

LOCAL LAW NO. ____ OF THE YEAR 2026

TOWN OF CAMBRIA

COUNTY OF NIAGARA, STATE OF NEW YORK

**A Local Law Amending the Ordinance Relating to a Code of Ethics
and a Board of Ethics for the Town of Cambria**

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Cambria as follows:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE AND INTENT

The purpose of this Local Law is to amend the Ordinance Relating to a Code of Ethics and a Board of Ethics for the Town of Cambria (hereinafter, the “Ordinance”) that was adopted by the Town Board on August 6, 1970. This Local Law shall amend the Ordinance by clarifying the process relative to the investigation of ethics complaints and to add the requirement that any ethics complaints filed with, and for review by, the Town Board of Ethics must be filed within sixty (60) calendar days after the event, transaction, incident or occurrence alleged to violate the Town’s Code of Ethics, or within sixty (60) calendar days after the discovery of the event, transaction, incident or occurrence alleged to violate the Town’s Code of Ethics.

SECTION 2. AUTHORITY

This amendment to the Ordinance is adopted pursuant to the New York State Constitution, Article IX, § 2(c)(6) and (10); the New York Statute of Local Governments, Article II, § 10, Subdivisions 1 and 7; Town Law §§ 130 through 135; New York General Municipal Law § 806; and New York State Municipal Home Rule Law § 10.

SECTION 3. FINDINGS.

The Town Board hereby finds and determines that in order to ensure fairness, reliability of evidence and legal finality and to facilitate fruitful investigation by the Board of Ethics, the Town’s Code of Ethics must include a statute of limitation relative to the lodging of an alleged ethical violation, either under the Town Code of Ethics or under the New York General Municipal Law, with the Town Board of Ethics. This statute of limitation will prevent stale claims, protect individuals against whom violations are filed from defending against forgotten events and foster prompt investigative action.

SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.

Article II, Section 4 of the Ordinance, entitled “Violations,” is hereby amended by adding the following to the end of said section:

“The Town Board hereby refers any and all complaints alleging violations of either the Code of Ethics or New York General Municipal Law to the Town Board of Ethics for review and

investigation. Any alleged ethical violations shall be transmitted to the Board of Ethics by way of a written complaint signed by the complainant. Each individual ethics complaint shall be deemed to have been referred to the Board of Ethics on the date it is filed with and received by the Board of Ethics. All ethics complaints must be filed with and received by the Board of Ethics within sixty (60) calendar days after the event, transaction, incident or occurrence comprising the alleged violation, or within sixty (60) calendar days after the discovery of the event, transaction, incident or occurrence alleged to violate the Town's Code of Ethics. The filing of an ethics complaint shall follow the procedure set forth in the Town of Cambria Board of Ethics' *Internal Rules and Regulations*, a copy of which is publicly available and available upon request from the Town Clerk, and the date of the event, transaction, incident or occurrence comprising the alleged violation, or the date of the complainant's discovery of same, shall be set forth in the complaint. Failure to comply with this statute of limitation may result in the dismissal of any such ethics complaint by the Board of Ethics upon the grounds that same is time-barred."

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon adoption by the Town Board.

SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY

The invalidity of any word, section, clause, paragraph, sentence or part or provision of this Local Law shall not affect the validity or any other part of this Local Law or the Ordinance that said Local Law amends, which shall remain in effect.