 12. Any other dishonest act regarding the finances of the Department.

## FINANCIAL CONTROLS AND OVERSIGHT

Each employee who supervises or prepares Department financial reports or transactions shall set an example of honest and ethical behavior and shall actively monitor his or her area of responsibility for fraud and financial impropriety.

#### FRAUD PREVENTION

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a system of internal controls to deter and monitor for fraud or financial impropriety in the Department.

### **REPORTS**

Any person who suspects fraud or financial impropriety in the Department shall report the suspicions immediately to any supervisor, the Superintendent or designee, the Board President, or local law enforcement. Reports of suspected fraud or financial impropriety shall be treated as confidential to the extent permitted by law. Limited disclosure may be necessary to complete a full investigation or to comply with law. All employees involved in an investigation shall be advised to keep information about the investigation confidential.

## PROTECTION FROM RETALIATION

Neither the Board nor any Department employee shall unlawfully retaliate against a person who in good faith reports perceived fraud or financial impropriety. [See DG]

### FRAUD INVESTIGATIONS

In coordination with legal counsel and other internal or external departments or agencies, as appropriate, the Superintendent, Board

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President, or a designee shall promptly investigate reports of potential fraud or financial impropriety.

**RESPONSE** 

If an investigation substantiates a report of fraud or financial impropriety, the Superintendent or designee shall promptly inform the Board of the report, the investigation, and any responsive action taken or recommended by the administration.

If an employee other than the Superintendent is found to have committed fraud or financial impropriety, the Superintendent or designee shall take or recommend appropriate disciplinary action, which may include termination of employment. If a contractor or vendor is found to have committed fraud or financial impropriety, the Department shall take appropriate action, which may include cancellation, of the Department's relationship with the contractor or vendor.

When circumstances warrant, the Board, Superintendent, or designee may refer matters to appropriate law enforcement or regulatory authorities. In cases involving monetary loss to the Department, the Department shall seek to recover lost or misappropriated funds.

The final disposition of the matter and any decision to file a criminal complaint or to refer the matter to the appropriate law enforcement or regulatory agency for independent investigation shall be made in consultation with legal counsel.

ANALYSIS OF FRAUD

After any investigation substantiates a report of fraud or financial impropriety, the Superintendent or designee shall analyze conditions or factors that may have contributed to the fraudulent or improper activity. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that appropriate administrative procedures are developed and implemented to prevent future misconduct. These measures shall be presented to the Board for review.

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