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OCCMA Censures Janell Howard for Ethics Violations

SALEM, Ore. – Oregon City/ County Managers Association (OCCMA) members are held to a high ethical standard established by the International City/County Managers Association (ICMA). Annually, the membership reaffirms their commitment to the ethical standard when they renew their membership. These standards are intended to ensure that appointed City Leaders act in the best interests of their community and uphold public trust. The OCCMA Board of Directors has issued this public sanction and expelled Janell Howard from OCCMA membership for violating Tenet 3 and 7 of the OCCMA Code of Ethics.

ICMA Tenet 3

Demonstrate by word and action the highest standards of ethical conduct and integrity in all public, professional, and personal relationships in order that the member may merit the trust and respect of the elected and appointed officials, employees, and the public.

The Board found that Ms. Howard's actions were egregious. OCCMA members are held to a higher standard. An uncontested conviction and breach of public trust demonstrate a lack of integrity or a regard for the ethical responsibility of OCCMA members in their public, personal and professional relationships.

ICMA Tenet 7

Refrain from all political activities which undermine public confidence in professional administrators. Refrain from participation in the election of the members of the employing legislative body.

The Board found that Ms. Howard violated this tenet by running for and holding an elected position. After seeking guidance about running for elected office, she still decided to run and hold and elected position in her community.

About the Oregon City/County Management Association

The purpose of the OCCMA is to increase the knowledge and ability of local government administrators and managers, to promote the exchange of information between the members and to support the functions and the aims of the International City/County Management Association. OCCMA is an affiliate organization of the League of Oregon Cities (LOC).