**CODE OF ETHICS FOR BASTROP COUNTY**

Public employment is a public trust. It is the policy of Bastrop County to promote and balance the objective of protecting government integrity and the objective of facilitating the recruitment and retention of personnel needed by Bastrop County. Such a policy is implemented by prescribing essential standards of ethical conduct without creating unnecessary obstacles to entering public services.

Public servants must discharge their duties impartially so as to assure fair competitive access to governmental procurement by responsible contractors. Moreover, they should conduct themselves in such a manner as to foster public confidence in the integrity of the Bastrop County Purchasing Department.

To achieve the purpose of this article, it is essential that those doing business with Bastrop County also observe the ethical standards prescribed here.

1. It shall be a breach of ethics to attempt to influence any public employee, elected official or department head to violate the standards of ethical conduct set forth in this code.
2. It shall be a breach of ethics for any employee of Bastrop County or a vendor doing business with the County to participate directly or indirectly in a procurement when the employee or vendor knows that:
3. The employee or any member of the employee’s immediate family, or household has a substantial financial interest in a company responding to a Bastrop County procurement.
4. A business or organization in which the employee, or any member of the employee’s immediate family, has a financial interest pertaining to the procurement.
5. It shall be a breach of ethics to offer, give, or agree to give any employee of Bastrop County or for any employee to solicit, demand, accept, or agree to accept from a vendor, a gratuity of consequence or any offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation or any part of a program requirement, or purchase request influencing the content of specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing, or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or controversy, any particular matter pertaining to any program requirement, contract or subcontract, or to any solicitation or proposal therefore pending before Bastrop County.
6. It shall be a breach of ethics for any payment, gratuity, or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor, or higher tier subcontractor for any contract for Bastrop County as an inducement for the award of a contract or order.
7. Any effort to influence any employee, elected official, or department head to violate the standards of this code, are grounds to void the contract.

Please certify by your signature that you have read and understand the Code of Ethics for Bastrop County, and will in no way attempt to violate the code.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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COMPANY NAME:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_