

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS
MINUTES
June 15, 2017

The Board of Ethics met on June 15, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. in the Griffon Room on the 1st floor of the LaSalle Building located at 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana with Board Members Brandon, Dittmer, Lavastida, Leggio, McAnelly, Meinert, Mouton-Allen, J. Smith and L. Smith present. Absent were Board Members Bruneau and Michiels. Also present were the Ethics Administrator, Kathleen Allen; the Executive Secretary, Deborah Grier; and Counsel Tracy Barker, David Bordelon, Jennifer Land, Suzanne Mooney, Brett Robinson and Greg Thibodeaux.

Ms. Allen introduced new staff members Greg Thibodeaux, staff attorney, and Michelle Charlot, paralegal, to the Board.

The Board unanimously resolved into executive session to consider complaints and reports deemed confidential pursuant to Section 1141 of the Code of Governmental Ethics.

* * * * *

EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

* * * * *

The Board unanimously resolved into general business session and adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Secretary

APPROVED:

Chairman

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS
MINUTES
June 16, 2017

The Board of Ethics met on June 16, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the LaBelle Room on the 1st floor of the LaSalle Building located at 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana with Board Members Brandon, Dittmer, Lavastida, Leggio, McAnelly, Meinert, Michiels, Mouton-Allen, J. Smith and L. Smith. Absent was Board Member Bruneau. Also present were the Ethics Administrator, Kathleen Allen; the Executive Secretary, Deborah Grier; and Counsel Tracy Barker, David Bordelon, Jennifer Land, Suzanne Mooney, Brett Robinson and Greg Thibodeaux.

The Board considered a request in Docket No. 16-603 for reconsideration of a waiver of the Board's suspension of all but \$450 of a \$1,500 late fee assessed against Vincent P. Borrello Jr., a member of the Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters, for filing his 2014 Tier 2.1 Annual personal financial disclosure statement 108 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board deferred the matter.

The Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-009 for reconsideration of a waiver of the \$500 late fee assessed against Chandra Scarber, a member of the Crawfish Promotion and Research Board, for filing her 2015 Tier 2.1 Annual personal financial disclosure statement 10 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board temporarily deferred the matter until later in the meeting.

The Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-365 regarding whether Dr. Mohit Srivastava, physician and Chief of Staff of Hospital Service District No. 1 of the Parish of Avoyelles d/b/a Bunkie General Hospital, can contract with Beacon Behavioral Hospital (Beacon Hospital) and Bayou Vista Nursing Home (Bayou Vista) to provide Medical Directorship

and also be available on-call for medical clearance for admission to the unit. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board temporarily deferred the matter until later in the meeting.

Mr. Blake Relle, an archive specialist employed by the Secretary of State, Archives Division, appeared before the Board in connection with a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-390 regarding whether he may provide genealogy research and scan materials for potential clients for compensation while he is employed as an archives specialist for the Louisiana State Archives. After hearing from Mr. Relle, on motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that Section 1111C(1)(a) of the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit him from providing services as a genealogy researcher for any person with whom he has participated in a transaction through his position as an archives specialist for the Louisiana State Archives and Section 1112B of the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit his assisting any person in which he has a substantial economic interest, any person with whom he is negotiating or has an arrangement concerning prospective employment or any person who is a party to an existing contract with him while employed by the Louisiana State Archives in any transaction in which they have a substantial economic interest.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-447 for a waiver of the \$1,000 and \$520 late fees assessed against the Friends of the Natchitoches Library, its chairperson, Tony C. Smith, and treasurer, Dudley R. Pitt, in connection with the March 25, 2017 election, for filing the 30-P and 10-P campaign finance disclosure reports 33 and 13 days late, respectively. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$1,000 and \$520 late fees but suspended

both late fees conditioned upon future compliance with the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act.

Mr. Riley Berthelot, West Baton Rouge Parish President, appeared before the Board in Docket No. 17-632 in connection with the approval of a disqualification plan involving a construction project for West Baton Rouge Parish for which GIS Engineering, LLC, in which his son serves as an officer, has submitted a proposal to perform inspection services. After hearing from Mr. Berthelot, on motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that GIS Engineering, LLC is not prohibited from submitting a bid, or entering into a transaction with West Baton Rouge Parish, since Todd Berthelot, President Berthelot's son, does not own a controlling interest in GIS and approved the disqualification plan as submitted, since it is sufficient to remove any possible prohibited participation on President Berthelot's part. The Board further advised that Todd Berthelot will have to file annual financial disclosure statements pursuant to Section 1114 of the Code of Governmental Ethics if his employer is awarded the contract.

The Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-009 for reconsideration of a waiver of the \$500 late fee assessed against Chandra Scarber, a member of the Crawfish Promotion and Research Board, for filing her 2015 Tier 2.1 Annual personal financial disclosure statement 10 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board deferred the matter to the July meeting.

