### ULSTER COUNTY PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

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### ULSTER COUNTY SEXUAL HARASSMENT PREVENTION POLICY

Revised March, 2024

### I. POLICY STATEMENT

Ulster County is committed to maintaining a safe workplace free from sexual harassment. Sexual harassment, which includes harassment on the basis of sex, self-identified or perceived sex or gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or transgender status, is a form of workplace discrimination. Sexual harassment is a serious form of employee misconduct. All employees, interns, volunteers including but not limited to, board members, commission members, committee members and council members, and non-employees are required to work in a manner that prevents sexual harassment in the workplace. Any employee, intern, volunteer including but not limited to, board members and council members, or non-employee in the workplace who engages in sexual harassment or retaliation will be subject to remedial and/or disciplinary action, up to and including termination. This Policy is one component of Ulster County's commitment to a discrimination-free work environment.<sup>1</sup>

Sexual harassment is against the law. All persons have a legal right to a workplace free from sexual harassment. This right can be enforced by filing a complaint internally with Ulster County, and/or with a government agency or in court under federal, state or local antidiscrimination laws.

Sexual harassment is an offensive violation of our policies, unlawful, and may subject Ulster County to liability for harm to targets of sexual harassment. In New York, <u>Hharassment does not need to be severe</u> or pervasive to be illegal. Harassers may also be individually subject to liability. Those covered by this Policy who engage in sexual harassment, and managers and supervisors who engage in sexual harassment or who knowingly allow such behavior to continue, will be subject to remedial action or discipline in accordance with law or an applicable Collective Bargaining Agreement.

This Policy also prohibits retaliation against individuals who report or complain of sexual harassment or participate in the investigation of a sexual harassment complaint, as further described herein.

Complaints of sexual harassment must be submitted to the Personnel Officer. In the event that the Personnel Officer is the subject of the complaint, complaints must be made to the Deputy County Executive, for investigation by outside legal counsel. The Personnel OfficerDirector, or designee Ulster County will conduct a prompt, thorough and confidential investigation that ensures due process for all parties, whenever Ulster County or its supervisory or managerial personnel receives a complaint about sexual harassment or retaliation, or otherwise knows of possible sexual harassment occurring. Ulster County will keep the investigation confidential to the extent possible. Effective corrective action will be taken whenever sexual harassment or retaliation is found to have occurred. All persons covered by this Policy, including managers and supervisors, are required to cooperate with any internal investigation

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Note that other forms of discrimination, as well as harassment based on protected classes or characteristics other than those covered under this policy are covered separately under Ulster County's Discriminatory Harassment Policy.

### of sexual harassment.

All employees, interns, volunteers, including but not limited to, board members, commission members, committee members and council members, and non-employees are to report any harassment or behaviors that violate this Policy. Ulster County will provide a complaint form for the reporting of harassment and filing of complaints. Managers and supervisors are **required** to report **any** complaint that they receive, or any harassment that they observe or become aware of in the workplace. Such reporting must be in written form to the Personnel Officer. Confronting the harasser is not required but is encouraged if the complainant feels it is possible and safe to do so. Anyone covered by this Policy has the right to file a good faith complaint without first communicating with the offender.

Anyone subject to and/or covered by this Policy who feels harassed should complain so that any violation of this policy can be corrected promptly. Any harassing conduct, even a single incident, can be addressed under this policy.

## II. <u>SCOPE</u>

- A. Who is covered by this Policy? This Policy applies to all employees, applicants for employment, interns, whether paid or unpaid, volunteers, <u>including but not limited to</u>, <u>board members</u>, <u>commission members</u>, <u>committee members and council members</u>, non-employees and persons conducting business with Ulster County.<sup>2</sup>,
- B. Who can be a target of sexual harassment? Sexual harassment can occur between any individuals, regardless of their sex or gender. New York Law protects employees, paid or unpaid interns, volunteers, including but not limited to, board members, commission members, committee members and council members, and non-employees who provide services in the workplace.
- C. Who can be a sexual harasser? A harasser can be <u>anyone in the workplace.</u> aA superior, a subordinate, a coworker or anyone in the workplace including an independent contractor, contract worker, vendor, client, customer or visitor, or anyone with whom the person interacts while conducting their job duties.
- D. Where can sexual harassment occur? Unlawful sexual harassment is not limited to the physical workplace itself. It can occur while employees, interns and/or volunteers are traveling for business or at employer sponsored events or parties. Calls, texts, emails, and social media usage can constitute or contribute to unlawful workplace harassment, even if occurring away from the workplace premises or not during work hours.

