



- b. How would the history of prior ethics commissions in New York state inform your approach to service as a member of the Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government? If you served on the Joint Commission on Public Ethics, or a prior State ethics commission, please tell us about your experience and observations from that prior service affects your view of how you would serve on the Commission.
  - c. Looking ahead, what, if anything, makes this moment in our State's history different and/or important given the newly established Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government? What will be the most challenging part of the duties of this appointment for you? What steps will you take to ensure a well-functioning commission that will earn and maintain the public trust?
- 4. Integrity, fairness, accountability, transparency, and independence are key pillars and values of good government. Please tell us how you will ensure they guide the overall operations and outcomes of the Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government if you are appointed as a member?
- 5. What should be the roles of, and the division of responsibilities between, the Commission members, the Commission Chair, and the staff? What processes and protocols should be put in place to foster strong communication, trust, and accountability?
- 6. Maintaining confidentiality in the communications between Commission members, staff, and other public servants, and in the management of information possessed by the Commission, and the content of its deliberations, will be fundamental to the Commission's legitimacy and safeguarding the Public's trust and confidence in sensitive processes. This includes ensuring fairness to public servants whose alleged prior, or proposed, conduct is under review. Doing so will also be key to maintaining the independence and accountability of each Commission member. Accordingly, please tell us with some detail the processes and protocols, to be included in a code of conduct you would commit to support and work to put in place to maintain confidentiality. Would you agree to resign if you were found to have deliberately violated confidentiality protocols? Would you vote to remove a fellow Commission member if they were found to have deliberately violated confidentiality protocols?

7. Some say it is difficult for a State Ethics Commissioner to be independent because they are appointed by an elected official. How do you respond? Please tell us what independence and accountability mean to you and your proposed role with the Commission? How will you maintain your independence and remain fully accountable to the public and the statutory duties and functions of the Commission.
  - a. When, if ever, is it appropriate for Commission members to communicate to the elected officials who appointed them about Commission related matters?
  - b. When, if ever, is it appropriate for Commission members to speak to the press about Commission related matters? What about staff and their communications with elected officials and the press?