#### Introduction

We are pleased to introduce the revised Baldwin County Commission employee handbook. This handbook has been designed to outline and summarize basic personnel policies, employee benefits, employee responsibilities and employee rights. This handbook is intended to be a useful tool for all Baldwin County Commission employees. Compliance with this handbook, departmental rules and regulations, and any other County policy is mandatory for all employees.

This handbook was developed to provide general guidelines about the Baldwin County Commission's policies and procedures for employees; however, it does not contain promises to any employee about how any particular situation will be handled. It is a guide to assist employees in becoming familiar with some of the benefits and obligations of employment. None of the guidelines in this handbook are intended, nor shall they be construed, to give rise to contractual rights or obligations, or to be construed as a guarantee of employment for any specific period of time or any specific type of work. These guidelines are subject to modification, amendment, deviation, or revocation by the Baldwin County Commission at any time, without advance notice.

Each department of the County may develop additional policies and procedures relating to their department, at their discretion. Additional policies and procedures may be more restrictive than the provisions of this handbook but may not be less restrictive.

It is the intention of the Baldwin County Commission to adhere to all applicable state and federal laws, rules, and regulations. Any personnel policy found to be in conflict with a state or federal law, specifically in accordance with *Ala. Code §45-2-120*, et seq., as amended, will be changed to ensure compliance with the law.

This handbook revokes and supersedes all prior handbooks, amendments and any policy or communication related to the employee handbook. It is your responsibility to ensure you have the most up-to-date version of the handbook. All questions pertaining to information found in this handbook should be referred to the Supervisor or Personnel Director.

**Baldwin County is an Equal Opportunity Employer** 

#### I. Classification and Compensation

A.	Classification of Employees —	—-I-1
B.	Exempt and Non-Exempt Employees —	—I-2
C.	Employment for Classified Positions —	
D.	Probationary Employees —	I-3
E.	Part-Time Employment —	—-I-4
F.	Job Classifications —	—-I-4
G.	Wage and Salary Administration —	I-4
H.	Pay Increases for Appointed Employees and Appointed Contract Employees —	—-I-5
I.	Approval for Salary Changes —	—-I-5
J.	Pay Periods —	—-I-6
K.	Working During Lunch Period —	—-I-6
L.	Breaks —	—-I-7
M.	Working Before and After Regular Hours —	—-I-7
N.	On-Call Policy —	
O.	Call Out Pay —	—-I-7
P.	Pay Advances —	—-I-8
Q.	Direct Deposit —	—I-8
A.	Equal Employment / Workplace Discrimination and Harassment Policy	
B.	Equal Employment Opportunity/Employment Grievance Procedures —	—-II-2
C.	Administrative Grievance Procedures —	—-II-3
D.	Anti-Retaliation —	
E.	Workplace Rules of Conduct	
F.	Workplace Violence Prevention —	
G.	Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)	
H.	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)———————————————————————————————————	
I.	Dress Code —	
J.	Attendance —	
K.	Work Hours and Time Records	
L.	Safe Harbor Policy —	
M.	Inclement Weather/Declared Emergency —	
N.	Central Personnel Files —	
O.	Performance Appraisals —	
P.	Temporary Assignments —	
Q.	Cross-Training —	
R.	Promotions —	—-II-17
S.	Transfers and Reassignments	—-II-17

