



is it an ethics violation if a commissioner fails to disclose conflict of



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AI Overview



Yes, it is generally considered an ethics violation for a commissioner to fail to disclose a conflict of interest with a party before a complaint or hearing, as it can undermine the integrity of the decision-making process and create the appearance of impropriety, even if the conflict is not directly acted upon; most jurisdictions have laws requiring such disclosure. [↗](#)

Key points to remember:

Legal requirement:

Most ethics codes and laws mandate that public officials, including commissioners, must disclose any potential conflicts of interest to avoid bias in their decision-making. [↗](#)

Appearance of impropriety:

Even if a commissioner does not actively use their position to benefit from the conflict, failing to disclose it can still be seen as an ethics violation due to the perception of potential bias. [↗](#)

Consequences of non-disclosure:

Depending on the jurisdiction, failing to disclose a conflict of interest could lead to disciplinary actions, including removal from the commission, fines, or legal repercussions. [↗](#)