



## ETHICS REVIEW COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION 20160622-4A

Date: June 22, 2016

Subject: Subpoena powers for the Office of the City Auditor

Motioned By: Chair Einhorn

Seconded By: Commission Member Speight

### **Recommendation**

The Ethics Review Commission recommends that the Austin City Council grant the Office of the City Auditor subpoena powers.

### **Description of Recommendation to Council**

Per City Code revisions initiated by the City Council on December 17, 2015, the Ethics Review Commission may subpoena witnesses, books, papers, records, or other evidence needed for the performance of the Commission's duties or exercise of its powers of investigation. Per the same revisions, the Commission may request assistance from the city auditor with investigation of allegations in a complaint, and may consider the auditor's investigation at a final hearing of the complaint.

### **Rationale:**

Because the Commission may request assistance from the city auditor with investigation of allegations in a complaint, and because the Commission may consider the auditor's investigation at a final hearing of the complaint, the Commission recommends that the auditor have the power to subpoena witnesses, books, papers, records, or other evidence needed for the auditor's investigations.

### **Vote: 9-0**

For: Chair Einhorn, Vice Chair Lamon and Commission Members Harding, McCormick, Quinzi, Smith, Speight, Stratmann and Thompson.

Against:

Abstain:

Absent: Commission Members Danburg and Ohueri.

Attest:

  
Cynthia Tom, Commission Executive Liaison