

APPLIED OPTOELECTRONICS, INC.
CODE OF BUSINESS CONDUCT AND ETHICS
(Adopted as of December 12, 2021)

Conducting the business affairs of Applied Optoelectronics, Inc. (the “*Company*”) in accordance with the highest ethical standards and in compliance with legal requirements aligns directly with our mission of providing quality solutions to our customers. A reputation for ethical conduct, market leadership and business success builds the bond between employees, officers, members of the Board of Directors, stockholders, suppliers, consultants and all business partners to satisfy the demands of customers. The integrity of the Company provides a foundation for this mission.

This Code of Business Conduct and Ethics (the “*Code*”) applies to all Company employees, officers, consultants and members of the Board of Directors.

The Code is subject to all applicable law.

Nothing in this Code is intended to require any action contrary to law. If the Code conflicts with any law, you must comply with the law. Nothing in the Code is intended or will be considered (i) to amend the charter or bylaws of the Company, (ii) to change the legal duties imposed under state, federal and other applicable statutes, rules and regulations, (iii) to expand liabilities beyond applicable law, (iv) to create or imply an employment contract or term of employment or (v) to affect any rights available under state and other applicable law or the Company’s charter or bylaws.

The Code may be amended, modified or waived from time to time.

This Code may be amended, modified or waived by the Board of Directors. Any amendments or modifications of the Code, or waivers of any provision of the Code for officers and directors, will be promptly disclosed in accordance with applicable securities laws and the applicable rules of the Nasdaq Stock Market. This disclosure requirement applies to any de facto waiver where an officer or director violates the Code but is not subjected to any internal sanctions.

You should consult the appropriate persons if you have any questions about the Code.

You are encouraged to talk to supervisors, managers or other appropriate personnel when contemplating the best course of action in a particular situation. Working the issues through these channels will help develop a culture of active deliberations regarding ethical matters. If a supervisor or manager does not provide a satisfactory response to any questions raised, you should seek guidance from the Legal Department in applying this Code to a particular fact case or from the Company’s Chief Compliance Officer, who is available as a resource with respect to compliance with the Code. In the event the issue rises to the level of a corporate governance, ethical or legal concern, the Company maintains a Compliance Hotline and website portal under the independent control of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors to enable anonymous submission of violations of the Code. The detailed procedures for utilizing the Compliance Hotline are set forth elsewhere in this policy.

You must comply with the policies and procedures of the Company, but if a policy or procedure conflicts with the Code, you should follow the Code.

This Code provides general guidelines and is intended to promote (i) honest and ethical conduct, including the ethical handling of actual or apparent conflicts of interest between personal and professional relationships; (ii) full, fair, accurate, timely and understandable disclosure in reports and documents that the Company files with, or submits to, the Securities and Exchange Commission or otherwise discloses in public communications; (iii) compliance with applicable laws, rules and regulations; (iv) prompt internal reporting of violations of the Code to appropriate persons identified in the Code; and (v) accountability for adherence to the Code. The Code is intended to complement, but not replace, the policies and procedures of the Company. If any policy or procedure of the Company conflicts with the Code, you must comply with the Code.

You must attend training to promote compliance with the Code.

Each director, officer and other employee of the Company must become familiar with and agree to comply with the Code. Each director, officer and other employee must receive an annual training covering compliance with the Code, the Company's Insider Trading Policy, and other policies relevant to his or her work performed for the Company. During the annual training, attendees will be reminded of whistleblower options and protections. In addition to these training sessions, directors must annually attend continuing education programs to promote compliance.

All directors, officers and other employees are expected to attend these training sessions. In the event that a person is appointed or hired after the annual training for a particular year, a special training session shall be held for such individual. Training shall be in person where practicable; however, in the limited circumstances where training in person is not possible, training should be internet-based training.

Upon completion of such training, each director, officer or other employee must promptly execute and return the compliance certificate substantially in the form of Annex A to the Code (the "*Certification*") to:

Vice President, General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer and Secretary
Applied Optoelectronics, Inc.
13139 Jess Pirtle Blvd.
Sugar Land, TX 77478

+1-281-295-1808 (office)
+1-281-966-6988 (fax)
david_kuo@ao-inc.com

The Company's Chief Compliance Officer is responsible for overseeing the Company's compliance training efforts, and shall maintain each Certification for a period of five years from the date on which such Certification was executed.

You will be subject to disciplinary action if you violate this Code.

Violators of this Code will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

1. Conflicts of Interest

Conflicts of interest must be avoided without prior approval. A “conflict of interest” exists when an individual’s private interest interferes in any way – or even appears to interfere – with the interests of the Company. A conflict situation can arise when an individual takes actions or has interests that may make it difficult to perform his or her Company work objectively and effectively. Conflicts of interest also arise when an individual, or a member of his or her family, receives improper personal benefits as a result of the individual’s position in the Company, whether received from the Company or a third party.

