



# BOARD MEMBER CODE OF ETHICS POLICY

This policy shall become effective on May 26, 2015

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## **As a member of the MHS Board, I WILL:**

1. Listen carefully to fellow board members
2. Respect the fact that fellow board members may have differing opinions
3. Respect and support the majority decisions of the board
4. Recognize that all authority is vested in the full board only when it meets in legal session
5. Keep well informed of developments relevant to issues that may come before the board
6. Participate actively in board/committee meetings and actions
7. Bring to the attention of the board any issues that I believe will have an adverse effect on MHS or those we serve
8. Respectfully interpret both the needs of those we serve to the organization and the actions of the organization to those we serve
9. Refer complaints to the proper level in the chain of command
10. Recognize that my job is to ensure that MHS is well-managed, not to manage MHS
11. Represent all those whom MHS serves and not a particular geographic area or interest group
12. Consider myself a “trustee” of MHS and do my best to ensure that it is well maintained, financially secure, growing and always operating in the best interest of those we serve
13. Always work to learn how to do my job better
14. Declare conflicts of interest between my personal life and position on the board and abstain from voting when appropriate

## **As a member of the MHS Board, I WILL NOT:**

1. Criticize fellow board members or their opinions in or out of the organization
2. Use the organization for my personal advantage or that of my friends or relatives
3. Discuss the confidential proceedings at board or committee meetings outside the organization
4. Promise how I will vote on any issue before a meeting
5. Interfere with the duties of or undermine the Ex. Director's authority with staff members

**A failure by any board member to comply with the laws or regulations governing the Monadnock Humane Society’s business, this Code of Ethics or any other MHS policy or requirement may result in disciplinary action, and if warranted, legal proceedings.**

**Board members should communicate any suspected violations promptly to the Chairperson or as needed to the Chair of the Governance Committee.**

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Signature/Date

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Print Name