

June 16, 2025

Distributed by email:

To: Fauquier County Board of Supervisors

CC: Fauquier County Planning Commissioners

It came as quite a surprise and was very disconcerting to read in the **Fauquier Times** that Supervisor Culbertson and his family members are selling land for the Remington Innovation Campus (RIC), a very large data center complex that was recently reviewed with county staff. This new information follows months of Supervisor Culbertson's obvious support for data centers proposed a few miles down the road in his magisterial district that, like RIC, would require zoning changes, amendments to the comprehensive plan, and other land use accommodations.

This situation raises very serious conflict of interest and ethical issues. There can be no question that Supervisor Culbertson must recuse himself from any involvement and decision-making associated with the RIC project given the financial windfall in the millions of dollars that he and his family would realize if it were approved. Based on press reports, it appears that he has done so.

Furthermore, Citizens for Fauquier County (CFFC) strongly believes that Supervisor Culbertson should recuse himself entirely from any deliberation and vote on data centers under consideration in his district, currently to include Gigaland, Convergent and SAMX. For him not to recuse himself regarding these projects and related land-use decisions would undermine the public's trust in our county's leadership and confidence that the Board of Supervisors is acting transparently and in the interest of Fauquier's citizens and not for personal gain.

There are two major reasons why Supervisor Culbertson's recusal needs to go beyond the RIC project. If any of the three currently proposed data centers in Remington are approved, it would establish rezoning and land use precedents favorable to RIP's approval. Secondly, if any of these projects are approved, the related infrastructure for these facilities could benefit the RIC project, especially as relates to electrical power. Furthermore, CFFC encourages the Board of Supervisors to seriously consider asking Supervisor Culbertson to recuse himself from any data center-related land use decisions elsewhere in the county.

If the Board of Supervisors doesn't act decisively, it invites a potential crisis of confidence among the county's citizens. The Board of Supervisors needs to convey to all, including developers, that it operates to the highest standards of ethics and accountability. The county's code of ethics which follows is crystal clear on this matter.



The citizens and businesses of Fauquier County, Virginia, are entitled to have fair, ethical and accountable local government, which has earned the public's full confidence for integrity. In keeping with the County of Fauquier's Commitment to Excellence, the effective functioning of democratic government therefore requires that public officials, both elected and appointed, comply with both the letter and spirit of the laws and policies affecting the operations of government; that public officials be independent, impartial and fair in their judgment and actions; that public office be used for the public good, not for personal gain; and that public deliberations and processes be conducted openly, unless legally confidential, in an atmosphere of respect and civility.

Data centers are controversial enough without the added specter of misconduct and questionable behavior. Thank you for your thoughtful and thorough consideration of this sensitive but very important matter.

Respectfully,

Kevin Ramundo
President, Citizens for Fauquier County.