## III. DEFINITIONS OF PROHIBITED CONDUCT

### A. What is sexual harassment?

Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination and is unlawful under federal, state, and (where applicable) local law. Sexual harassment includes harassment on the basis of sex, self-identified or perceived sex or gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or transgender status.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Non-employees, as defined by law, includes contractors, vendors and consultants or those who are employees of the contractor, vendor or consultant.

#### Ulster County Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy

Understanding gender diversity is essential to recognizing sexual harassment because discrimination based on sex stereotypes, gender expression and perceived identity are all forms of sexual harassment. The gender spectrum is nuanced, but the three most common ways people identify are cisgender, transgender, and non-binary. A cisgender person is someone whose gender aligns with the sex they were assigned at birth. Generally, this gender will align with the binary of male or female. A transgender person is someone whose gender is different than the sex they were assigned at birth. A non-binary person does not identify exclusively as a man or a woman. They might identify as both, somewhere in between, or completely outside the gender binary. Some may identify as transgender, but not all do. Respecting an individual's gender identity is a necessary first step in establishing a safe workplace.

Sexual harassment is unlawful when it subjects an individual to inferior terms, conditions, or privileges of employment. Harassment does not need to be severe or pervasive to be illegal. It can be any harassing behavior that rises above petty slights or trivial inconveniences. Every instance of harassment is unique to those experiencing it, and there is no single boundary between petty slights and harassing behavior. However, the Human Rights Law specifies that whether harassing conduct is considered petty or trivial is to be viewed from the standpoint of a reasonable victim of discrimination with the same protected characteristics. Generally, any behavior in which an employee or covered individual is treated worse because of their gender (perceived or actual), sexual orientation, or gender expression is considered a violation of Ulster County's policy. The intent of the behavior, for example, making a joke, does not neutralize a harassment claim. Not intending to harass is not a defense. The impact of the behavior on a person is what counts.

Sexual harassment includes <u>unwelcome</u> verbal or physical conduct which is either of a sexual nature, or which is directed at an individual because of that individual's sex when:

- Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment, even if the complaining individual is not the intended target of the sexual harassment;
- Such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of employment; or
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting an individual's employment.

A sexually harassing <u>hostile work environment includes</u>, <u>but is not limited to</u>, <u>consists of words</u>, <u>words</u>, signs, jokes, pranks, intimidation or physical violence which are of a sexual nature, or which are directed at an individual because of that individual's sex, self-identified or perceived sex or gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or transgender status. Sexual harassment also consists of any <u>unwanted</u> verbal or physical advances, sexually explicit derogatory statements or sexually discriminatory remarks made by someone which are offensive or objectionable to the recipient, which cause the recipient discomfort or humiliation, and/or which can interfere with the recipient's job performance.

Sexual harassment also occurs when a person in authority tries to offer job benefits for sexual favors. This can include hiring, promotion, continued employment or any other terms, conditions or privileges of employment. This is also called "quid pro quo" harassment.

## B. Examples of sexual harassment

Sexual harassment under the law and prohibited by this Policy may include, but is not limited to, the following prohibited conduct:

• Physical assaults of a sexual nature, such as:

