

A. EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS

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POLICY TYPE: EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS

POLICY TITLE: *GENERAL EXECUTIVE CONSTRAINT*

The executive director shall not knowingly cause or allow any practice, activity, decision, or organizational circumstance which is either imprudent or in violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics, state law, rules, and policies.

1. With respect to treatment of staff, the executive director shall not knowingly cause or allow any condition or any communication which is unfair, undignified, or disrespectful.
2. In relating to the public and other governmental entities, the executive director may not knowingly cause or allow any action which is unfair, undignified, or disrespectful. In addition, the executive director may not allow any communications from the staff which are inaccurate or fail to distinguish between fact and personal opinion.
3. Budgeting for any fiscal year or the remaining part of any fiscal year shall not knowingly deviate materially from board *Ends* priorities, or create fiscal jeopardy, or fail to be derived from the biennial planning calendar.
4. With respect to the actual, ongoing condition of the organization's financial health, the executive director may not cause or allow the development of fiscal jeopardy or a material deviation of actual expenditures from board priorities established in *Ends* policies.
5. With respect to providing information and counsel to the board, the executive director may not permit the board to be uninformed.
6. The executive director may not allow assets to be unprotected, inadequately maintained, nor unnecessarily risked.
7. Compensation and benefits for staff shall not deviate from applicable state and federal law, including N.D. Administrative Code, Chapter 4-07-02.
8. In order to protect the board from sudden loss of executive services, the executive director may not have fewer than three other executives familiar with board and chief executive issues and processes. The executive director shall not fail to inform the Deputy Executive Director, the Deputy Chief Investment Officer, and the Fiscal and Investment Operations Manager of executive and board issues and processes.
9. The executive director will not allow a conflict of interest in the procurement of goods and services.
10. The executive director will not operate the office without a code of conduct for all RIO Employees. This code of conduct will be a part of the office Administrative Policy Manual.

Policy Implemented: July 23, 1995.

Amended: January 22, 1999; November 19, 1999; September 26, 2014.

POLICY TYPE: EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS

POLICY TITLE: *STAFF RELATIONS*

With respect to treatment of staff, the executive director shall not cause or allow any condition or any communication which is unfair, undignified, or disrespectful.

Accordingly, the executive director may not:

1. Operate without personnel procedures which clarify personnel rules for staff, provide for effective handling of grievances, and protect against wrongful conditions or violate any state or federal law.
2. Fail to provide staff with the opportunity to complete an employment termination questionnaire and an exit interview with the Supervisor of Audit Services.

Policy Implemented: June 23, 1995.

Amended: May 31, 1996; September 26, 2014.

POLICY TYPE: EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS

POLICY TITLE: *RELATING TO PUBLIC AND GOVERNMENT*

In relating to the public and other governmental entities, the executive director may not cause or allow any action which is unfair, undignified, or disrespectful. In addition, the executive director may not allow any communications from the staff which is inaccurate or fails to distinguish between fact and personal opinion.

Policy Implemented: June 23, 1995.

POLICY TYPE: EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS

POLICY TITLE: *BUDGETING*

Budgeting for any fiscal year or the remaining part of any fiscal year shall not deviate materially from board *Ends* priorities, or create fiscal jeopardy.

Accordingly, the executive director may not cause or allow budgeting which:

1. Contains too little information to enable credible projection of expenses, cash flow, and disclosure of planning assumptions.
2. Plans the expenditure in any fiscal year of more funds than are authorized by legislative appropriation.
3. Reduces the level of service, or anticipates a reduction in the level of service, of any Retirement and Investment Office program without the prior approval of the State Investment Board.

Policy Implemented: June 23, 1995.

Amended: November 2, 1997; June 26, 1998.

POLICY TYPE: EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS

POLICY TITLE: *FINANCIAL CONDITION*

With respect to the actual, ongoing condition of the organization's financial health, the executive director may not cause or allow the development of fiscal jeopardy or a material deviation of actual expenditures from board priorities established in *Ends* policies.

Accordingly, the executive director may not:

1. Make any expenditure that exceeds the appropriation authority authorized by the North Dakota legislature.
2. Create policies for payment of administrative obligations that are in conflict with the policies of the Office of Management and Budget.
3. Initiate a transfer of appropriation authority between budget line items without board and Emergency Commission approval.
4. Allow appropriation expenditures to be made unless reported on PeopleSoft.

Policy Implemented: June 23, 1995.

Amended: September 26, 2014.

POLICY TYPE: EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS

POLICY TITLE: *COMMUNICATION AND COUNSEL TO THE BOARD*

With respect to providing information and counsel to the board, the executive director may not permit the board to be uninformed.

