



# COUNTY OF ERIE

## OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Brenton Davis,  
Erie County Executive

October 20, 2022

Erie County Courthouse  
140 West Sixth Street., Room 106  
Erie, PA 16501

Chairman Gerald Blanks,

As the appointment of the Erie County Executive to Erie County's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission, your deliberations and actions while appointed to the DEI Commission are a direct reflection upon my office. With this in mind, the first round of DEI funding allocated by the DEI Commission to the organization which employs you creates a perception which I cannot support or project to the community.

Not only is it my expectation, it is plainly stated in the ordinance which created the DEI Commission and in Erie County's Administrative Code that no appointee, family member, or his or her employer should be in a position to directly or indirectly benefit from his or her position on any board, authority, or commission.

Under Erie County Ordinance 72, 2021, Section 7 "Conflict of Interest" clearly states: "No member or employee of the commission shall acquire any financial interest in funds received by Erie County or used by the commission to fund third party recipients including, without limitation, for profit and non-profit concerns, government agencies or any other organizations, to fund contracts, projects, economic developments or any other commission endeavor. If a conflict of interest arises, the member or employee of the commission shall immediately disclose the conflict to the members of the commission, who shall thereafter enter the conflict upon the minute books of the commission and promptly notify County Council and the County Executive."

For the reasons above, I am removing you from the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission effective immediately.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Davis".

County Executive Brenton Davis