

MERITAGE HOMES CORPORATION

CODE OF ETHICS

Meritage Homes Corporation is committed to conducting our business consistent with the highest ethical and legal standards. This Code reinforces our commitment to these standards and provides each employee, officer and director of Meritage, as well as Meritage's affiliated and subsidiary companies, with guidance and perspective in understanding business ethics at Meritage.

This Code, which applies to directors, officers and employees, is designed to guide and help us identify activities and behaviors that are appropriate in conducting business and those that are not. No code of conduct can proclaim to spell out the appropriate moral conduct and ethical behavior for every situation we may confront. In the final analysis, we must rely on our own good judgment.

Whenever we find ourselves with a difficult decision to make, we must seek counsel from our colleagues, our supervisors and, most importantly, our own conscience and common sense. Specific interpretation or application of any guidelines or other content of this Code may be requested from any one of the following persons:

Derek Bruns	VP, Internal Audit/Compliance
Tim White	EVP, General Counsel
Hilla Sferruzza	EVP, Chief Financial Officer
Steve Hilton	Executive Chairman
Phillippe Lord	President and Chief Executive Officer
Clint Szubinski	EVP, Chief Operating Officer
Javier Feliciano	EVP, Chief People Officer

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

Meritage believes that ethical behavior is good business. Meritage employees share certain responsibilities, but individually each is accountable for:

- Conducting Meritage's business with integrity and operating in compliance with all applicable laws;
- Avoiding situations where personal interests are, or appear to be, in conflict with Meritage's interests;
- Treating all customers, suppliers and fellow employees in an honest, respectful and fair manner;
- Safeguarding and properly using Meritage's proprietary information, assets and resources, as well as those of other organizations; and
- Maintaining confidentiality of nonpublic information and not acting on such information for personal gain.

We are sometimes faced with situations where pressure exists to act unethically. However, at Meritage we depend on each other to conduct our business with honesty and integrity. If you are unsure in any situation, ask yourself these questions:

- Would you feel comfortable telling someone else about your decision?
- Is this action legal?
- Does it comply with our values?

Compromises in behavior that lead to violations of our standards and guiding values may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment. It could also in some cases result in civil and/or criminal liability.

REPORTING OF ACTUAL OR POTENTIAL FRAUD; ACCOUNTING CONCERNS; NO RETALIATION

Unethical or unlawful behavior not only hurts Meritage, but also hurts us as employees, as well as our customers and stockholders. As an employee, you play a major role in ensuring ethical and legal compliance by reporting known or suspected wrongdoing within the company. If you discover or suspect an illegal, dishonest or unethical act is being committed, or if a violation is reported to you, you *must* report it immediately to your supervisor, your Division President, or one of the officers identified on page 1 of this Code. All reports received are required to be forwarded immediately to the General Counsel and to the Vice President, Internal Audit/Compliance who will be responsible for the review and investigation of such matters. The General Counsel and Vice President, Internal Audit/Compliance shall collaborate with the Chair of the Audit Committee regarding any such review and investigation and shall also keep the Board of Directors fully informed of such matters.

If you are more comfortable reporting the activity anonymously you may contact the company's anonymous ethics phone line at (800) 793-7719 or by Internet (www.meritagehomes.ethicspoint.com). This hotline provides a transcript of your call to the Chair of the Audit Committee through a third party provider. Accordingly, the hotline is completely confidential and protects the identity of any individual reporting a potential issue.

Employees must report to their supervisor, the Chief Financial Officer, the Vice President, Internal Audit/Compliance or Chair of the Audit Committee any concerns that they have pertaining to the company's accounting, internal controls or audit practices.

Meritage does not allow retaliation for reports of misconduct or potential misconduct by others made in good faith by employees. Any retaliation is a violation of this Code of Ethics and can result in disciplinary action, including termination, and criminal prosecution. To the extent possible, the reporting of potential issues will be kept confidential.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

All employees have a responsibility to avoid situations and relationships that involve actual or potential conflicts of interest. Generally, a conflict of interest arises whenever an employee's

personal interests diverge from his or her responsibilities to Meritage or from Meritage's best interests. Put another way, a conflict of interest is created whenever an activity, association, transaction or relationship of yours might impair your independent exercise of judgment in Meritage's best interest.

Examples of situations that could be perceived as conflicts of interest and should be avoided include:

- Conducting company business with an entity owned, partially owned, or controlled by an employee or an employee's relatives or close friends;
- Working as an employee or a consultant for a competitor, regulatory governmental entity, customer or supplier of Meritage, or doing any work for a third party that may adversely affect your performance or judgment on the job or diminish your ability to devote the necessary loyalty, time and attention to your duties;
- Ownership of a financial interest in Meritage's competitors (although ownership of less than three percent of stock or total debt of a publicly traded company that competes or does business with Meritage is permissible); and
- Using company property, materials, supplies, funds or other resources for personal or non-business purposes; and
- Appropriating or diverting to others any business opportunity or idea in which Meritage might have an interest.