T.	Voluntary Demotion —	—II-18
U.	Resignations —	—II-18
V.	Exit Interviews —	—II-19
W.	Rehire —	—II-19
X.	Furloughs —	—II-19
Y.	Reduction in Force	—II-20
Z.	Tobacco Use/Smoke Free Workplace —	—II-20
AA	Solicitation —	
BB.	Employee Parking —	—II-21
CC.	Garnishments and Levies	—II-22
DD.	Immigration Compliance —	—II-22
	Pregnancy Workers Fairness Act (PWFA)	
	Other Policies and Procedures —	
III.Pr	ogressive Discipline	
A.	Progressive Discipline Procedures	—III-1
B.	Administrative Leave with Pay Due to Potential Disciplinary Action	—III-2
C.	Suspensions without Pay —	—III-2
D.	In-Voluntary Demotions —	—III-2
E.	Terminations —	—III-3
F.	Appeals Procedures for Adverse Action —	——III-4
G.	Appeals Process to the Personnel Appeals Board for Adverse Action —	
H.	The Personnel Appeals Board —	—III-5
IV. Le	ave Policies	
A.	Annual Leave —	IV-1
B.	Annual Leave Scheduling —	IV-2
C.	Sick Leave —	IV-2
D.	Sick Leave Notification and Approval —	IV-3
E.	Bereavement Leave / Funeral Leave —	
F.	Holidays —	IV-5
G.	Part-Time Employee Paid Time Off	IV-6
H.	Leave without Pay —	
I.	Leave of Absence	—IV-7
J.	Administrative Leave with Pay —	IV-8
K.	Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA)	
L.	Military Leave —	
M.	Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) –	
N.	Jury Duty or Court Appearance	

O.	Voting Leave / Elections —	IV-14
P.	Leave Donation —	IV-14
V. Er	nployee Benefits	
A.	Benefits Eligibility—	V_1
В.	Benefits Effective and Termination Dates—	
В. С.	Medical Coverage—	
D.	Dental and Vision Coverage—	
E.	Notice for Individuals Declining Health Coverage	
F.	Identification Cards	
G.	Annual Enrollment / Transfer Period —	
Н.	Benefit Premiums / Payroll Deductions—	
I.	Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA)	
J.	Flexible Spending Accounts—	
K.	Change of Status—	
L.	Supplemental Benefits—	
<u>М</u> .	Life Insurance	
N.	Disability Insurance —	· -
Ο.	Retirement Investments—	
P.	Conditions for Retirement—	
Q.	Benefits Due at Retirement—	
R.	Retirement Disability —	
S.	Longevity	
VI. Co	ode of Ethics	
٨	Ethical Conduct —	VI 1
	Statement of Economic Interest —	
В. С.	Political Activity —	
D.	Secondary Employment —	
D. Е.	Nepotism————————————————————————————————————	
F.	Reporting Arrests—	
1.	Reporting Arrests	V1 3
VII.	Safety	
A.	Introduction—	VII-1
B.	Responsibilities—	VII-1
C.	Loss and Safety Investigation	
D.	Workers Compensation—	
E.	Workers Compensation Leave and Payments—	
F.	Transitional Duty—	
	-	

G.	General Safety and Health Rules—	
H.	Safety Rules-	
I.	Health Rules	-VII-13
J.	Fire and Environmental Rules	-VII-13
K.	Alcohol and Drugs – Drug Free Workplace Policy————————————————————————————————————	_VII-14
L.	Fleet Policy—	—VII-32
VIII.	Forms	
A.	Application for Employment—	-VIII-1
B.	Substance Abuse Screening and Pre-Employment Physical Exam Consent—	-VIII-3
C.	Authorization for Background Investigation and Release of Information	-VIII-4
D.	Personnel Appraisal Form	-VIII-5
E.	ADA Reasonable Accommodation Request Form —	—VIII-9
	Employee Counseling Form	
	Notice of Disciplinary Action Form	
	Grievance Appeal Form —	
I.	Leave Request Form —	—VIII-13
J.	Temporary Transitional Duty Agreement —	—VIII-14
K.	Medical Treatment Waiver —	
L.	Property Damage/Collision/Injury/Illness Investigation Report —	-VIII-16
	Witness Incident / Injury Report —	
	Last Chance Assistance Agreement —	
	General Consent for Limited Queries of the FMCSA Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse —	
	Leave Donation Form —	
O.	Request to Receive Leave Donation	—VIII-26