

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
BEFORE THE RHODE ISLAND ETHICS COMMISSION**

**In re: John G. Edwards, V,
Respondent**

Complaint No. 2017-8

ORDER

This matter having been heard before the Rhode Island Ethics Commission on May 15, 2018, pursuant to Commission Regulation 1011, and the Commission having considered the Complaint herein, the Respondent's Answer, the arguments of the parties, and a proposed Information Resolution and Settlement, it is hereby

ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED

THAT, given the Respondent's service on the Board of Directors of the Newport County Chamber of Commerce, the Code of Ethics barred the Respondent's participation in the Tiverton Town Council's January 2017 discussions regarding Tiverton's membership in the Newport County Chamber of Commerce; and

THAT, notwithstanding the above and based upon the particular facts of this case, the Commission finds that the Respondent reasonably relied upon the advice of the Town Solicitor that his participation was permitted and; therefore,

THAT the Respondent's conduct does not constitute a knowing and willful violation of the Code of Ethics and the Complaint is hereby dismissed with prejudice.

ENTERED as an Order of this Commission,



Ross Cheit, Chairperson

Dated: 5/17/18