

RESOLUTION 25-2001

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SONOMA
ADOPTING A CODE OF ETHICS AND VALUES

WHEREAS, the City of Sonoma wishes to establish and endorse a high standard of ethical behavior for its public servants; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sonoma owes it to its constituency to develop codes of conduct that are representative of core values; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sonoma, in adopting this policy, hopes to become a model for other cities, other valley agencies, and for our citizens at large in the area of personal standards of behavior,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Sonoma hereby adopts the City of Sonoma Code of Ethics and Values as an official City Policy to be used as a standard for members of the City Council, Commissioners, and Management Employees.

The foregoing Resolution was duly adopted this 18th day of April 2001, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: (5) Clm. Ashford, Costello, Barnett, Mazza, Mayor
Brown
NOES: (0) None
ABSENT: (0) None
ABSTAINING: (0) None

MAYOR

CITY CLERK

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly and regularly passed by the City Council of the City of Sonoma at a regular meeting thereon held April 18, 2001

CITY CLERK

CITY OF SONOMA CODE OF ETHICS AND VALUES

Preamble

The proper operation of democratic government requires that decision-makers be independent, impartial, and accountable to the people they serve. The City of Sonoma has adopted this Code of Ethics and Values to promote and maintain the highest standards of personal and professional conduct in the City's government. All elected and appointed officials and management employees who participate in the city's government are expected to abide by this Code, understand how it applies to their specific responsibilities and practice its eight core values in their work. Because we seek public confidence in the City's services and public trust of its decision-makers, our decisions and our work must meet the most demanding ethical standards and demonstrate the highest levels of achievement in following this code.

As a representative of the City of Sonoma, I will be **ethical**.

In practice, this value looks like:

I am trustworthy, acting with the utmost integrity and moral courage.

I am truthful, do what I say I will do, and am dependable.

I make impartial decisions, free of bribes, unlawful gifts, narrow political interests, and financial and other personal interests that impair my independence of judgment or actions.

I am fair, distributing benefits and burdens according to consistent and equitable criteria, and treating everyone the same unless there are relevant moral reasons to treat them differently.

I extend equal opportunities and due process to all parties in matters under consideration. If I engage in unilateral meetings and discussions, I do so without making voting decisions.

I show respect for persons, confidences, and information designated as "confidential."

I use my title(s) only when conducting official City business, for information purposes, or as an indication of background and expertise, carefully considering whether I am exceeding or appearing to exceed my authority

As a representative of the City of Sonoma, I will be **professional**.

In practice, this value looks like:

I apply my knowledge and expertise to my assigned activities and to the interpersonal relationships that are part of my job in a consistent, confident, competent, and productive manner.

I approach my job and work-related relationships with a positive attitude.

I keep my professional knowledge and skills current and growing.

As a representative of the City of Sonoma, I will be **service-oriented**.

In practice, this value looks like:

I provide friendly, receptive, courteous service to everyone.

I am attuned to, and care about, the needs and issues of citizens, public officials and city workers.

In my interactions with constituents, I am interested, engaged and responsive.

As a representative of the City of Sonoma, I will be **fiscally responsible**.

In practice, this value looks like:

I make decisions after prudent consideration of their financial impact, taking into account the long-term financial needs of the City, especially its financial stability.

I demonstrate concern for the proper use of City assets (e.g., personnel, time, property, equipment, funds) and follow established procedures.

I make good financial decisions that seek to preserve programs and services for City residents.

As a representative of the City of Sonoma, I will be **organized**.

In practice, this value looks like:

I act in an efficient manner, making decisions and recommendations based upon research and facts, taking into consideration short and long term goals.

I follow through in a responsible way, keeping others informed, and responding in a timely fashion.

I am respectful of established City processes and guidelines.

As a representative of the City of Sonoma, I will be **communicative**.

In practice, this value looks like:

I convey the City's care for and commitment to its citizens.

I communicate in various ways that I am approachable, open-minded and willing to participate in dialog.

I engage in effective two-way communication, by listening carefully, asking questions, and determining an appropriate response which adds value to conversations.

As a representative of the City of Sonoma, I will be **collaborative**.

In practice, this value looks like:

I act in a cooperative manner with groups and other individuals, working together in a spirit of tolerance and understanding.

I work towards consensus building and gain value from diverse opinions.

I accomplish the goals and responsibilities of my individual position, while respecting my role as a member of a team.

I consider the broader regional and State-wide implications of the City's decisions and issues.

As a representative of the City of Sonoma, I will be **progressive**.

In practice, this value looks like:

I exhibit a proactive, innovative approach to setting goals and conducting the City's business.

I display a style that maintains consistent standards, but is also sensitive to the need for compromise, "thinking outside the box," and improving existing paradigms when necessary.

I promote intelligent and thoughtful innovation in order to forward the City's policy agenda and City services.