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CITY OF EL PASO

Museums & Cultural Affairs Department

A Resolution approving and adopting the El Paso Museum of Art revised Code of Ethics and authorizing its implementation by the City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Department.

CC June 23, 2026

Updating 2008 Code of Ethics

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- Updates to the 2008 Code of Ethics are essential as this is part of Core Documents to be reviewed by the American Alliance of Museums
- Reaccreditation commission begins review November 1, 2026.



Key Additions to Museum of Art Ethics Code

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- Deaccession
- Dealing
- Appraisals
- Art Collection Programs
- Loans
- Conflicts of Interest
- Fundraising

New Deaccession Policy – Direct Care

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- *All proceeds realized from the sale of works from the collection shall be used only for the purchase of other works for the collection, and can now be used for **direct care** of works of art, in accordance with the Policy on Deaccessioning of the Association of Art Museum Directors (AAMD).*

Dealing Art

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- *No member of the staff may serve as a paid professional advisor to a collector, dealer, art consultant, artist's agent, auction house, or be compensated in any manner for these services.*
- *Staff members, with the advance written approval of the Director, may participate in scholarly endeavors in the commercial art world, provided that the activities are primarily scholarly, not promotional in nature.*

Art Appraisals

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- *No EPMA staff member may perform appraisals of any type—for donors, or any other individual or entity outside of EPMA, for any purposes whatsoever. Staff obtains appraisals on permanent collection works from qualified professionals for insurance purposes only.*
- *Staff do not provide opinions on identification, authenticity, and condition to outside parties*

Art Collection Programs

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- *The attribution of works must reflect the thorough investigation of the curators and must yield promptly to change with the advent of new facts or analysis.*
- *EPMA may address a wide variety of social, political, artistic, and cultural issues. All issues should be approached objectively and without prejudice or censorship. The programs of EPMA should reflect the breadth of current scholarship and maintain intellectual integrity.*

Loans of Art

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- *[...] any exhibition of such loans may enhance the value of the object(s) and great care must be taken to exercise objectivity in keeping with EPMA's mission. EPMA must maintain control over the content of all exhibitions.*
- *Neither a relationship with a lender of works of art nor any consultation with a lender shall compromise the curatorial integrity of any exhibition.*

Conflict of Interest (definition)

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- *A conflict of interest exists if one is able to exploit an affiliation with EPMA for personal gain and therefore one's decisions about EPMA matters could be influenced by personal interests. If a conflict of interest arises—actual, potential, or perceived—the conflict must be disclosed.*

Fundraising

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- *All fundraising shall be in furtherance of EPMA's mission. All donor solicitations, development activities, and processes shall be in accordance with this Code, all City of El Paso Guidelines for Gift Acceptance, and any policies for sponsorship and donor support.*



MISSION



Deliver exceptional services to support a high quality of life and place for our community.

VISION



Develop a vibrant regional economy, safe and beautiful neighborhoods and exceptional recreational, cultural and educational opportunities powered by a high performing government.



VALUES

Integrity, Respect, Excellence,
Accountability, People

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