## Appendix F

(Adopted September 5, 2000)

## **Anson County Code of Conduct**

The following policy establishes guidelines for ethical standards of conduct for all county officials by setting forth some of those acts or actions that may be incompatible with the best interest of Anson County. To that end, all "County Officials" hereinafter referred to in this appendix include the Board of Commissioners, the County Manager, Department Heads, and all other County employees. They shall be subject to and must abide by the following standards of conduct:

- 1. No County official shall have or hereafter acquire an interest in any contract or agreement with the County if he will privately benefit or profit from contracting or undertaking in violation of North Carolina General Statutes 14-234. The County official shall immediately notify the County Manager in any instance where a conflict of interest may exist and interpretation will be obtained from the County Attorney.
- 2. No County official shall use his official position or the County's facilities for his private gain, nor shall he appear before or represent any private person, group or interest except in matters of purely civic or public concern.
- 3. No County official shall use or disclose confidential information gained in the course of or by reason of his official position for purposes of advancing his financial or personal interest. For purposes of this policy, confidential information includes information so identified in executive session meetings of the Commissioners or information outlined as confidential in the North Carolina General Statutes.
- 4. No County official shall engage in, or accept, private employment or render service for private interest when such employment or service is incompatible with the proper discharge of his official duties or would tend to impair his independent judgement or action in the performance of his official duties, unless otherwise permitted by law. All County officials shall furnish notification of outside employment as provided in the County personnel ordinance.
- 5. No County official shall directly or indirectly solicit any gift whether in the form of money, services, loan travel, entertainment, hospitality, thing or promise or any other form, under circumstances in which it could reasonable by inferred that the gift was intended to influence him in the performance of his official duties or was intended as a reward for any official action on his part. Legitimate political contributions shall not be considered as gifts under the provisions of this paragraph.
- 6. County officials shall conduct their official and personal affairs in such a manner as to give the clear impression that they cannot be improperly influenced in the enforcement of their official duties. County officials shall also strive to give the clear impression that they are entitled to no special consideration or treatment based on their official position. County officials shall disclose any personal relationship to the governing body in the instance where there could be the appearance of a conflict of interest.