

Policy Type:	GOVERNANCE PROCESS POLICY GP 6		
Policy Title:	Board Committee Principles		
Last Updated:	October 28, 2010	Reviewed:	Annually in October

Board committees, when used, will be assigned to help the Board do its job, to reinforce the wholeness of the Board's job and to not interfere with delegation from Board to the CEO.

1. Board committees are to help the Board do its job, not to help or advise the staff. Committees ordinarily will assist the Board by preparing policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation. In keeping with the Board's broader focus, Board committees will normally not have direct dealings with current staff operations.
2. Board committees may not speak or act for the Board except when formally given such authority for specific and time-limited purposes. Expectations and authority will be carefully stated in order not to conflict with authority delegated to the CEO.
3. Board committees cannot exercise authority over staff. The CEO works for the full Board, and will therefore not be required to obtain approval of a Board committee before an executive action.
4. Board committees are to avoid over-identification with organizational parts rather than the whole. Therefore, a Board committee, which has helped the Board create policy, will not be used to monitor organizational performance against that same policy.
5. Committees will be used sparingly and ordinarily in an ad hoc capacity.
6. This policy applies to any group that is formed by Board action regardless of whether the group includes Board members. It does not apply to committees formed under the authority of the CEO.