

LELA LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES SCENARIOS

Open Meetings

Room 1: The Chamber of Commerce is having a reception to introduce their new executive director. A shrewd reporter notices that three of the five governing board members are attending. Is this a violation of the open meetings law?

Public Records

Room 2: A citizen has requested a list of all contracts that have been awarded to local vendors within the past two years. Must the city/county provide the list?

Roles and Responsibilities:

Room 3: A member of the board has a regular habit of posting comments on various local social media outlets. Several members of the board feel that this is not appropriate because the citizens may feel that she speaks for the rest of the board. Indeed, some of the members often don't at all agree with her points of view. A majority of the board wants to adopt a policy that board members should refrain from posting comments related to the business of the board.

Room 4: A council member requests the clerk to include in the meeting minutes the entire comments that the member made at the last board meeting. How should the clerk respond?

Conflicts of Interest & Duty to Vote

Room 5: You won a Pickleball set as a door prize at the annual Conference of the Association of County Commissioners/League of Municipalities. Can you keep it?

Room 6: Your brother is a realtor, and the manager would like to contract with his company to help with marketing some property that the city owns to sell as surplus property. The contract has come up for approval by the board. Can you vote? Should you vote? Must you vote?

Room 7: You serve on the local arts commission, a nonprofit organization. Your city/county annually appropriates funds to support the work of the commission. Can you vote? Should you vote? Must you vote?