Dr. Mohit Srivastava, physician and Chief of Staff of Hospital Service District No. 1 of the Parish of Avoyelles d/b/a Bunkie General Hospital, and Judge James Mixon, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners for the Bunkie General Hospital, appeared before the Board in connection with a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-365 regarding whether Dr. Srivastava can contract with Beacon Behavioral Hospital (Beacon Hospital) and Bayou Vista Nursing Home (Bayou Vista) to provide Medical Directorship and also be available on-call for medical clearance for

admission to the unit. After hearing from D. Srivastava and Judge Mixon, on motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board deferred the matter and instructed the staff to return a draft of a revised advisory opinion to the July agenda.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board agreed to take action on items G8-G22 en globo subject to any items being removed from the en globo listing for further discussion.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff recommendations on items G8-G22 taking the following action:

Absent requested specific information, declined to render an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-232 regarding whether Jacob Colby Perry, Alderman for the Town of Welsh, may purchase tax sales titles at public tax sale auctions within Jefferson Davis Parish or the Town of Welsh.

Absent requested specific information, declined to render an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-282 regarding whether the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission and /or its members are prohibited from performing compensated services for a person who leases property from the Commission.

Absent requested specific information, declined to render an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-338 regarding whether a business, Pelican Emergency Response Training Systems, owned by Christopher Scheeler, an employee of the St. Bernard Parish Sheriff's Office, is prohibited from providing services to both private and public sectors, school systems and citizens in and around the community.

Adopted an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-360 concluding that no violation of the Code of Governmental Ethics is presented by Meghan Duplechin, the daughter of St. Martin Parish School Board Member Frederick Stelly, accepting employment with the school board if she holds a

practitioner license pursuant to Section 1119B(2)(a)(i) of the Code of Governmental Ethics, since Ms. Duplechin would be temporarily authorized to teach pursuant to the Practitioner License while she pursues certification. The Board further advised that Section 1112B(1) of the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit Mr. Stelly from participating in Ms. Duplechin's employment in which she has a substantial economic interest.

Adopted an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-413 in connection with the application of the post employment provisions with respect to Michael LeBlanc following his termination as a Planning Manager with the Lafayette Consolidated Government (LCG) and Acadiana Planning Commission (APC), concluding that the City of Broussard is not considered a person within the Code of Governmental Ethics and Mr. LeBlanc's assistance to them for compensation, in general, would not be prohibited. However, Mr. LeBlanc would be prohibited, for a period of two years from his termination of employment with the LCG and the subsequent two years of termination from APC, from assisting the City of Broussard for the remaining components of the plan for Ambassador Caffery Parkway Southern project related to sidewalks and landscaping that remain and other projects in which he participated on behalf of LCG or APC as these were services he rendered to the City of Broussard while employed by LCG or APC.

Adopted an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-423 with respect to the personal financial disclosure filing requirements of members of the following commissions: (1) Agricultural Chemistry & Seed Commission, (2) Horticulture Commission, (3) Advisory Commission on Pesticides, (4) Boll Weevil Eradication Commission, (5) Structural Pest Control Commission, and (6) Sweet Potato Advertising and Development Commission, concluded that based on the statutes governing each commission, the following commissions do not have the authority to expend, disburse, or invest

more than \$10,000 each fiscal year: (1) Agricultural Chemistry & Seed Commission, (2) Horticulture Commission, (3) Advisory Commission on Pesticides, and (4) Boll Weevil Eradication Commission. All expenses are disbursed as determined by the Commissioner of Agriculture. As a result, the members of these commissions are not required to file the Tier 2.1 Annual personal financial disclosure statements. The Structural Pest Control Commission is authorized and required by statute to allocate at least \$30,000 to the LSU Experiment Station at least twice a year. As a result, its members are required to file the Tier 2.1 Annual personal financial disclosure statement. In addition, the statutes governing the Sweet Potato Advertising and Development Commission provide that disbursements may be authorized only by a majority of the members of the commission. Thus, its members are required to file the Tier 2.1 annual personal financial disclosure statements.

Adopted an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-431 concluding that no violation of the Code of Governmental Ethics would be presented by Kelly McClure, an employee of the Department of Education, serving as a Trustee of an Orleans Parish Charter School Board.

Adopted an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-441 concluding that no violation of the Code of Governmental Ethics would be presented by Rebecca Taylor, a member of the St. Tammany Parish Library Board of Control, processing her Medicare supplemental benefits that she earned as a library employee.

Adopted an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-445 concluding that Section 1121A(2) of the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit Mark Martin, a former member of the Marrero-Ragusa Volunteer Fire Board, from being hired by the Marrero-Ragusa Volunteer Fire Department as a paid administrative employee of the fire department in any capacity for two years after his term of service on the board has ceased.

Adopted an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-449 concluding that no violation of the Code of Governmental Ethics is presented by Annie Ficklin being employed as the Town Clerk for the Town of Greensburg in St. Helena Parish, since no immediate family members of Annie Ficklin, as defined in Section 1102(13) of the Code of Governmental Ethics, serve as a member of the governing authority or the mayor of the Town of Greensburg.

Absent requested specific information, declined to render an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-454 to John Veazey, the legal liaison for the Deaf Grassroots Movement of Louisiana, regarding an annual Deaf Rights Rally at the State Capitol, since the matter was moot as the rally was held on May 4, 2017.

Adopted an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-455 with respect to the appointment of Mark Buntyn to the Lake Providence Port Commission in East Carroll Parish while he is employed with the Louisiana Delta Bank and the Port Commission maintains accounts with the Louisiana Delta Bank, concluded the following:

1. Whether the exception regarding a local depositing authority applies to members of the Port Commission? Since the Port Commission is a political subdivision of the State, it does not fall within the definition of local depositing authority as provided by La. R.S. 39:1211. Thus, the exception in La. R.S. 39:1233.1 does not apply to the Port Commission and its members;
2. Whether Louisiana Delta Bank would be a prohibited source of compensation for Mark Buntyn? Since the Port Commission has accounts and loans with Louisiana Delta Bank, the bank has a contractual, business, or financial relationship with the commission. As a result, Section 1111C(2)(d) of the Code of Governmental Ethics

would prohibit the members of the Port Commission, including Mr. Buntyn, from receiving any thing of economic value, including compensation, from Louisiana Delta Bank;

3. Whether Louisiana Delta Bank would be prohibited from entering into transactions with the Port Commission? Since Mark Buntyn has a substantial economic interest based on his employment by and ownership interest in Louisiana Delta Bank, the bank would be prohibited from entering into, or being any way interested in, contracts or transactions with the Port Commission while Mr. Buntyn serves as an appointed member; and,

4. Whether Mark Buntyn would be prohibited from participating in matters in which his employer, Louisiana Delta Bank, has a substantial economic interest? Since Mark Buntyn is an officer and employee of Louisiana Delta Bank, if Mr. Buntyn is appointed as a member of the Port Commission, he would be prohibited from participating in any matter in which the bank has a substantial economic interest. Mr. Buntyn would be required to recuse himself from the vote, as well as the discussion and debate, on any matter which would be prohibited.

Adopted an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-502 concluding that Section 1111C(2)(d) of the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit Patrick Furlong, an Assistant City Engineer with the Department of Engineering and Environmental Services for the City of Shreveport, from providing compensated services to a developer, James Martin, for engineering work through his private landscape/engineering company that is not related to the City of Shreveport, since James Martin has or may seek to have a business, financial or contractual relationship with Mr. Furlong's

agency.

Adopted an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-505 concluding that no violation of the Code of Governmental Ethics is presented by a company, Platinum Realty, owned by the wife of Gregory Reggie serving as the broker on a real estate transaction for the Louisiana Motor Vehicle Commission (LMVC) while Mr. Reggie has a contract to supply legal services to the LMVC, since Mr. Reggie's contract to provide legal services does not include any legal services regarding the purchase of real property therefore, Platinum Realty would not be transacting with his agency.

Adopted an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-536 concluding that Section 1113A(1)(a) of the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit the Town of Vivian Water Department in Caddo Parish from continuing to use Welch's Printing for its local printing services while the company is owned by David Welch, a full-time Water Plant Operator for the Vivian Water Department, since providing letterhead and envelopes to the Water Department would be considered a transaction under the supervision or jurisdiction of Mr. Welch's agency. The Board further advised that no violation of the Code of Governmental Ethics would be presented by Mr. Welch providing the printing services to other departments for the Town of Vivian, since he is not employed by those departments.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board agreed to take action on items G23-G26 en globo subject to any items being removed from the en globo listing for further discussion.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff recommendations on items G23-G26 taking the following action:

In connection with an Answer submitted in Docket No. 16-1007 by Nancy Marshall, member of the Andrew H. Wilson Charter School Board, in response to a Notice of Delinquency received

requesting she file her 2015 Tier 3 Annual personal financial disclosure statement, instructed the staff to advise Ms. Marshall that if she served at anytime on the school board during calendar year 2015 or 2016, that she is required to file the personal financial disclosure statement.

In connection with an Answer submitted in Docket No. 16-1054 by Kenneth Ross, a member of the Hammond Airport Authority, in response to a Notice of Delinquency received requesting he file his 2015 Tier 2.1 Annual personal financial disclosure statement, instructed the staff to advise Mr. Ross that he is not required to file the personal financial disclosure statement, since the City of Hammond has a population, according to the latest decennial census, of less than 25,000, and the members of the Hammond Airport Authority are not required to file annual personal financial disclosure statements.