All employees, officers, directors and consultants must disclose any conflicts of interest, including any material transaction or relationship involving a potential conflict of interest. Any employee, officer, director or consultant who becomes aware of a conflict of interest or a potential conflict should bring it to the attention of a supervisor, manager or member of the Legal Department and, to the extent such conflict is subject to the Company’s Related Party Transactions Policy, to the attention of the Audit Committee. If it is determined that a conflict exists, a final written agreement to manage the conflict is established by the Legal Department, such agreement will remain in effect until the conflict is established to no longer exist.

No employee or officer may work, including as a consultant or a board member, simultaneously for the Company and any competitor, customer, supplier or business partner without the prior written approval of the Company’s Chief Financial Officer or Legal Department. Officers and employees are encouraged to avoid any direct or indirect business connections with the Company’s competitors, customers, suppliers or business partners, except on behalf of the Company.

Executive officers and their family members are prohibited from accepting any personal loans from the Company or allowing the Company to guarantee any of their personal obligations, except as may be permitted under applicable law.

2. Corporate Opportunities

Employees, officers and directors owe a duty to the Company to advance its legitimate interests when the opportunity to do so arises. Employees and officers are prohibited from (i) taking for themselves personally opportunities that properly belong to the Company or are discovered through the use of corporate property, information or position; (ii) using corporate property, information or position for improper personal gain; and (iii) competing with the Company.

3. Confidentiality, Proprietary Information and Intellectual Property

Employees, officers and directors of the Company must maintain the confidentiality of information entrusted to them by the Company or its customers, except when disclosure is authorized by the Company or is legally mandated. Employees, officers and directors should, whenever feasible, consult with the Legal Department if they believe they have a legal obligation to disclose confidential information. Confidential information includes all non-public information that might be of use to competitors, or harmful to the Company or its customers, if disclosed.

If you are employed by the Company, you completed a “Proprietary Information and Inventions Agreement” (or a similar document) setting forth, among other obligations, your treatment of confidential information and intellectual property. You are expected to adhere strictly to the provisions of this signed agreement between the Company and you. Please re-read it from time-to-time to familiarize yourself with the terms of such agreement and consult with your supervisor, manager or Legal Department if you have any questions.

4. Fair Dealing

All employees, officers and directors are required to conduct themselves honestly and ethically when carrying out the Company’s business, and to endeavor to deal fairly with the Company’s customers, suppliers, competitors and employees. Employees, officers and directors are prohibited from taking unfair advantage of such persons through manipulation, concealment, abuse of privileged information, misrepresentation of material facts, or any other unfair-dealing practices.

Employees, officers and directors are prohibited from taking any action to improperly influence, coerce, manipulate or mislead the Company’s internal or outside auditors or to prevent such persons from performing a diligent audit of the Company’s financial statements.

5. Protection and Proper Use of Company Assets

Employees, officers and directors are expected to protect the Company’s assets and ensure their efficient use, and are prohibited from engaging in theft, carelessness, or waste. All Company assets should be used for legitimate business purposes, but incidental personal use may be permitted if ancillary to a business purpose and reimbursed in accordance with Company policy. Employees, officers and directors may not make any improper use of Company property such as Company funds, software, e-mail systems, voice mail systems, computer networks, Company vehicles, rental cars rented on behalf of the Company, and facilities for personal benefit or profit.

6. Compliance with Company Policies, Laws, Rules and Regulations

All employees, officers and directors are required to comply with Company policies, the laws, rules and regulations of the U.S. and other countries, and the states, counties, cities and other jurisdictions, in which the Company conducts its business or the laws, rules and regulations of which are applicable to the Company, including, without limitation, all prohibitions on “insider trading” and trading while in possession of material non-public information applicable to the Company and its employees, officers, directors and consultants. For more information, please see the various Company policies located on the Company Intranet with a particular focus on the Employee Policy Handbook (including, but not limited to, Operating Policies and Employment Policies) and Forms and Policies (including, but not limited to, Insider Trading Policy and Disclosure Policy).

The Company’s operations are subject to laws and regulations both in the United States and in foreign countries. Our core values demand that we ensure diligent adherence to the requirements of all applicable laws, rules and regulations. Significant areas of law that could be applicable to the activities of the Company include, but are not limited to (i) import/export

controls; (ii) patent and trademarks laws; (iii) anti-trust laws governing free and open competition; (iv) health, safety and environmental laws; and (v) federal securities laws.

In addition to the areas addressed above, the Company requires full compliance with the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (“*FCPA*”), which makes illegal any corrupt offer, payment, promise to pay, or authorization to pay any money, gift, or anything of value to any foreign official, or any foreign political party, candidate or official, for the purpose of (i) influencing any act or failure to act, in the official capacity of that foreign official or party or (ii) inducing the foreign official or party to use influence to affect a decision of a foreign government or agency; in order to obtain or retain business for anyone, or direct business to anyone. All Company employees, officers and directors, whether located in the United States or abroad, are responsible for FCPA compliance and the procedures to ensure FCPA compliance.

This Code does not summarize all laws, rules and regulations applicable to the Company and its employees, officers and directors. Please consult the Company’s Legal Department and the various guidelines that the Company prepares from time to time on specific policies, laws, rules and regulations. You are encouraged to direct questions to your supervisor, manager or Legal Department if you become concerned about the violation of law by the Company, its employees, officers, directors or consultants.

