

**CITY OF RICE**  
**CITY COUNCIL STANDARDS OF CONDUCT**

**PREAMBLE**

Every elected city office is one of trust and service to the citizens of Rice. The Mayor and Council members are expected to govern this city in a manner associated with preservation of the values and integrity of representative local government and principles of democracy. To further these objectives, certain principles shall govern the conduct of the Mayor and Council members in his or her relations with the citizens, the city staff, the city administrator, and fellow elected officials.

**PRINCIPAL ONE: HONOR**

Be dedicated to the highest ideals of honor and integrity in all public personal relationships in order to merit the respect and confidence of the citizens of Rice.

**PRINCIPAL TWO: EQUALITY**

Be mindful at all times that the chief function of local government is to serve the best interest of all of the people without prejudice.

**PRINCIPAL THREE: OBEDIENCE**

Be diligent to obey state law and city ordinances that mandate or restrain the acts of local officials, such as nepotism and conflict of interest laws.

**PRINCIPAL FOUR: INFLUENCE**

Be conscientious in relations with the city staff so as not to improperly influence city officials or policies, or to thwart the execution of any city ordinance, rules, or regulations.

**PRINCIPAL FIVE: BENEFIT**

Be careful not use the elected position or the information to which the official becomes privy to personal gain, profit, or benefit; and further, neither seek nor accept any give or benefit that might influence, or appear to influence, an official decision or duty.

**PRINCIPAL SIX: CONFIDENTIALITY**

Be faithful to safeguard confidential information, including all discussions in closed meetings, realizing that in sensitive matters, mutual trust is essential to assure the free flow of ideas from city staff to elected officials and, among those officials themselves.

**PRINCIPAL SEVEN: REPRESENTATION**

Be sensitive to the appearance or impression that an elected official can personally intervene and provide special influence on an official decision or act of the city. Accordingly, do not personally represent any person, group or entity before any city board, commission, committee, or council when there is the potential for personal gain in that matter.

**PRINCIPAL EIGHT: TRANSPARENCY**

Be committed to providing open, transparent and accountable government and be diligent to not act in any way that would erode public trust.

**The Mayor and Council members covenant to hold themselves mutually accountable to this standard of conduct by all means available to them, always remembering that it is the People who hold the ultimate right, power and means to hold accountable their elected officials for conduct while in office.**

8 day of August, 2023



**J. Nicole Jackson, Mayor**



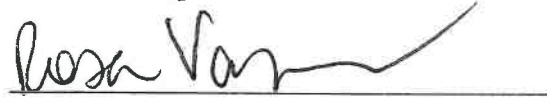
**Donnie P. Fisher, Mayor Pro tem**



**Diane Cheek**



**Sheila Teague**



**Rosa Vasquez**



**Christi Campbell**