



Principles of Ethical Conduct

for Board of Directors of
Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, Inc.

According to the Panel on the Nonprofit Sector’s “Principles for Good Governance and Ethical Practice”: Each organization should have a code of ethics that outlines the practices and behaviors that its staff, board, and volunteers agree to follow. The adoption of such a code, though not required by law, helps demonstrate the organization’s commitment to carry out its responsibilities ethically and effectively.

As members of the Board of Directors of the Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, Incorporated (hereinafter “YVEDDI”), we assume a public trust and recognize the importance of high ethical standards within the organization we lead. In order to adhere to the high ethical standards, we, the Board of Directors, acknowledge that we owe YVEDDI a duty of care and a duty of loyalty. The duty of care is manifested by our promise to commit ourselves to be well informed about the organization and to use our best judgment when exercising our authority to make decisions on behalf of YVEDDI. The duty of loyalty requires that we always act in the best interests of YVEDDI.

Essential values and ethical behaviors we should exemplify in order to maintain high ethical standards and promote the mission of YVEDDI include:

- Excellence – Committed to high quality results
- Innovation – Embrace new ideas to further the mission
- Integrity – Commitment beyond the law (honesty and fairness in all encounters)
- Accountability – Good stewardship of assets and respect for the community’s trust
- Collegiality – Respect for the value and dignity of all individuals

In keeping with these values, and to assist in fulfilling our responsibilities to the individuals and communities we serve, each member of the Board of Directors subscribe to the following principles:

1. I will conduct myself in a manner that upholds the integrity of the YVEDDI and merits the trust and support of the public.
2. I will uphold all applicable laws and regulations, going beyond the letter of the law to protect and/or enhance YVEDDI’s ability to accomplish its mission.
3. I will abide by the YVEDDI Board Bylaws.
4. I will treat others in a courteous, equitable, and respectful manner.
5. I will be a responsible steward of YVEDDI’s resources.
6. I will take no actions that could benefit me personally at the unwarranted expense of YVEDDI and I will uphold YVEDDI’s Conflict of Interest Statement.
7. I promise to uphold and adhere to YVEDDI’s Confidentiality Statement.
8. I will exercise prudence in the expenses I charge to YVEDDI.
9. I will carefully consider the public perception of my personal and professional actions and the effect my actions could have, positively or negatively, on YVEDDI’s reputation in my community and elsewhere.
10. I will strive for personal and professional growth to improve my effectiveness as a YVEDDI board member.
11. I will report any issue of fraud, theft, harassment, waste, and/or abuse to the Chairman of the Board of Directors. In the event that the Chairman is unavailable, issues of fraud, theft, harassment, waste or abuse should be reported to the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Typed/Printed Name YVEDDI Board Member:	
Signature:	
Date:	