Whistleblower Policy

General

1000 Friends of Florida Purchasing and Conflict of Interest Policy statements, dated January 31, 2011, requires directors, officers, and employees to observe high standards of business and personal ethics in the conduct of their duties and responsibilities. As employees and representatives of the organization, we must practice honesty and integrity in fulfilling our responsibilities and comply with all applicable laws and regulations.

Reporting Responsibility

It is the responsibility of all directors, officers, and employees to comply with the Code and to report violations or suspected violations in accordance with the Whistleblower Policy.

No Retaliation

No director, officer, or employee who in good faith reports a violation of the code shall suffer harassment, retaliation, or adverse employment consequence. An employee who retaliates against someone who has reported a violation in good faith is subject to discipline up to and including termination of employment. This Whistleblower Policy is intended to encourage and enable employees and others to raise serious concerns within the organization prior to seeking resolution outside the organization.

Reporting Violations

The Code addresses the organization’s open-door policy and suggests that employees share their questions, concerns, suggestions, or complaints with someone who can address them properly. In most cases, an employee’s supervisor is in the best position to address an area of concern. However, if you are not comfortable speaking with your supervisor or you are not satisfied with your supervisor’s response, you are encouraged to speak with anyone in management who you are comfortable approaching. Supervisors and managers are required to report suspected violations of the Code to the organization’s President, Chair, or Vice Chair designated by the Chair, who, in turn, have specific responsibility to investigate all reported violations. For suspected fraud, or when you are not satisfied or uncomfortable with following the organization’s open-door policy, individuals should contact the organization’s President or Board Chair or Vice-Chair designated by the Chair directly.

Accounting and Auditing Matters

The President of 1000 Friends of Florida, the Chair, or the designated Vice-Chair of the organization shall address promptly all reported concerns or complaints regarding corporate accounting practices, internal
controls or auditing. They shall conduct an adequate investigation and work with the appropriate individuals on the board or staff to resolve the matter.

**Acting in Good Faith**

Anyone filing a complaint concerning a violation or suspected violation of the Code must be acting in good faith and have reasonable grounds for believing the information disclosed indicates a violation of the Code. Any allegations that prove not to be substantiated and which prove to have been made maliciously or knowingly to be false will be viewed as a serious disciplinary offense.

**Confidentiality**

Violations or suspected violations may be submitted on a confidential basis by the complainant or may be submitted anonymously. Reports of violations or suspected violations will be kept confidential to the extent possible, consistent with the need to conduct an adequate investigation.

**Handling of Reported Violations**

The President of 1000 Friends of Florida or the Board Chair or the designated Vice Chair will notify the sender and acknowledge receipt of the reported violation or suspected violation within five business days. All reports will be promptly investigated and appropriate corrective action will be taken if warranted by the investigation.

**Acknowledgment:**

I have read the above provisions of the 1000 Friends of Florida’s Whistleblower Policy and hereby agree to abide by the provisions thereof.

[Signature]

Employee or Director Signature:  

[Signature]  

Employee or Director Name Printed:  Date: