

Alameda CTC
Code of Conduct

Public Decorum

Alameda CTC conducts orderly meetings to fulfill its mandate. During any public comment period at an Alameda CTC public meeting, remarks shall be addressed to the Commission or Committee members on topics germane to the jurisdiction of the Alameda CTC. The Commission welcomes comments, including criticism, about Alameda CTC's policies, procedures, programs and services, or of the acts or omissions of the Commission but will not tolerate disruptive or discriminatory language or such behavior during Commission meetings. Alameda CTC policies prohibit unlawful harassment and discrimination related to employees, Commission members/alternates and all persons involved in the operation of the Agency.

Discriminatory statements or conduct that would potentially violate the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964 and/or the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, California Penal Code sections 403 or 415 - i.e., statements or conduct that is obscene, discriminatory, hostile, intimidating, oppressive or abusive - is per se disruptive to a meeting and will not be tolerated.

A. Prohibited Actions

The following actions are prohibited during public meetings:

- 1) Use of obscene, discriminatory, hostile, intimidating, oppressive or abusive language
- 2) Shouting or yelling so as to disrupt the meeting
- 3) Conduct which disrupts the orderly conduct of the meeting

B. Disruptive Conduct

Following a warning from the Chair of the Commission/Committee that informs a member of the public that their behavior is disruptive and could lead to the removal of that individual or the discontinuation of that individual's right to provide remote public comment via Zoom or other remote meeting platform and/or by telephone should they continue to engage in the disruptive behavior, the Chair of the Commission/Committee may instruct that any person who commits any of the following disruptive acts during a public meeting be removed from the meeting room by law enforcement or security officers, or may instruct the Clerk to immediately discontinue that individual's ability to provide comments remotely:

- 1) Behavior that disrupts, disturbs, impedes or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting; or
- 2) Failure to comply with the reasonable and lawful regulations adopted by the Commission.

The Chair or the Commission/Committee is authorized to instruct law enforcement or security officers, without additional warning, to immediately remove a member of the public who has engaged in behavior that amounts to a use of force or true threat of force or to instruct the Clerk to discontinue that individual's right to provide remote public comment via Zoom or other remote meeting platform and/or by telephone.

C. Enforcement

Law enforcement or security officers shall carry out all instructions given by the Chair for the purpose of maintaining order and decorum at a public meeting. Any person who was removed from a meeting shall be excluded from further attendance at that meeting unless permission to attend is subsequently granted upon motion adopted by a majority vote of the Commission/Committee.

D. Violations of Penal Code Sections 403 and 415

The Chair of the Commission/Committee may direct law enforcement to place such person under arrest for violation of Section 403 or Section 415 of the California Penal Code, or any other applicable law, and shall cause such person to be prosecuted. The complaint shall be signed by the presiding officer, the Executive Director, or the clerk of the public meeting.