

**PORT OF SEATTLE
RESOLUTION NO. 3833**

A RESOLUTION of the Port of Seattle Commission establishing a revised Code of Ethics for Port Commissioners and repealing Resolution No. 3681, as amended; and making a corresponding amendment to the Commission's Governance Committee charter scope of work to include jurisdictional review of written complaints alleging behavioral standards violations of Commissioners when such complaints are unaccompanied by a formal ethics complaint filing.

WHEREAS, the voters of King County authorized and approved the formation of a port district coterminous with King County to be known as the Port of Seattle in a special election on September 5, 1911; and

WHEREAS, the Port of Seattle Commission is the legally constituted governing body of the Port of Seattle; and

WHEREAS, high moral and ethical standards among public officials are essential to good government; and

WHEREAS, a strong and clear code of ethics for Port Commissioners promotes and strengthens the faith and confidence of the people of King County in their elected Port Commissioners, and assists the Commissioners in the performance of their public duties; and

WHEREAS, the Port Commission believes its Commissioners should be held to the highest moral and ethical standards and strongly supports organizational policies and procedures that maintain the public's trust and confidence and ensure fair dealings in all Port transactions; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, the Port Commission amended its Bylaws and Rules of Procedure to adopt its commitment to upholding and conducting respectful interactions and fostering a safe and healthy work environment for all through this commitment; mandated reoccurring ethics training for Commissioners; and gave the Board of Ethics the jurisdiction to review potential violations of the Commission's standards of conduct; and

WHEREAS, the Port Commission last updated its ethics code through adoption of Resolution No. 3681, as amended, in May 2013; and

47 **WHEREAS**, the Port of Seattle Commission Code of Ethics has not undergone another
48 thorough analysis of defined process or procedure since the 2013 recodification; and
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50 **WHEREAS**, Resolution No. 3833 is the cumulation of a two-year review of the code,
51 applicable statutes, port policy, and municipal and other codes related to ethics; and
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53 **WHEREAS**, Resolution No. 3833 has received detailed legal review and input; and has
54 been reviewed and recommended for approval by the Board of Ethics and the Commission’s
55 Governance Committee.
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57 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Port of Seattle Commission as
58 follows:
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60 **SECTION 1. Policy Directive Amendment.** The technical and substantive amendments
61 contained in Exhibit A of this resolution are hereby adopted, as if fully set forth herein.
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63 **SECTION 2. Corresponding Amendment to Governance Committee Charter.** The
64 Governance Committee Charter scope of work shall be amended to reflect the committee’s
65 oversight over written complaints of alleged Commission behavioral standards violations when
66 these allegations are unaccompanied by a formal ethics complaint filing to the board of ethics or
67 the office of workplace responsibility or have been forwarded by the Board of Ethics.
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69 **SECTION 3. Scrivener’s Errors.** The Commission Clerk is hereby authorized to execute
70 scrivener’s error revisions in finalizing amendments to the Port Commission Code of Ethics made
71 through adoption of this resolution, as needed, to address technical corrections.
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73 **SECTION 4. Effective Date.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.
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75 **ADOPTED** by the Port of Seattle Commission at a duly noticed public meeting thereof,
76 held this ____ day of January, 2025, and duly authenticated by the signatures of the commissioners
77 voting in favor thereof and the seal of the commission.
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Port of Seattle Commission

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EXHIBIT A to Resolution No. 3833