In connection with an Answer submitted in Docket No. 17-490 by Tyrone Casby, a former member of the Algiers Development District, in response to a Notice of Delinquency received requesting he file his 2015 Tier 2.1 Annual personal financial disclosure statement, instructed the staff to advise Mr. Casby that since he was a member of the District in 2015, he was required to file a 2015 Tier 2.1 personal financial disclosure statement the year following the termination of his service on that board and late fees may be assessed if he fails to file.

In connection with an Answer submitted in Docket No. 17-493 by Melissa Ehlinger, a former member of the New Orleans Workforce Development Board, in response to a Notice of Delinquency received requesting she file a 2015 Tier 2.1 Annual personal financial disclosure statement, instructed the staff to advise Ms. Ehlinger that she is not require to file the personal financial disclosure statement, since she never attended a meeting due to her inability to serve because of the change in her job status.

The Board considered the following general business agenda items:

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board approved the minutes of the May 18-19, 2017 meetings.

The Board considered a proposed consent opinion in Docket No. 14-1546 regarding Savant Construction, LLC, a construction company owned by Alderman Tim Savant, entering into a subcontract with a company to install a building for the Village of Estherwood. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted for publication the consent opinion in which Tim Savant, a member of the Village of Estherwood Board of Aldermen, agrees that a violation of Sections 1111C(2)(d) and 1113A of the Code of Governmental Ethics occurred by his company, Savant Construction, LLC, entering into a subcontract with a company, Trek, Inc., to erect a metal building and provide concrete foundation work for the new water treatment plant for the Village of Estherwood and by providing compensated services through Savant Construction, LLC to Trek, Inc. at a time when Trek, Inc. had a contractual relationship with the Village of Estherwood to construct a new water treatment plant for the Village of Estherwood and in which Mr. Savant agrees to pay a fine of \$1,200.

The Board considered a proposed consent opinion in Docket No. 15-617 regarding potential violations of the Code of Governmental Ethics by Mayor Robert Crafton, Town of Elizabeth in Allen Parish. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted for publication the consent opinion in which Mayor Robert Crafton, Town of Elizabeth, agrees that (1) a violation of Section 1111A of the Code of Governmental Ethics occurred by receiving monies from the Town of Elizabeth's Natural Gas Fund for consulting and management services provided to the Town of Elizabeth in connection with the Gas Sale Contract that he was not duly entitled to receive for the

performance of his job duties and responsibilities as Mayor of the Town of Elizabeth; (2) a violation of Section 1112A of the Code of Governmental Ethics occurred by his participation in obtaining the approval from the Board of Aldermen for the Town of Elizabeth for payments to be made to him from the Town of Elizabeth's Natural Gas Fund in the amount of \$19,105 and his participation in creating a document memorializing such approval of payments by the Board of Aldermen at a meeting of the Board of Aldermen that was never conducted by the Board of Aldermen; and, (3) a violation of Section 1113A of the Code of Governmental Ethics occurred by submitting an invoice to the Town of Elizabeth to receive payment from the Town of Elizabeth's Natural Gas Fund in the amount of \$19,105 for consulting and management services provided to the Town of Elizabeth in connection with the Gas Sale Contract with the Public Energy Authority of Kentucky, Inc. and in which Mayor Crafton agrees to pay a fine of \$500 and that in the event of a failure to pay, the Board may file suit to compel immediate payment of any balance due.

The Board considered consent opinions in Docket No. 15-1449 regarding Sheriff Ricky Moses, Chief Deputy Joe Toler and Chief Detective Mark Herford of the Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Office using coercion to influence deputies to support Sheriff Ricky Moses in his re-election and into signing a document showing support for the Sheriff in his re-election. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted for publication the consent opinions in which (1) Ricky Moses, in his capacity as the Sheriff of Beauregard Parish, agrees that a violation of Section 1116B of the Code of Governmental Ethics occurred by virtue of the use of his position as Beauregard Parish Sheriff in a manner intended, directly or indirectly, to compel or coerce employees of the Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Department to support him in his reelection campaign in the November 21, 2015 election and in which Sheriff Moses agrees to pay a fine of \$1,500 and that, in the event

of a failure to pay, the Board may file suit to compel immediate payment of any balance due; (2) Joe Toler, in his capacity as the Chief Deputy Sheriff of the Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Department, agrees that a violation of Section 1116B of the Code of Governmental Ethics occurred by the use of his position as Chief Deputy Sheriff in a manner intended, directly or indirectly, to compel or coerce employees of the Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Department to support Sheriff Ricky Moses in his reelection campaign in the November 21, 2015 election and in which Mr. Toler agrees to pay a fine of \$1,000 and that, in the event of a failure to pay, the Board may file suit to compel immediate payment of any balance due; and, (3) Mark Herford, in his capacity as the Chief of Detectives of the Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Department, agrees that a violation of Section 1116B of the Code of Governmental Ethics occurred by the use of his position as Chief of Detectives in a manner intended, directly or indirectly, to compel or coerce employees of the Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Department to support Sheriff Ricky Moses in his reelection campaign in the November 21, 2015 election and in which Mr. Herford agrees to pay a fine of \$1,000 and that, in the event of a failure to pay, the Board may file suit to compel immediate payment of any balance due.