These situations, and others like them, where loyalties to Meritage could be compromised, must be avoided. Employees who believe they are involved in a potential conflict of interest have a responsibility to disclose it and must discuss it with (a) the Division President or Regional President of their division if the employee is a divisional employee or (b) a corporate officer if the employee is a corporate employee. In addition, Meritage maintains a detailed Conflict of Interest Policy that must be complied with by all employees and directors.

GIFTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

All decisions regarding the purchasing of materials, supplies and services must be made on the basis of competitive price, quality and performance in a way that preserves Meritage's integrity. Giving or accepting anything of value is inappropriate if it could be reasonably interpreted as an effort to influence a business relationship or decision. The difference between a gift and a bribe is a question of intent. It is a violation of our Code of Ethics and is illegal to accept or request any form of kickback or bribe. A bribe or a kickback includes any item or favor provided for the purpose of improperly obtaining favorable treatment or seeking a competitive advantage. Such efforts should never be used to accomplish indirectly what Meritage could not properly or legally do directly.

In certain situations or on certain occasions, our employees may present small gifts of nominal value to customers, suppliers and vendors or potential customers, suppliers and vendors, such as specialty advertising items bearing the corporate logo, and tickets or gift cards to local sports, civic or cultural events and/or restaurant meals or refreshments.

Standards governing our employees' acceptance of gifts from customers, suppliers and vendors or their agents mirror those relating to the giving of gifts to our customers, suppliers and vendors and/or potential customers, suppliers and vendors, in that acceptance of a significant gift could be construed as improperly influencing the selection of a vendor or the awarding of a contract. Gifts of a nominal value of less than \$500 may be accepted on an infrequent or occasional basis, such as during the holiday season, as a reasonable business courtesy. Routine entertainment involving suppliers or vendors that is business related such as business meals, sports outings or cultural events is acceptable.

Ultimately, each employee must exercise good business judgment in deciding which situations are unacceptable. **Bottom line: If there is ever any doubt as to the acceptability of any gift or entertainment activity, consult with your supervisor.**

PROTECTION AND USE OF CORPORATE ASSETS

All employees are responsible for ensuring that appropriate measures are taken to properly protect Meritage's corporate assets and electronic data. Employees are expected to ensure the protection of all confidential and proprietary information, including technical, financial, legal, marketing and other business information, which, if made available to Meritage's competitors or the public, could be advantageous to such competitors and/or detrimental to Meritage or to Meritage's employees, customers or vendors. Employees must also refrain from discussing with parties outside of the company any financial or proprietary information regarding subcontractors, suppliers and consultants who supply goods and/or services to Meritage in connection with Meritage's sourcing process. Protection of such information is critical to our business.

Meritage's computer systems, electronic mail (e-mail), voice mail, social media sites and internet access are employer-provided technologies and are company property. The use of Meritage's computer systems, e-mail, voice mail and internet access are for matters of concern to Meritage's operations, and not for communications of a personal nature. Any non-business related use should be on an infrequent basis. Employees are prohibited from using Meritage's information systems in any way that may be disruptive or offensive to others, including, but not limited to: the transmission, receipt, or viewing of sexually explicit messages, cartoons, images or sounds; ethnic, religious or racial slurs; or anything else offensive, hostile or that may be construed as harassment or disparagement of others.

COMPUTER SOFTWARE

Unauthorized duplication of copyrighted computer software violates the law and is contrary to Meritage's standards of conduct. Meritage prohibits such copying and recognizes the following principles as a basis for preventing its occurrences:

- We will neither engage in nor tolerate the making or using of unauthorized software copies under any circumstances;
- We will in a timely fashion and in sufficient quantities legally acquire and maintain software and licenses to meet the legitimate software needs for users of our computers;

- We will comply with all license and purchase terms regulating the use of any software we acquire or use; and
- We will enforce strong internal controls to prevent the making or using of unauthorized software copies, including effective measures to verify compliance with these standards and appropriate disciplinary measures for violation of these standards.

ANTITRUST COMPLIANCE

The free enterprise system rests on the proposition that free and open competition is the best way to ensure an adequate supply of goods and services at reasonable prices. The antitrust laws of the U.S. are intended to protect and promote vigorous and fair competition. All Meritage employees must adhere strictly to both the spirit and the letter of antitrust laws of the U.S. Violation of antitrust laws can result in severe civil and criminal penalties, including imprisonment for individuals, and substantial fines and damage awards against Meritage and/or individuals.

All employees must obtain advice from our General Counsel before engaging in any conduct or practice that may be regulated by antitrust laws.

