

Sec. 30-71. Established; composition; removal; terms of office; vacancies; chairperson; quorum; compensation; legal counsel.

- (a) *Established; composition; removal.* The city ethics commission is hereby established to administer and implement this chapter. The ethics commission shall consist of five members appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the city council. No member of the commission shall hold any elected or appointed office under the government of the United States or the state, county, or city, or be a candidate for any such office. Members of the ethics commission may be removed by the mayor, with the concurrence of the city council, for substantial neglect of duty, gross misconduct in office or a violation of this chapter.
- (b) *Terms of office; vacancies.* A member of the ethics commission shall be appointed for a term of office of five years and until his successor has been appointed and has qualified. The members shall be appointed for staggered terms of office, and until their successors have been appointed. When a vacancy occurs in the membership of the ethics commission, it shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired portion of the term in the same manner as the original appointment.
- (c) *Chairperson; quorum.* The ethics commission shall elect a chairperson from among its membership. Three members of the ethics commission shall constitute a quorum and, if a quorum is present, a vacancy on the ethics commission shall not impair the right of the remaining members to exercise all the powers of the ethics commission. Disciplinary hearings may be conducted and sanctions may be imposed only by the affirmative action of at least three members; otherwise, the ethics commission may delegate authority to the chairperson to act for the ethics commission between meetings.
- (d) *Compensation.* Members of the ethics commission shall receive no compensation.
- (e) *Legal counsel.* The city solicitor shall provide legal counsel to the ethics commission and shall be the legal representative of the ethics commission in connection with its duties hereunder, on a case-by-case basis, or determine that outside counsel is needed and obtain such outside counsel for a particular matter.

(Code 1981, § 2-13; Ord. of 7-13-1998)