

# We want to change the culture of **ETHICS** in New York State.



## Public service is a public trust

When a State employee violates the Public Officers Law and that violation makes news headlines, it hurts the reputation of every State employee and diminishes public trust.

## Ethics violations happen at all levels of state government

A misconception is that ethical violations only happen at the highest levels of government; violations can happen at *every* level.

Every State officer and employee is bound by the conflict of interest rules found in Public Officers Law § 74.

## There are consequences

A violation of the Public Officers Law can result in a civil penalty of up to \$10,000 plus repaying the value of any benefit you may have received.

## How can you get involved?

### Report misconduct when you see it

We are all accountable to help foster a stronger culture of public ethics in New York. If you think someone might be involved in a form of misconduct, contact the New York State Joint Commission on Public Ethics (“JCOPE”). Call our **Report Misconduct Hotline**, at **1-800-87-ETHICS** and **press 1**. All calls are confidential.

More information on the Report Misconduct initiative is available at [reportmisconduct.ny.gov](http://reportmisconduct.ny.gov).

### Educate yourself on the state’s ethics laws

JCOPE provides advice and guidance, and enforces the ethics laws as they apply to State employees. A plain language guide is available on our website to help you avoid potential ethical pitfalls.

[Download it here.](#)

### Get to know your ethics officer

An ethics officer is an agency resource available to help you understand how the ethics laws apply to your unique situation. JCOPE also has an attorney-of-the-day program that provides free, confidential advice regarding the ethics laws. To speak to the JCOPE attorney-of-the-day, dial **1-800-87-ETHICS** and **press 2**.



Ethics is our business. Make it *yours*, too.  
Report Misconduct at **1-800-87-ETHICS (38422)**

New York State Joint Commission on Public Ethics  
[www.jcope.ny.gov](http://www.jcope.ny.gov)