- \_\_\_\_\_Touching, pinching, patting, grabbing, brushing against another person's body or poking another person's body; rape, sexual battery, molestation or attempts to commit these assaults (which should be reported to local authorities as promptly as is possible).
- <u>Rape</u>, sexual battery, molestation, or attempts to commit these assaults, which may be considered criminal conduct outside the scope of this policy. (please contact-Llocal law enforcement should be contacted if you wish to pursue criminal charges are to be pursued.)
- Unwanted sexual comments, advances or propositions, such as:
  - Requests for sexual favors accompanied by implied or overt threats concerning the target's job performance evaluation, a promotion or other employment benefits or detriments; subtle or obvious pressure for unwelcome sexual activities.
  - <u>s</u>ubtle or obvious pressure for unwelcome sexual activities.; or
  - o <u>rRepeated request for dates or romantic gestures, including gift giving.</u>
- Sexually oriented gestures, noises, remarks, jokes or comments about a person's sexuality, -or sexual experience, or romantic history which can create a hostile work environment. This is not limited to interactions in person. Remarks made over virtual platforms and in messaging apps when employees are working remotely can create a similarly hostile work environment.
- Sex stereotyping, which occurs when conduct or personality traits are considered inappropriate or treated negatively simply because they may not conform to other people's ideas or perceptions about how individuals of a particular sex should look or act.
  - <u>Remarks regarding an employee's gender expression, such as wearing a garment typically</u> associated with a different gender identity.; or
  - •<u>aAsking employees to take on traditionally gendered roles, such as asking a woman to</u> serve meeting refreshments when it is not part of, or appropriate to, her job duties.
- Sexual or discriminatory displays or publications <u>anywhere</u> in the workplace, such as:
  - Displaying pictures, posters, calendars, graffiti, objects, promotional material, reading materials or other materials that are sexually demeaning or pornographic. This includes such sexual displays on workplace computers or cell phones and sharing such displays while in the workplace or in a work-related gathering or setting.
  - This extends to the virtual or remote workspace and can include having such materials visible in the background of one's home during a virtual meeting.
- Hostile actions taken against an individual because of that individual's sex, self-identified or
  perceived sex or gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or transgender
  status, such as:
  - Interfering with, destroying or damaging a person's workstation, tools or equipment, or otherwise interfering with the individual's ability to perform the job;
  - -----Sabotaging an individual's work;
  - -Bullying, yelling, name-calling
  - o iIntentional misuse of an individual's preferred pronouns; or
  - o cCreating different expectations for individuals based on their perceived identities;
  - o <u>d</u>Press codes that place more emphasis on women's attire;
  - o ILeaving parents/caregivers out of meetings.

### C. Retaliation

In addition to sexual harassment, retaliation for opposing or complaining of sexual harassment or participating in investigations of sexual harassment is prohibited by law and prohibited under this Policy. No person covered by this Policy shall be subjected to such unlawful retaliation. Unlawful retaliation can be any adverse employment action, including being discharged, disciplined, discriminated against, or any action that would keep or discourage anyone covered by this Policy from coming forward to make or support a sexual harassment claim. Adverse action need not be job-related or occur in the workplace to constitute unlawful retaliation.

The New York State Human Rights Law and this Policy protect any individual who has engaged in "protected activity." Protected activity occurs when a person has:

- made a complaint of sexual harassment, either internally or with any anti-discrimination agency;
- testified or assisted in a proceeding involving sexual harassment under this Policy, the State Human Rights Law or other anti-discrimination law;
- opposed sexual harassment by making a verbal or informal complaint to Ulster County (including a supervisor or manager) or by simply informing a supervisor or manager of harassment;
- reported that another employee, intern, volunteer or non-employee covered by this Policy has been sexually harassed; or
- encouraged a fellow employee, intern, volunteer and/or non-employee covered by this Policy to report harassment.

Employees, interns, volunteers, including but not limited to board, and commission, committee and council members, and non-employees who believe they have been subjected to retaliation should report this conduct in accordance with the same reporting procedures as are outlined below. These complaints of retaliation will be investigated in accordance with the same procedures utilized to investigate a complaint of sexual harassment. Individuals also may file complaints of retaliation with the federal or state enforcement agencies (EEOC or New York State Division of Human Rights.) Any individual found to have engaged in retaliation as defined in this Policy may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination, and/or other corrective or remedial action as necessary.

## IV. <u>REPORTING PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES</u>

### A. Reporting Procedures

**Preventing sexual harassment is everyone's responsibility.** Ulster County cannot prevent or remedy sexual harassment unless it knows about it. Any employee, intern, volunteer or non-employee who has been subjected to behavior that may constitute sexual harassment is strongly encouraged to report such behavior to the Personnel Officer set forth below. Anyone who witnesses or becomes aware of potential or perceived instances of sexual harassment should also report such behavior to the Personnel Officer is the subject of the complaint, complaints are to be made to the Deputy County Executive

Although encouraged, note that neither this Policy nor state or federal law requires that an individual tell an alleged harasser to stop his/her actions. Failure to do so does not preclude the individual from filing a complaint of sexual harassment. Individuals should feel free to keep written records of any actions which may constitute sexual harassment, including time, date, location, names of others involved, witnesses (if any), and who said or did what to whom.

Reports of sexual harassment may be made verbally or in writing. If made verbally, the Complaint must be reduced to writing by the individual who it was reported to. The written report must be given to the

Personnel Officer. A form for submission of a written complaint is attached to this Policy, and all employees, interns, volunteers including but not limited to board, commission, committee and council <u>members</u>, <u>board and commission members</u>, and non-employees conducting business in the workplace are encouraged to use this complaint form. Individuals who are reporting sexual harassment on behalf of <u>another employees</u>, interns, volunteers or non employees should use the complaint form and note that it is on another person's behalf.