The Board considered a proposed consent opinion in Docket No. 16-226 regarding the employment of Dennis Bell as a custodian at Vinton Elementary School in Calcasieu Parish while his daughter, Lori Bell, served as principal. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted for publication the consent opinion in which Lori Bell agrees that, while she served as Principal of Vinton Elementary School, a violation of Section 1119A occurred by virtue of the employment of her father, Dennis Bell, as a sweeper and custodian at Vinton Elementary School and a violation of Section 1112B(1) of the Code of Governmental Ethics occurred by virtue of her participation in the hiring of her father, Dennis Bell, as a sweeper and custodian at Vinton

Elementary School while she served as the Principal of Vinton Elementary School and in which Ms. Bell agrees to pay a fine of \$250 and that in the event of a failure to pay, the Board may file suit to compel immediate payment of any balance due.

The Board considered a proposed consent opinion in Docket No. 16-527 regarding potential violations of the Code of Governmental Ethics by Anthony J. "Buddy" Amoroso, a member of the East Baton Rouge Metro Council, and his company, Prime Properties, LLC. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted for publication the consent opinion in which (1) Anthony J. "Buddy" Amoroso, while serving as an elected member of the East Baton Rouge City-Parish Metro Council, agrees that a violation of Section 1111C(2)(d) occurred by receiving a thing of economic value in the form of a salary for services provided to Prime Properties, LLC at a time when Prime Properties, LLC had a contractual or other financial or business relationship with the Public Housing Agency of the City of Baton Rouge-Parish of East Baton Rouge, Office of Community Development and in which Mr. Amoroso agrees to pay a fine of \$5,000 and that, in the event of a failure to pay, the Board may file suit to compel immediate payment of any balance due; (2) Prime Properties, LLC, a company in which Anthony J. "Buddy" Amoroso exercised control, agrees that a violation of Section 1111C(2)(d) of the Code of Governmental Ethic occurred by receiving a thing of economic value in the form of rental payments for services provided to Stephanie Harris at a time when a tenant of Prime Properties, LLC had a contractual or other financial or business relationship with the Public Housing Agency of the City of Baton Rouge-Parish of East Baton Rouge, Office of Community Development and while Anthony J. "Buddy" Amoroso served as an elected member of the East Baton Rouge City-Parish Metro Council; and (3) Prime Properties, LLC, a company in which Anthony J. "Buddy" Amoroso had a controlling interest, agrees

that a violation of Section 1113 of the Code of Governmental Ethic occurred by entering into contracts that were under the supervision or jurisdiction of the Public Housing Agency of the City of Baton Rouge-Parish of East Baton Rouge, Office of Community Development while Anthony J. “Buddy” Amoroso served as an elected member of the East Baton Rouge City-Parish Metro Council and in which Prime Properties, LLC agrees to pay a fine of 3,000 and that, in the event of a failure to pay, the Board may file suit to compel immediate payment of any balance due. Board Member Leggio recused himself.

The Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-356 from Governor John Bel Edwards regarding whether Section 1119 of the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit Kaleb Reeves, a cadet in the Louisiana State Police Training Academy, from being employed by the Louisiana State Police if his father, the interim Deputy Secretary of Public Safety and Superintendent of State Police Kevin Reeves, was permanently appointed to that position. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that no violation of the Code of Governmental Ethics would be presented by Kaleb Reeves' continued employment with the Louisiana State Police (LSP) if his father, Kevin Reeves, were to be permanently appointed as the Deputy Secretary of Public Safety and Superintendent of State Police, since the newly enacted Section 1119H of the Code of Governmental Ethics provides a limited exception which allows the continued employment and normal promotional advancement of a cadet or graduate of the state police training academy provided that such public employee has been employed in the classified state police service for a period of at least four months prior to the public employee's immediate family member becoming the agency head and since Kaleb Reeves is a graduate of the Training Academy and has been employed by the LSP for more than four months prior to his father being appointed as

Interim Deputy Secretary of Public Safety and Superintendent of State Police. The Board also approved the disqualification plan as submitted satisfying the requirements set forth under Section 1112C of the Code of Governmental Ethics and the Rules for the Board of Ethics.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-419 regarding the propriety of Representative Vincent Pierre utilizing campaign funds to pay for the cost of legal services in responding to a public records request. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that no violation of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act would be presented by Representative Pierre utilizing campaign funds to pay for the cost of legal services associated with the public records request, since the public records request is based upon Representative Pierre's ability, as a legislator, to remove or appoint a person to or from the SMILE Board and the use of campaign funds by Representative Pierre for payment of legal services rendered by his attorney would be considered funds used for the holding of Representative Pierre's public office.

The Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 17-453 regarding the employment of the daughter-in-law of Alex Suffrin, a member of the St. Charles Parish School Board, by the school board. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that since Alex Suffrin is an agency head as a member of the school board, Kayla Suffrin would normally be prohibited by Section 1119 of the Code of Governmental Ethics from being employed by the school board. However, since she is a certified teacher, her employment would meet the exception contained in Section 1119B(2)(a)(i) of the Code of Governmental Ethics. Based on the previous opinions of the Board, it appears that a permanent substitute position would be considered a "classroom teacher" for purposes of the exception. The Board further instructed the staff

to remind Alex Suffrin that he is required to file the annual disclosure statements pursuant to Section 1119B(2)(a)(iii) and that he is required to recuse himself from voting on any transaction in which his daughter-in-law has a substantial economic interest in order to avoid a violation of Section 1112B(1) of the Code of Governmental Ethics.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board unanimously agreed to take action on the requests for “good cause” waivers of late fees assessed against candidates and committees included in the Campaign Finance Waiver Chart en globo subject to any items being removed from the en globo listing for further discussion.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff recommendations on the items in the Campaign Finance Waiver Chart, excluding Docket Nos. 17-498, 17-504, 17-544 and 17-571, taking the following actions:

The Board unanimously declined to waive the late fees assessed against the following:

Docket No. 17-417 from Leslie Draper, III of a \$1,000 late fee;
Docket No. 17-420 from Louisiana Rising PAC of a \$2,000 late fee;
Docket No. 17-446 from Aaron Paul Natali of a \$400 late fee;
Docket No. 17-543 from Albert “Ali” Burl, III of a \$600 late fee;
Docket No. 17-548 from Melinda Ward Crawford of a \$1,000 late fee; and,
Docket No. 17-549 from Mary Morris of a \$160 late fee and a \$400 late fee.

The Board waived the late fees assessed against the following:

Docket No. 17-083 from Stuart Boykin of a \$600 late fee;
Docket No. 17-170 from Joe Dorsey of three (3) \$2,000 late fees; and,
Docket No. 17-541 from John A. Brown, Sr. of a \$1,380 late fee.

The Board unanimously rescinded the late fees assessed against the following:

Docket No. 16-1199 from Beth Mizell of two (2) \$2,000 late fees; and,
Docket No. 17-079 from Fork PAC of two (2) \$1,200 late fees.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board

considered a request in Docket No. 17-417 for a waiver of the \$1,000 late fee assessed against Leslie Draper, III, a candidate for Mayor, Town of Simmesport in Avoyelles Parish in the November 8, 2016 election, for filing the 2016 Supplemental campaign finance disclosure report 69 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$1,000 late fee but suspended \$900 conditioned upon future compliance with the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act and provided payment is made within 30 days. If the payment is not received in 30 days, the full amount becomes due and owing.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-421 for a waiver of the \$400 late fee assessed against Mary-Sharon Howland, a candidate for Kenner City Council in Jefferson Parish in the March 24, 2012 election, for filing the 2016 Supplemental campaign finance disclosure report 12 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$400 late fee but suspended \$300 conditioned upon future compliance with the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act and provided payment is made within 30 days. If the payment is not received in 30 days, the full amount becomes due and owing.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-496 for a waiver of the \$600 late fee assessed against Woody Koppel, a candidate for Orleans Parish School Board Member, District 6 in the October 4, 2008 election, for filing the 2016 Supplemental campaign finance disclosure report 21 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$600 late fee but suspended \$400 conditioned upon future compliance with the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act and provided payment is made within 30 days. If the payment is not received in 30 days, the full amount

becomes due and owing.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-497 for a waiver of the \$2,000 late fee assessed against Timothy "Tim" Larkin, a candidate for Councilmen at Large, City of Bossier City in Bossier Parish in the March 25, 2017 election, for filing the 30-P campaign finance disclosure report 91 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$2,000 late fee but suspended \$1,800 conditioned upon future compliance with the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act and provided payment is made within 30 days. If the payment is not received in 30 days, the full amount becomes due and owing.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-499 for a waiver of the \$540 late fee assessed against Terence Vinson, a candidate for State Representative, District 2, Bossier and Caddo Parishes in the October 24, 2015 election, for filing the 2016 Supplemental campaign finance disclosure report 9 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$540 late fee but suspended \$340 conditioned upon future compliance with the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act and provided payment is made within 30 days. If the payment is not received in 30 days, the full amount becomes due and owing.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-503 for a waiver of the \$480 late fee assessed against Adam Lambert, a candidate for Clerk, 2nd City Court in Orleans Parish in the November 6, 2012 election, for filing the 2016 Supplemental campaign finance disclosure report 8 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$480 late fee but suspended the

