



## COMMISSIONERS

Jimmy Dimora  
Timothy F. Hagan  
Peter Lawson Jones

### RULES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Public participation at a Cuyahoga Board of County Commissioners meeting is limited to participation in the public comment portion of the meeting. No person shall be permitted to speak from a location other than the public podium.

Speakers must conduct themselves in a dignified and civil manner. No shouting or personal invective shall be allowed. No threatening remarks or gestures may be directed to any person.

Any person who violates the rules (or the rules of public decorum appropriate to a public meeting) shall be ruled out of order by the President of the Board and ordered to cease and desist.

Refusal to cease and desist will result in the removal of the person from the meeting. A person who has been removed for failure to comply with an order of the President of the Board may be banned from participating in the public comment portion of the meeting. Repeated violations may result in the banning of a person from attending meetings.

The following rules apply to any individual who wishes to speak before the Cuyahoga Board of County Commissioners during regular, special and emergency meetings and public hearings:

1. A Public Comment Request Form must be filled out completely and submitted to the Clerk of the Board prior to the advertised starting time of the meeting/hearing. Late or incomplete forms will not be accepted.
2. Only speakers who have completed and submitted a Public Comment Request Form will be permitted to speak.
3. All comments must be made from the podium.
4. Speakers will limit their remarks to five (5) minutes. Upon request, the Board in its discretion may permit a speaker to extend his or her remarks for an additional two (2) minutes.
5. Speakers may speak only on matters directly related to items on the agenda of the Cuyahoga Board of County Commissioners. Repeatedly making the same remarks and/or raising the same issues and/or questions will not be allowed.
6. Speakers must remain at the podium during their remarks.
7. Speaker remarks may not contain obscenity, commercial advertising, defamation or slander, ad hominem attacks, personally insulting or antagonistic remarks, nor will speakers conduct themselves in violation of the “Disorderly Conduct” or the “Disturbing a Public Meeting” provisions of the Ohio Revised Code.
8. All comments will be directed to the Board of County Commissioners.
9. Permission to speak may be denied or terminated if remarks are not in compliance with these rules. Any person who persists in violating these rules is subject to removal from the meeting/public hearing and/or arrest.
10. Speakers must identify themselves for the record and speak directly into the microphone.

The Clerk of the Board will present speaker slips to the President of the Board in the order received.

Individuals who would like to address the Board of County Commissioners regarding items not related to items on the agenda are encouraged to do so through any of the following options:

#### **Telephone, Fax or E-mail:**

Jeanne M. Schmotzer  
Clerk of the Board/Director  
(216) 443-7184 (phone)  
(216) 348-4051 (fax)  
[jschmotzer@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:jschmotzer@cuyahogacounty.us)

#### **U.S. Mail:**

Office of the Clerk of the Board  
Cuyahoga Board of County Commissioners  
1219 Ontario Street, Room 435  
Cleveland, Ohio 44113



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## **PUBLIC COMMENT REQUEST FORM**

Prior to completing this form, please read the “Rules for Public Comment”, which are attached. By completing this Request Form, the speaker agrees to abide by the “Rules for Public Comment”. Incomplete forms will not be accepted. Please deposit completed form in black tray marked “Completed Public Comment Request Forms” which is located outside the Commissioners’ Chambers doors.

**\*\*PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY\*\***

Name:

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Organization represented:

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Address:

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Telephone:

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Comments concerning the following item(s) on the Agenda:

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