Employees, interns, volunteers, including but not limited to board, commission, committee and council <u>members</u>, or non-employees who believe they have been a target of sexual harassment may also seek assistance in other available forums, as explained below in the section on Legal Protections.

### B. Supervisory Responsibilities

All managerial and supervisory personnel of Ulster County shall be responsible for enforcing this Policy and shall have particular responsibility for ensuring that the work environment under their supervision is free from sexual harassment and retaliation. In addition to being subject to discipline or other remedial action if they engaged in sexually harassing conduct themselves, **all supervisors and managers who receive a complaint or information about suspected sexual harassment, observe what may be sexually harassing behavior or for any reason suspect that sexual harassment is occurring, are required to report same in writing, to the Personnel Officer.** Supervisors and managers will be subject to discipline (or other remedial and appropriate action) for failing to take corrective action and report suspected sexual harassment or otherwise knowingly allowing sexual harassment to continue. Appropriate and attentive action to prevent the occurrence of sexual harassment is an expectation of all supervisors.

Supervisors and managers will also be subject to discipline or other appropriate remedial action for engaging in retaliation.

While supervisors and managers have a responsibility to report harassment and discrimination, supervisors and managers must be mindful of the impact that harassment and a subsequent investigation can haves on victims. Being identified as a possible victim of harassment and questioned about harassment and discrimination can be intimidating, uncomfortable, and re-traumatizing for individuals. Supervisors and managers must accommodate the needs of individuals who have experienced harassment to ensure the workplace is safe, supportive, and free from retaliation for them during and after any investigation. Those receiving claims and leading investigations will handle complaints and questions with sensitivity toward those participating.

## C. Ulster County Responsibilities

Ulster County will be responsible for ensuring that this Policy is provided to employees, interns, and volunteers including but not limited to board commission, committee and council members, board and commission members and that training on this Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy is conducted annually. All individuals listed below are required to participate in annual Sexual Harassment Prevention training.

- All employees
- Elected Officials
- Interns
- Volunteers
- <u>—Board, Commission, Committee and Council members.; and</u>
- <u>Commission members</u>

#### Ulster County Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy

Disciplinary action for those who do not complete the annual sexual harassment prevention training will be taken for non-union employees, and for union employees according to collective bargaining agreements.

# D. Bystander Intervention

Any employee witnessing harassment as a bystander is encouraged to report it. A supervisor or manager that is a bystander to harassment is **required** to report it. There are five standard methods of bystander intervention that can be used when anyone witnesses harassment or discrimination and wants to help.

- A bystander can interrupt the harassment by engaging with the individual being harassed and distracting them from the harassing behavior;
- AaA bystander who feels unsafe interrupting on their own can ask a third party to help intervene in the harassment;
- <u>A aA-bystander can record or take notes on the harassment incident to benefit a future investigation;</u>
- AaA bystander might check in with the person who has been harassed after the incident, see how they are feeling and let them know the behavior was not ok; and
- If # a bystander feels safe, they can confront the harassers and name the behavior as inappropriate. When confronting harassment, physically assaulting an individual is never an appropriate response.

Though not exhaustive, and dependent on the circumstances, the guidelines, above, can serve as a brief guide of how to react when witnessing harassment in the workplace. Any employee witnessing harassment as a bystander is encouraged to report it. A supervisor or manager that is a bystander to harassment is required to report it.

# V. INVESTIGATION AND RESPONSE PROCEDURES

**All** complaints or information about suspected sexual harassment will be investigated, whether that information was reported in verbal or written form. Investigations will be conducted in a timely manner and will be confidential to the extent possible.

During an investigation of any complaint, the information and knowledge gathering of suspected sexual harassment will be prompt and thorough, commencing immediately and completed as soon as possible. The investigation will be confidential to the extent possible. All persons involved, including complainants, witnesses and alleged harassers will be accorded appropriate due process to protect their rights to a fair and impartial investigation.

Any employee, volunteer including but not limited to board commission, committee and council <u>members</u>, intern, <u>board or member</u>, <u>commission member</u>, <u>ebr</u> or non-employee may be required to cooperate as needed in an investigation of suspected sexual harassment. As further set forth herein, Ulster County will not tolerate retaliation against those who file complaints, support another's complaint, or participate in the investigation of a complaint.

