

ABVE Commitment Pledge

I, _____, recognizing the important responsibility I am undertaking in serving as a member of the Board of Directors of this organization, hereby pledge to carry out in a trustworthy and diligent manner the duties and obligations in my role as a board member.

MY ROLE:

I acknowledge that my primary role as a board member is (1) to contribute to the defining of the organization mission and governing the fulfillment of that mission, and (2) to carry out the functions of the office of Board Member and/or Officer as stated in the bylaws.

My role as board member will focus on the development of broad policies that govern the implementation of institutional plans and purposes. This role is separate and distinct from the role of the Executive Director/Administrator, who determines the means of implementation.

MY COMMITMENT:

I will exercise the duties and responsibilities of this office with integrity, collegiality and care.

I PLEDGE:

1. To establish as a high priority my attendance at all meetings of the board, committees and task forces on which I serve.
2. To come prepared to discuss the issues and business to be addressed at scheduled meetings, having read the agenda and all background material relevant to the topics at hand.
3. To work with and respect the-opinions of my peers who serve this board, and to leave my personal prejudices out of all board discussions.
4. To always act for the good of the organization.
5. To represent this organization in a positive and supportive manner at all times and in all places.
6. To observe the parliamentary procedures and display courteous conduct in all board, committee and task force meetings.
7. To refrain from intruding on administrative issues that are the responsibility of management, except to monitor the results and prohibit methods that conflict with board policy.
8. To avoid conflicts of interest between my position as a board member and my personal life. If such a conflict does arise, I will declare that conflict before the board and refrain from voting on matters in which I have conflict.

9. To support in a positive manner all actions taken by the Board of Directors even when I am in a minority position on such actions.
10. To agree to serve on at least one committee or task force, attend all meetings, and participate in the accomplishment of its objectives. If I chair the board, a committee or a task force, I will:
 - (a) call meetings as necessary until objectives are met;
 - (b) ensure that the agenda and support materials are mailed to all members in advance of the meetings;
 - (c) conduct the meetings in an orderly, fair, open and efficient manner;
 - (d) make committee progress reports/minutes to the board at its scheduled meetings, using the adopted format.
11. To participate in (1) the annual strategic planning retreat, (2) board self-evaluation programs, and (3) board development workshops, seminars, and other educational events that enhance my skills as a board member.
12. As a representative of the ABVE board, I understand that I cannot make individual comments on behalf of the ABVE organization. Board communication is to be channeled through the board President or Executive Director via board direction. I further agree to hold in confidence and not disclose to any person without the Board's prior written approval any documents provided to me as a director on a confidential basis and any other confidential information of ABVE (whether written or oral), including, but not limited to, confidential information discussed during Board and committee meetings, unless I am compelled to disclose such information by law or court order.

ABVE recognizes and respects that Board Members take part in legitimate financial, business, and other professional association activities outside of their role on the ABVE Board. However, these activities must be lawful and free of conflicts with their responsibilities as Board Members. Board Members must not misuse ABVE resources or influence, or discredit ABVE's good name and reputation.

The effectiveness of this policy depends in large part on the cooperation of all Board Members in promptly disclosing any situations that may be contrary to the intent of the policy. If a Board Member is considering an activity that may represent a potential conflict of interest, they should immediately notify the President who will review the situation with the Executive Committee or Full Board as needed to provide a timely response.

If, for any reason, I find myself unable to carry out the above duties and the duties listed on my specific job description, as best as I can, I agree to resign my position as a board member/officer.

I also understand and agree that my failure to carry out the above duties subjects me to removal from the Board in accordance with the Bylaws of ABVE.

Board Member Signature

Date