

What Does SEAC Do?

<u>Municipal Employee Training</u>: This is our main focus. We ask member communities to identify 2 or 3 of their employees whom we train as trainers. We then ask these trainers to train all their coworkers using our training materials. Also, every few years we survey municipal employees to measure the effectiveness of the training as well as the ethics climate in each community. The survey results are shared with our member communities and used to continuously improve our training.

<u>Management Training:</u> For employee training to be successful, we believe that municipal management like department heads and supervisors need to be "on board." This is a training session done every other year, facilitated by an experienced professional trainer.

<u>Board and Commission Training:</u> Realizing that boards and commissions make important decisions for their communities, we provide a training session for them every other year. At this training and the other two as well, we use the case study and discussion approach.

<u>General Public</u>: We host an annual Ethics Summit to which we invite the general public as well as public officials. The program typically includes a keynote address by a well-known individual or panel, followed by audience participation in the form of case study discussion demonstrating the subtle complexities of practical ethics situations.

<u>Elected Officials</u>: During each election season, we ask all candidates running for local public office to sign a Candidates Ethics Action Pledge. This Pledge is focused on promoting and supporting the Ethics Code, getting support for continued employee ethics training as well as support for enforcement of whistle blower protections.

Who Belongs

The following communities have joined the Commission:

Counties: Lake County, LaPorte County, Porter County

Cities: Crown Point, East Chicago, Gary, Hobart, Lake Station, Portage, Valparaiso, Whiting

<u>Towns</u>: Burns Harbor, Cedar Lake, Chesterton, Dyer, Hebron, Lowell, Merrillville, Munster, Ogden

Dunes, St John, and Schererville.

Note: Our training programs are provided to member communities free of charge. Their annual membership fee covers the cost. The annual Ethics Summit is a free event open to the public.