



**SERVICE
FIRST,
NOW!**

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Inspector General (I)

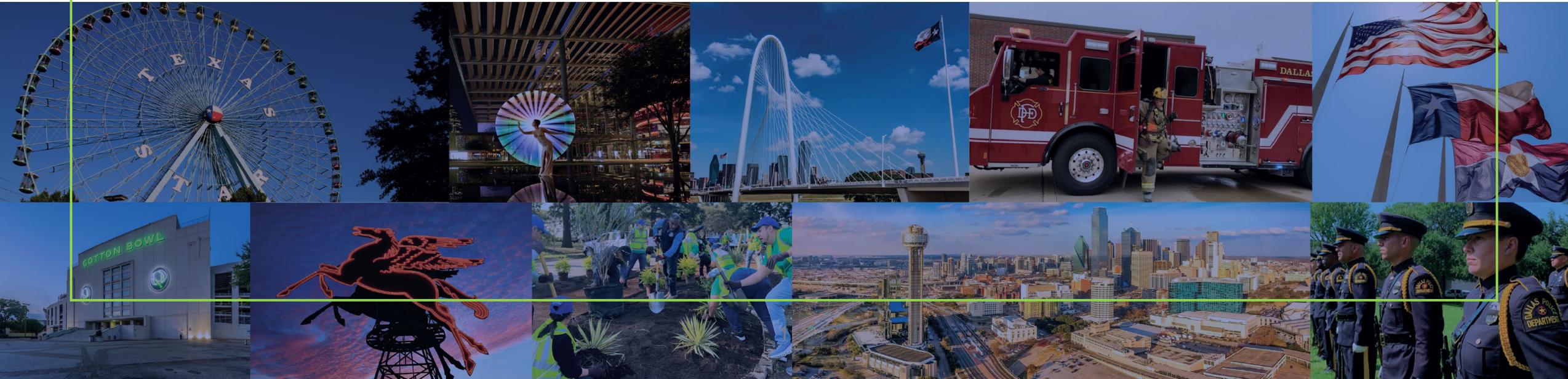
Office of Inspector General

Ad Hoc Committee on General Investigations and Ethics

Briefing:

12A Amendment related to “persons doing business with the City”

February 13, 2026





Purpose and goal

Bottom line

Process

Process – key updates included

Timeline

Next steps

Purpose and goal

Purpose: establish a consistent ethical baseline for interactions and conduct that affect City work, City resources, and public trust. Recommended by the Ethics Advisory Commission in May 2025.

Goal: Extending key ethics expectations to “persons doing business with the City”

Bottom line

- “Doing business with the City” becomes a clearly defined category in the Code, and targeted provisions apply to that category.
- Clearer expectations for vendor behavior in interactions with staff and officials;
- Supports integrity in contracting and related investigations.

Process

Draft ordinance amending multiple sections (purpose/principles, definitions, civility, “other persons,” outside employment language for officials/employees, public resources, investigations, and disqualification).

Process – key updates in the ordinance

- **Definition expanded:** “Doing business with the City” includes people/entities who bid, negotiate/enter contracts, or act as a **subcontractor** on a City contract (competitive or not).
- **Civility and conduct:** applies civility standards to **persons doing business with the City** and adds a new integrity expectation. In other words: vendors can’t use relationships to game City processes.

Process – key updates in the ordinance

- **Accountability provisions apply:** extends certain “no workaround” concepts, e.g., not assisting/inducing violations, not using City resources for private purposes, and confidentiality & cooperation obligations during investigations.
- **Consequences clarified:** for disqualification from contracting, the draft makes the City Council the body that determines the duration of any contracting prohibition (rather than a fixed period).

Timeline

March 2026: Briefing of Council

March 2026: Council consideration

Next step

Set this EAC-recommended amendment for a briefing and consideration by Council

This creates the framework for accountability to ethical standards for City vendors.