All investigations will be conducted by the Personnel Officer or their designee. The nature of an investigation may vary on a case\_-by\_-case basis dependent upon the circumstances and extent of the

allegations. Generally, investigations should be conducted by the Personnel Officer or their designee in accordance with the following steps:

- Upon receipt of complaint, the Personnel Officer or their designee will conduct an immediate review of the allegations, and take interim actions, as appropriate. If the complaint is oral, encourage the individual to complete the "Complaint Form" in writing. If he or she refuses, prepare a Complaint Form or other write up of the complaint based on the oral reporting.
- If documents, emails or phone records are relevant to the allegations, take steps to obtain and preserve them.
- Request and review all relevant documents, including all electronic communications.
- Interview all parties involved, including any relevant witnesses.
- Create (at a minimum) written documentation of the investigation (such as a letter, memo or email), which contains the following:
  - A list of all documents reviewed, along with a detailed summary of relevant documents;
  - o <u>a</u>A list of names of those interviewed, along with a detailed summary of their statements;
  - $\circ$  <u>a</u>A timeline of events;
  - o <u>a</u>A summary of prior relevant incidents, reported or unreported; and
  - Recommendation(s) for the final resolution of the complaint, together with any recommendations for corrective or remedial actions to be taken.
- Keep the written documentation and associated documents in the <u>employer's</u> records.

Once the investigation is completed, the Personnel Officer or their designee will make a Final Determination as to whether the Policy has been violated.

The Personnel Officer or their designee shall promptly notify the complainant of the Final Determination, and also inform the complainant of their right to file a complaint or charge externally as outlined below.<sup>3</sup>

If a complaint of sexual harassment or retaliation is determined to be founded, Ulster County may take disciplinary and/or corrective action. The Personnel Officer will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of any corrective or remedial actions.

If a complaint of sexual harassment or retaliation against an appointed volunteer board or commission, committee or council member is determined to be founded, the Personnel OfficerDirector shall provide the appointing authority the Final Determination in writing. The Personnel OfficerDirector shall consult with the appointing authority regarding appropriate disciplinary and/or corrective action, up to and including removal from the position.

# VI. <u>REIMBURSEMENT</u>

Any employee who has been subject to a judgement of personal liability for intentional wrongdoing in connection with a claim for sexual harassment shall reimburse the Ulster County for any monies it paid to a complainant for what was found to be the employee's proportionate share of said judgement. These reimbursements must be made within ninety (90) days from payment by the Ulster County to the Complainant. A failure to reimburse will result in the sum being withheld directly from the employee's

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Where a complaint was filed regarding sexual harassment against an individual other than the person making the written complaint, the person against whom the harassment was directed will be treated as the complainant for purposes of this Policy.

compensation or through enforcement of a money judgement.

# VII. FURTHER CONFIDENTIALITY AND DISCLOSURE

In recognition of the personal nature of discrimination complaints and the emotional impact of alleged discrimination, Ulster County shall keep complaints as confidential as is consistent with a thorough investigation, applicable collective bargaining agreements, and other laws and regulations regarding employees and the workplace setting. For the protection of all individuals who make complaints or are accused of prohibited discrimination, every witness interviewed during an investigation under this Policy will be advised of the confidentiality requirement and instructed not to discuss the complaint, the investigation, or the persons involved. To the extent complaints made under this Policy implicate criminal conduct, Ulster County may be required by law to contact and cooperate with the appropriate law enforcement authorities.

The terms of any settlement or other resolution are subject to disclosure <u>UNLESS</u> the Complainant seeks confidentiality. This request for confidentiality may be revoked within a certain time period in accordance with State law.

# VIII. FALSE REPORTS

Reporting of a false complaint is a serious act. In the event it is found that an individual bringing the complaint has knowingly made false allegations, Ulster County may take appropriate remedial action and/or disciplinary action in accordance with the provisions of applicable collective bargaining agreement and/or state law

## IX. LEGAL PROTECTIONS AND EXTERNAL REMEDIES

Sexual harassment is not only prohibited by Ulster County but is also prohibited by state, federal, and, where applicable, local law.

Aside from the internal process at Ulster County, individuals may also choose to pursue legal remedies with the following governmental entities **at any time**.

## A. New York State Division of Human Rights (DHR)

The Human Rights Law (HRL), codified as N.Y. Executive Law, Art. 15, § 290 et seq., applies to employers in New York State with regard to sexual harassment, and protects employees, interns and non-employees. A complaint alleging violation of the Human Rights Law may be filed either with Division of Human Rights or in New York State Supreme Court. Complaints with DHR may be filed any time **within one year** of the harassment. If an individual did not file at DHR, they can sue directly in state court under the HRL, **within three years** of the alleged discrimination. An individual may not file with DHR if they have already filed an HRL complaint in state court.