7. Full, Fair and Accurate Disclosure in Public Filings and Communications

The Company’s commitment to its stockholders demands that we provide full, fair, accurate, timely and understandable disclosure in the reports, documents and communications filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and in other public communications. Although certain personnel are more directly involved in the preparation of such reports, documents and communications than others, the Company expects all members of our community to accept this responsibility to our stockholders. Accordingly, all employees, officers, directors and consultants have an ethical responsibility to provide prompt, complete and accurate information in response to inquiries related to preparation of the Company’s public disclosure documents and public communications. In addition and in order to ensure accurate financial reporting to our stockholders, those personnel who participate in the maintenance and preparation of the Company’s books, records and accounts must ensure that the transactions and events recorded therein are done so in an accurate and complete manner in compliance with required accounting principles and Company policies.

8. Compliance Hotline

You have an ethical responsibility to help enforce the Code. You should be alert to possible violations and report them to supervisors, managers or other appropriate personnel. You may consider seeking guidance from the Legal Department in applying the Code to a particular fact case. Should you need general guidance or have a question about this Code, you may also contact the Company’s Chief Compliance Officer who is available as a resource with respect to compliance with this Code. He may be reached at (281) 295-1808 or by email at david_kuo@ao-inc.com.

If you desire to report violations on an anonymous basis, you may contact the Audit Committee Chair at (866) 858-6726 or via the internet at <http://www.openboard.info/AAOI/>. Information on the Compliance Hotline, including the contact information for the hotline and website portal, is available on our website at www.ao-inc.com so as to be available not only to employees, but also to clients, vendors and other third parties. The hotline and website portal are promoted as an anonymous communication channel for employees and other stakeholders to report any concerns regarding, among other things, the integrity of the Company's public disclosures, internal controls, auditing, the conditions in the Company's manufacturing facilities, financial reporting, accounting matters, and insider sales. Your submission will be fielded initially by trained consultants who are not employees of the Company and are under the independent control of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors. Please be forthcoming with the details of your particular situation to enable the Audit Committee to fully investigate the situation.

Retaliation and threats of retaliation against Company personnel who in good faith report, participate, or assist in an investigation of a suspected violation are prohibited. This includes blatant actions, such as firing, transferring, demoting or publicly attacking someone, as well as more subtle retaliation, such as avoiding someone, leaving him or her out of professional or social activities and so on. The Company will not allow retaliation for reports, made in good faith, of actual or suspected violations of this Code or other illegal or unethical conduct. The Audit Committee and the Company's legal department require that the Company's non-retaliation policies be strictly complied with in order to protect any person who reports in good faith through any of the applicable reporting mechanisms. Disciplinary action will be taken against anyone who retaliates directly or indirectly against any person who reports an actual or suspected violation of the Code. Any person who believes he or she has been retaliated against should immediately contact the Company's Chief Compliance Officer or, with respect to any matter involving the Chief Compliance Officer, the Legal Department or Audit Committee Chair. The Company will take such disciplinary or preventive actions as it deems appropriate to address any existing or potential violation of this Code brought to its attention.

For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this Code is to be interpreted or applied in any way that prohibits, restricts or interferes with an employee's (i) exercise of rights provided under, or participation in, "whistleblower" programs of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission or any other applicable regulatory agency or governmental entity (each, a "**Government Body**"), or (ii) good faith reporting of possible violations of applicable law to any Government Body, including cooperating with a Government Body in any governmental investigation regarding possible violations of applicable law.

**ANNEX A
CODE OF CONDUCT
CERTIFICATION**

I have read and understand the Code of Conduct (the “*Code*”) of Applied Optoelectronics, Inc. (the “*Company*”) and obligations under the other Company policies relevant to my work performed for the Company. I agree that I will comply with the policies and procedures set forth in the Code and my obligations under other relevant Company policies.

In addition, I agree to promptly submit a written report to the Company’s Chief Compliance Officer describing any circumstances in which:

- 1. I have reasonable basis for belief that a violation of the Code by any person has occurred;**
- 2. I have, or any member of my family has or may have engaged in any activity that violates the letter or the spirit of the Code;**
- 3. I have, or any member of my family has or may have an interest that violates the letter or the spirit of the Code; and**
- 4. I or any member of my family may be contemplating an activity or acquisition that could be in violation of the Code.**

I am unaware of any violations or suspected violations of the Code by any employee except as described below or on the attached sheet of paper. (If no exceptions are noted, please check the space provided below.)

_____ No exceptions

To the best of my knowledge and belief, neither I nor any member of my family has any interest or affiliation or has engaged in any activity that might conflict with the Company’s interest, except as described below or on the attached sheet of paper. (If no exceptions are noted, please check the space provided below.)

_____ No exceptions

I am aware that this signed Certification will be filed with my personal records and maintained by the Company's Chief Compliance Officer for a period of five years from the date hereof.

Signature

Type or Print Name

Date