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Paul M. Nick
Executive Director

PAUL M. NICK, ESQ.

Paul M. Nick serves as the Executive Director of the Ohio Ethics Commission. He oversees the state-wide responsibilities of the Commission that include: providing ethics advice to the public and private sectors; confidentially investigating the alleged unethical actions of state and local public servants; managing personal financial disclosures made by 10,500 public officials and employees; conducting training about the Ethics Law; and supervising the administrative functions of the Commission. Mr. Nick also represents the Commission before the General Assembly and other governmental bodies.

Prior to becoming the Executive Director in 2011, Mr. Nick served as the Commission's Chief Investigative Attorney. In that position, he supervised the Commission's investigations into the conduct of state and local officials and employees, and has served as a special assistant prosecutor in over 20 ethics-related, public corruption criminal prosecutions across the state and as a Special Assistant United States Attorney in the Northern District of Ohio. He joined the Ohio Ethics Commission as Investigative Counsel in 1995.

Before joining the Ethics Commission staff, Mr. Nick served at the Columbus City Attorney's Office as an assistant city prosecutor and an assistant city attorney in the civil division. Prior to that, he was a legal intern at the Columbus City Prosecutor's office and also served as a mediator for that office's Night Prosecutor Program.

Mr. Nick received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. While at the University of Illinois, he spent an academic year abroad studying business and economics at the University of Copenhagen in Denmark. He received his Juris Doctor degree from the Moritz College of Law at The Ohio State University.

Mr. Nick has served as Treasurer and President of the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws (COGEL), an organization of government ethics administrators in the fields of governmental ethics, freedom on information, elections, lobbying, and campaign finance. He is also the Editor in Chief of the annual Ohio Administrative Law Handbook and Agency Directory.