Accordingly, the executive director may not:

1. Neglect to submit monitoring data required by the board (see policy on Monitoring Executive Performance) in a timely, accurate, and understandable fashion, directly addressing provisions of the board policies being monitored.
2. Let the board be unaware of relevant trends, anticipated adverse media coverage, material external and internal changes, and particularly changes in the assumptions upon which any board policy has previously been established.
3. Fail to advise the board if, in the executive director's opinion, the board is not in compliance with its own policies on *Governance Process* and *Board-Staff Relationship*, particularly in the case of board behavior which is detrimental to the work relationship between the board and the executive director.
4. Fail to marshal for the board as many staff and external points of view, issues, and options as needed for fully informed board choices.
5. Present information in unnecessarily complex or lengthy form.
6. Fail to provide a mechanism for official board, officer, or committee communications.
7. Fail to deal with the board as a whole except when (a) fulfilling individual requests for information or (b) responding to officers or committees duly charged by the board.
8. Fail to report in a timely manner an actual or anticipated noncompliance with any policy of the board, particularly *Ends* and *Executive Limitations*.
9. Fail to inform the board in a timely manner of any intention to hire or dismiss the Deputy Executive Director, the Deputy Chief Investment Officer, or the Fiscal and Investment Operations Manager.
10. Fail to keep the board informed concerning the delegation of fiduciary authority to any staff member. Every person to whom such fiduciary responsibility is delegated is ultimately accountable to the board as to the exercise and execution of the delegated authority.

Policy Implemented: June 23, 1995; November 19, 1999.

Amended: September 26, 2014.

POLICY TYPE: EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS

POLICY TITLE: *ASSET PROTECTION*

The executive director may not allow assets to be unprotected, inadequately maintained, nor unnecessarily risked.

Accordingly, the executive director may not:

1. Fail to insure against theft and casualty losses to at least 80 percent replacement value and against liability losses to board members, staff, or the organization itself in an amount greater than the average for comparable organizations.
2. Allow non-bonded personnel access to funds.
3. Subject plant and equipment to improper wear and tear or insufficient maintenance.
4. Unnecessarily expose the organization, its board, or staff to claims of liability.
5. Fail to protect intellectual property, information, and files from loss or significant damage.
6. Receive, process, or disburse funds under controls which are insufficient to meet the state auditor's standards.
7. Invest or hold operating capital in a manner that is inconsistent with state law or board policy.
8. Acquire, encumber, or dispose of real property.
9. Endanger the organization's public image or credibility, particularly in ways that would hinder its accomplishment of mission.
10. Deviate from the investment process set by the State Investment Board (SIB) as contained in the board's policy on investments.

Policy Implemented: June 23, 1995.

POLICY TYPE: EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS

POLICY TITLE: *COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS*

Compensation and benefits for staff shall not deviate from applicable state and federal law, including N.D. Administrative Code, Chapter 4-07-02.

Accordingly, the executive director may not:

1. Change the compensation and benefits of any program officer reporting directly to the SIB.
2. Promise or imply permanent or guaranteed employment.

Policy Implemented: June 23, 1995.

Amended: January 22, 1999; November 19, 1999.

POLICY TYPE: EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS

POLICY TITLE: *CONFLICT OF INTEREST*

Conflicts of interest and the appearance of impropriety shall be avoided by the executive director. The executive director must not allow family, social, professional, or other relationships to influence their judgment in discharging their responsibilities. The executive director must refrain from financial and business dealings that tend to reflect adversely on their duties. If a conflict of interest unavoidably arises, the executive director shall immediately disclose the conflict to the SIB. Conflicts of interest to be avoided include, but are not limited to: receiving consideration for advice given to a person concerning any matter over which the executive director has any direct or indirect control, acting as an agent or attorney for a person in a transaction involving the board, and participation in any transaction for which the executive director has acquired information unavailable to the general public, through their position.

"Conflict of Interest" means a situation in which a board member or staff member has a direct and substantial personal or financial interest in a matter which also involves the member's fiduciary responsibility.

The executive director will be required to affirm their understanding of this policy annually, in writing, and must disclose any conflicts of interest that may arise (See Exhibit A-I).

Policy Implemented: June 23, 1995.

Amended: January 22, 1999; February 25, 2011.

POLICY TYPE: EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS

POLICY TITLE: *CODE OF CONDUCT*

The executive director will not operate the office without a code of conduct for all RIO employees. This code of conduct shall be a part of the office Administrative Policy Manual.

Policy Implemented: June 27, 1997.

POLICY TYPE: EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS

POLICY TITLE: *UNRELATED BUSINESS INTERESTS*

In the pursuit of personal business interests, the Executive Director will not allow a situation to exist that presents a conflict of interest to the SIB investment program, nor shall such activity be in violation of RIO Administrative Policy 3.47, Use of Office Facilities and Equipment.

Policy Implemented: August 18, 2000

Memorandum

To: RIO Executive Director/CIO

From: RIO Compliance Officer

Date: July 1, 20--

RE: Annual Affirmation of Conflict of Interest Policy

Executive Limitations Policy A-9, *Conflict of Interest*, which is attached to this memorandum, details the conflict of interest policy for the executive director. This policy also indicates that the executive director is required to reaffirm their understanding of this policy annually and disclose any conflicts of interest. Therefore, please read and sign the statement below to comply with this requirement.

“I have read and understand SIB Executive Limitations Policy A-9, *Conflict of Interest*. I have disclosed any conflicts of interest as required by this policy.”

Name (printed) _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Detail of any conflicts of interest (if any):