Complaining internally to Ulster County does not extend the time for filing a complaint with DHR or in court. The one year or three years is counted from date of the most recent incident of harassment.

An individual does not need an attorney to file a complaint with DHR, and there is no cost to file with DHR.

DHR will investigate the complaint and determine whether there is probable cause to believe that discrimination has occurred. Probable cause cases are forwarded to a public hearing before an administrative law judge. If discrimination is found after a hearing, DHR has the power to award relief,

which varies but may include requiring the employer to act to stop the harassment, or redress the damage caused, including paying monetary damages, attorney's fees and civil fines.

Contact DHR at (888) 392-3644 or visit <u>dhr.ny.gov/complaint</u> for more information about filing a complaint. The website has a complaint form that can be downloaded, filled out, notarized and mailed to DHR. The website also contains contact information for DHR's regional offices across New York State.

# B. United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)

The EEOC enforces federal anti-discrimination laws, including Title VII of the 1964 federal Civil Rights Act (codified as 42 U.S.C. § 2000e et seq.). An individual can file a complaint with the EEOC anytime within **300 days** from the harassment. There is no cost to file a complaint with the EEOC. The EEOC will investigate the complaint and determine whether there is reasonable cause to believe that discrimination has occurred, at which point the EEOC will issue a Right to Sue letter permitting the individual to file a complaint in federal court.

The EEOC does not hold hearings or award relief but may take other action including pursuing cases in federal court on behalf of complaining parties. Federal courts may award remedies if discrimination is found to have occurred.

If an individual believes that he/she has been discriminated against at work, he/she can file a "Charge of Discrimination." The EEOC has district, area, and field offices where complaints can be filed. Contact the EEOC by calling 1-800-669-4000 (1-800-669-6820 (TTY)), visiting their website at <u>www.eeoc.gov</u> or via email at <u>info@eeoc.gov</u>

If an individual filed an administrative complaint with DHR, DHR will file the complaint with the EEOC to preserve the right to proceed in federal court.

# C. Local Protections

Many localities enforce laws protecting individuals from sexual harassment and discrimination. An individual should contact the county, city or town in which they live to find out if such a law exists.

# D. Contact your Local Law Enforcement Agency

If the harassment involves physical touching, coerced physical confinement or coerced sex acts, the conduct may constitute a crime. Contact your local law enforcement agency.

## IX. CONCLUSION

The policy outlined above is aimed at providing employees of Ulster County and covered individuals an understanding of their right to a discrimination- and harassment-free workplace. All employees should feel safe at work. Though the focus of this policy is on sexual harassment and gender discrimination, the New York State Human Rights law protects against discrimination in several protected classes including sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, race, creed, color, national origin, military status, disability, pre-disposing genetic characteristics, familial status, marital status, criminal history, or domestic violence survivor status. The prevention policies outlined above should be considered applicable to all protected classes.

### ULSTER COUNTY HARASSMENT COMPLAINT FORM (Submit to Personnel Officer)

This form may be used to file a complaint of harassment which is a form of discrimination prohibited by federal law, the New York State Human Rights Law, and Ulster County Policy.

Filing this complaint form with Ulster County in no way deprives you of the right to file a complaint with the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, New York State Division of Human Rights, and/or the Federal/State courts.

			(PLEASE PRIN	NT OR TYPE)			
Name							
Phone Nu	Jmber						
Residenc	e						
Mailing A	ddress (if c	different fron	n residence)			_	
City		Sta	te	Zip Code			
Alleged [	Discriminati	on Occurre	d on or about:				
Month: _		_ Day:	Year:	Time:			
Is this alle	ged discrir	nination co	ntinuing: YES	NO	2		
Are you p	oersonally t	he subject (	of the alleged h	arassment? YES	NO	Ś	
	·		-	ho are the subject			
ii noi, pie							331110111.
Describe	the alleae	d act of har	rassment <b>Use a</b>	dditional sheets if r	ecessary		

State the name(s) of any potential witness(s):					
ר לי 	Has this conduct been reported to any other individuals, if so to whom and wher				
	Have you filed this charge with a Federal, State or local government agency? YES/NO: When Where (Month/Day/Year)				
	Have you instituted a suit or court action on this charge? YES/NO: When Where				

8. I swear or affirm that I have read the above related facts and that the statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Date:\_\_\_\_\_

(Signature)

-INFORMATION PROVIDED HEREIN WILL BE CONFIDENTIALLY MAINTAINED-