

Emailed: 3-10-2026

Hello Charter Review Commission Members -

I am in support of Katie Jolma's (from the civil prosecuting attorney's office) position on this matter. I feel that any commissioner that is running for another elected office while the Charter Review Commission is presenting salary or compensation amendments should recuse themselves from discussion and decision involvement on that matter or any other matter where current or future privileges may be involved.

I also support Commissioner Patrick Adigweme's request for additional guidance from Katie Jolma as it pertains to special privileges and any other amendments concerning the Clark County Council in addition to the current salary discussion.

Thank you.

Melinda Calen

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Emailed: 3-10-2026

Hello Charter Review Commission Members -

The Clark County Council clarified this issue (voting against what the CCC members already had a majority vote on) with a revision to the Rules of Procedures on 1-28-26 as noted below.

III D. The Council may remove its members from boards and commissions with a simple majority vote.

III E. The Council may direct an individual Councilor, appointed to a board and commission, how to vote.

According to Commissioner Kim Hamlik the purpose of Amendment 26-16 is that even though the Clark County Commission added this to the revised Rules and Procedures, this amendment will "clarify things" all around.

Thank you for the work you do on behalf of Clark County.

Thank you.

Melinda Calen

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Emailed: 3/11/2026

As a concerned citizen, I feel compelled to express my confusion, shock, and disappointment regarding last week's Commission meeting.

It appears that the Charter Review Commission may be relying upon an unpublished rogue set of ethical standards that diverges from those applied by both the legislative and executive branches of county government. My concern is strongly suggested by the discussion surrounding the recusal decision that resulted in the tabling of proposed Amendment 26-03.

Representing the Clark County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Jolma offered a clear, common-sense opinion grounded in law. Of particular relevance is the fact that DPA Jolma serves as legal advisor to the Clark County Ethics Review Commission. Paraphrasing her guidance, she stated that a.commissioner.should.recuse.themselves.from.consideration.of.any.amendment.in.order.to.avoid.even.the.appearance.of.an.ethical.violation;

Two commissioners strongly rejected this legal opinion, thereby directly rejecting the ethical standards adhered to by Clark County's executive and legislative branches. The same ethical language is also employed by the Vancouver City Council, as illustrated in the Kim Harless case. Deviating from these established ethical standards is both confusing and disappointing. Moreover, openly disputing the legal advice of the Ethics Commission's counsel is deeply troubling.

The recusal impasse has since intensified. One of the aforementioned commissioners publicly announced his candidacy for County Council in the upcoming election, while the other indicated an intention to seek elected office in a future election. As a result, removing 26-03 from the table would NOW require recusal decisions involving three commissioners.

I truly believe that the Chair should identify an independent ethical arbiter acceptable to the full Commission. I respectfully suggest that the Clark County Ethics Review Commission would be the most appropriate body to fulfill this role.

Finally, I raise the following additional point for serious consideration. When the Chair recognizes a commissioner, that individual is acting on behalf of tens of thousands of constituents. This moment represents the fulfillment of a public trust. Announcing a political candidacy during such proceedings does not advance that responsibility. At best, it distracts from it; at worst, it undermines the ethical integrity of the Commission's work.

Respectfully Submitted

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