The following agreements, arrangements or understandings with competitors, whether oral or in writing, should always be avoided:

- Agreements to fix prices or boycott specified suppliers;
- Agreements to allocate products, territories or markets;
- Agreements with another company not to hire each other's employees;
- Agreements to exchange competitively sensitive information, especially prices; and
- Agreements that limit the production or sale of our products.

Contacts with competitors are sensitive and risky, since courts can infer an agreement or collusion from such contacts when they are followed by common action or behavior. In all contacts with competitors, employees must avoid discussing prices, terms and conditions of sale, costs, inventories, competition, marketing plans or studies, employment limitations, production plans and capabilities, and any other proprietary or confidential information.

If any competitor initiates a discussion involving the subjects above, the employees should immediately excuse themselves from the conversation and immediately report the matter to our General Counsel.

INSIDER TRADING

As more fully set forth in Meritage's detailed Securities Trading Policy, it is illegal to buy or sell securities (either personally or on behalf of others) on the basis of material, nonpublic information. It is also illegal to communicate (i.e., to "tip") material, nonpublic information to others so that they may buy or sell securities on the basis of that information generally whether or not you receive a benefit. All Meritage employees who possess material, nonpublic information about Meritage

or any other company are prohibited from trading (directly or indirectly), or tipping others to trade in the securities of Meritage or such other company, as applicable.

These prohibitions continue for as long as the information you know remains material and nonpublic. Anyone who gives such nonpublic information to others may be subject to disciplinary action, civil liability and criminal prosecution. Guidance on questions about specific transactions should be obtained from Meritage's Chief Financial Officer in advance of the transaction. Meritage's Securities Trading Policy must be complied with by all employees and directors.

ADVERTISING, MARKETING AND PROMOTION

It is Meritage's policy to be truthful, fair and honest in the advertising, marketing, and promotion of its products. All advertising and promotion of Meritage products should be appropriate in nature for a homebuilding company.

FINANCIAL INTEGRITY

Federal law requires that public companies make and keep books and records that accurately and fairly reflect the transactions of the corporation. Accordingly, Meritage's books, records and accounts are to be maintained in a manner that accurately reflects all financial transactions in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. An employee shall not:

- Improperly accelerate or defer expenses or revenues to achieve financial results or goals;
- Maintain any undisclosed or unrecorded funds or "off the book" assets or liabilities;
- Establish or maintain improper, misleading, incomplete, false or fraudulent accounting documentation, entries or financial reporting, or fail to establish and maintain proper and complete accounting documentation, entries or financial reporting;
- Make any payment for purposes other than those described in the documents supporting the payment; or
- Sign or prepare any documents or entries believed to be inaccurate, untruthful, or inappropriate.

RECORD RETENTION

Meritage maintains a detailed Record Retention Policy and all employees are required to comply with all applicable document archiving and retention requirements. Any employee who becomes aware of any investigation, litigation, administrative proceeding or other governmental or regulatory proceeding must immediately consult with Meritage's General Counsel regarding any records relating to that matter. Federal and state law provides for imprisonment and severe penalties for any person who alters, mutilates, conceals or destroys a record or an object with intent to impair the availability of such item in, or influence the investigation of, litigation or a governmental department or agency.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY RELATIONS WITH EMPLOYEES

Meritage recognizes that its continued success depends on the development and fair treatment of all of its employees. Meritage is committed to providing equal opportunity for employment and advancement at every level of employment on the basis of ability and aptitude, without regard to race, sex, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, veteran's status, or any other classification protected by federal, state or local laws and ordinances. Similarly, Meritage is committed to maintaining a workplace that is free from harassment by a co-worker, supervisor, vendor or customer.

If you feel you or a co-worker have been subject to discrimination or harassment, you should immediately contact your supervisor, a People Operations manager/officer or any other member of management you feel comfortable discussing the matter with. Employees will not be disciplined or otherwise retaliated against as a result of reporting such conduct.

ALCOHOL AND DRUGS IN THE WORKPLACE

Meritage is committed to provide a safe workplace, including a drug and alcohol-free workplace. Meritage reinforces its commitment by prohibiting employees from using, possessing, distributing or being under the influence of illegal drugs, marijuana or alcohol at any time while on company premises or while performing company business at any location.

WORKPLACE HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT

Meritage is committed to the safety and health of its employees and all employees must comply with Meritage's Safety Manual. Providing and maintaining a safe work environment and instituting and following work practices to safeguard employees must be a primary consideration for all of us. Reviewing all of our businesses and identifying where we can act to improve safety awareness is an ongoing task to which the entire company and each employee should be dedicated. There is no job so important that we cannot take the time to complete it safely. If you are aware of any conditions, circumstances, events or issues that give rise to safety concerns, you must report such items to your supervisor or to the Company's General Counsel.

Safe work practices also include exercising good judgment with regard to the environmental aspects of our business. Discharge and disposition of hazardous materials must be performed only in a manner that complies with environmental protection laws.