entire late fee conditioned upon future compliance with the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-539 for a waiver of the \$2,000 late fee assessed against Lester M. Ezidore, a candidate for St. James Parish Sheriff in the October 24, 2015 election, for filing the 10-P campaign finance disclosure report 547 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$2,000 late fee but suspended the entire late fee conditioned upon future compliance with the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-550 for a waiver of the \$2,000 late fee assessed against Germaine Simpson, a candidate for State Representative, District 41, Acadia, Evangeline and St. Landry Parishes in the October 24, 2015 election, for filing the 2016 Supplemental campaign finance disclosure report 63 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$2,000 late fee but suspended \$1,800 conditioned upon future compliance with the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act and provided payment is made within 30 days. If the payment is not received in 30 days, the full amount becomes due and owing.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-498 for a waiver of the \$360 late fee assessed against Eligha Guillory, Jr., a candidate for Mayor, City of Lake Charles in Calcasieu Parish in the March 25, 2017 election, for filing the 2016 Annual campaign finance disclosure report 6 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$360 late fee.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-504 for a waiver of the \$1,200 late fee assessed against Recall

Yenni, Inc., as a recall effort, its committee's chairperson and treasurer, Robert B. Evans, III in the October 12, 2016 election, for filing the 135-P campaign finance disclosure report 6 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board deferred action on the matter.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-544 for a waiver of the \$600 late fee assessed against Scott Sartin, a candidate for City Court Judge, City of Winnsboro in Franklin Parish in the October 24, 2015 election, for filing the 2016 Supplemental campaign finance disclosure report 19 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$600 late fee but suspended \$400 conditioned upon future compliance with the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act and provided payment is made within 30 days. If the payment is not received in 30 days, the full amount becomes due and owing.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-571 for a waiver of the \$900 late fee assessed against Edward Jude Bruski, III, a candidate for Mayor of the City of New Orleans in Orleans Parish in the October 14, 2017 election, for filing the 180-P campaign finance disclosure report 9 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$900 late fee.

The Board unanimously agreed to take action on the requests for “good cause” waivers of late fees assessed against individuals contained in the Lobbyist Waiver Chart en globo subject to any items being removed from the en globo listing for further discussion.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff recommendations on the items in the Lobbyist Waiver Chart taking the following action:

The Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-448 for a waiver of the \$1,500 and \$350

late fees assessed against Anita Begnaud for filing her Lobbyist Registration 49 days late and her February 2017 Lobbying Expenditure Report 7 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board waived the \$1,500 late fee with respect to the Lobbyist Registration and declined to waive the \$350 late fee with respect to the February 2017 Lobbying Expenditure Report but suspended the entire late fee conditioned upon future compliance with the Lobbyist Disclosure Act.

The Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-494 for a waiver of the \$1,500 and \$700 late fees assessed against Carrie Griffin Monica for filing her Supplemental Lobbyist Registration 53 days late and her January 2017 Lobbying Expenditure Report 14 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board waived the \$1,500 late fee with respect to the Supplemental Lobbyist Registration and declined to waive the \$700 late fee with respect to the January 2017 Lobbying Expenditure Report but suspended \$400 conditioned upon future compliance with the Lobbyist Disclosure Act and provided payment is made within 30 days.

The Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-557 for a waiver of the \$700 late fee assessed against Jason Redmond for filing his February 2017 Lobbying Expenditure Report 14 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$700 late fee but suspended \$400 conditioned upon future compliance with the Lobbyist Disclosure Act and provided payment is made within 30 days.

Ms. Eileen “Candy” Jasmin, a candidate for St. James Parish School Board, District 6 in the November 2016 election, appeared before the Board in connection with a request in Docket No. 17-492 for a waiver of the \$1,500 late fee assessed for filing her 2015 Tier 3 Candidate personal financial disclosure statement 215 days late. After hearing from Ms. Jasmin, on motion made,

seconded and unanimously passed, the Board waived the \$1,500 late fee.

The Board unanimously agreed to take action on the requests for “good cause” waivers of late fees assessed against individuals contained in the Personal Financial Disclosure Waiver Chart en globo subject to any items being removed from the en globo listing for further discussion.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff recommendations on the items in the Personal Financial Disclosure Waiver Chart, excluding Docket Nos. 17-267, 17-480, 17-489 and 17-492, taking the following action:

The Board unanimously declined to waive the late fees assessed against the following:

Docket No. 17-479 from Lasonya Pearson of a \$1,500 late fee to include a payment plan;
Docket No. 17-482 from Carrie Modica of a \$1,500 late fee; and,
Docket No. 17-491 from Robert Beebe, Jr. of a \$650 late fee.

The Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-478 for a waiver of the \$1,500 late fee assessed against Maurice Williams, a candidate for the Clinton Town Council in East Feliciana Parish in the November 2016 election, for filing his 2015 Tier 3 Candidate personal financial disclosure statement 200 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$1,500 late fee but suspended the entire late fee conditioned upon future compliance with the Code of Governmental Ethics, since it was Mr. Williams’ first late filing as well as his first election.

The Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-481 for a waiver of the \$1,500 late fee assessed against Edwina Ricks, Central Louisiana Human Services District, for filing her amended 2014 Tier 2.1 Annual personal financial disclosure statement 153 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board waived the late fee, since it was Ms. Ricks’ first late filing and since the death of the immediate family member happened days before her receipt of the

Notice of Delinquency.

The Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-483 for a waiver of the \$1,500 late fee assessed against Jessie Edwards, a member of the Winnfield City Council, District 5 in Winn Parish, for filing his amended 2015 Tier 3 Annual personal financial disclosure statement 175 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$1,500 late fee but suspended the entire late fee conditioned upon future compliance with the Code of Governmental Ethics, since it was Mr. Edwards' first late filing and it involves an amendment regarding the disclosure of public income.

The Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-484 for a waiver of the \$1,350 late fee assessed against Jay Banks, a member of the Ernest N. Morial New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority, for filing his amended 2015 Tier 2.1 Annual personal financial disclosure statement 27 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$1,350 late fee but suspended the entire late fee conditioned upon future compliance with the Code of Governmental Ethics, since it was Mr. Banks' first late filing and it involves an amendment regarding the disclosure of public income.

The Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-485 for a waiver of the \$1,500 late fee assessed against James Cormier, a member of the Lafayette Parish Communications Commission, for filing his amended 2015 Tier 2.1 Annual personal financial disclosure statement 99 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$1,500 late fee but suspended the entire late fee conditioned upon future compliance with the Code of Governmental Ethics, since it was Mr. Cormier's first late filing and it involves an amendment regarding the disclosure of public income.

The Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-486 for a waiver of the \$450 late fee assessed against Mauricio Sierra, a member of the Einstein Charter School Board in Orleans Parish, for filing his amended 2014 Tier 3 Annual personal financial disclosure statement 9 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$450 late fee but suspended the entire late fee conditioned upon future compliance with the Code of Governmental Ethics, since it was Mr. Sierra's first late filing and it involves an amendment regarding the disclosure of employment information.

The Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-487 for a waiver of the \$1,500 late fee assessed against Doreatha Nelson, a member of the Arcadia Town Council, District 1 in Bienville Parish, for filing her amended 2014 Tier 3 Annual personal financial disclosure statement 231 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$1,500 late fee but suspended the entire late fee conditioned upon future compliance with the Code of Governmental Ethics, since it was Ms. Nelson's first late filing and it involves an amendment regarding the disclosure of public income.

The Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-488 for a waiver of the \$50 late fee assessed against Brandie Arabie, a member of the St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection, District 10, for filing her 2015 Tier 2.1 Annual personal financial disclosure statement 1 day late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$50 late fee but suspended the entire late fee conditioned upon future compliance with the Code of Governmental Ethics.

The Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-267 for a waiver of the \$1,500 late fee assessed against Trudy Luke, a member of the Louisiana Crab Task Force, for filing her 2014 Tier 2.1 Annual personal financial disclosure statement 146 days late. On motion made, seconded and

unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$1,500 late fee.

The Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-480 for a waiver of the \$1,500 late fee assessed against Taranza Arvie, a member of the Ville Platte Board of Aldermen in Evangeline Parish, for filing her amended 2014 Tier 3 Annual personal financial disclosure statement 105 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$1,500 late fee and instructed the staff to offer Ms. Arvie a payment plan.

The Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-489 for a waiver of the \$1,500 late fee assessed against George William Moore, Mooringsport Town Council-Member at Large in Caddo Parish, for filing his amended 2014 Tier 3 Annual personal financial disclosure statement 293 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$1,500 late fee but suspended the entire late fee conditioned upon future compliance with the Code of Governmental Ethics, since it was Mr. Moore's first late filing and it involves an amendment regarding the disclosure of public income.

The Board considered a request in Docket No. 17-268 for a waiver of the \$1,500 late fee assessed against Moses Wilkins, a member of the Richland Parish School Board, District 3, for filing his 2016 School Board Disclosure Statement 140 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board waived the \$1,500 late fee, based on the waiver guidelines and since it was Mr. Wilkins' first late filing.

The Board unanimously agreed to take action on the requests for reconsideration of late fee waivers en globo in Item #41 subject to any items being removed from the en globo listing for further discussion.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff

recommendations on the items involving requests for reconsideration of late fee waivers, excluding Docket No. 16-1246, taking the following action:

The Board considered a waiver request for reconsideration of the Board's suspension in Docket No. 16-954 of all but \$1,250 of a \$1,500 late fee assessed against Donald A. "Don" Shea, a former member of the Workforce Investment Board, for filing his 2014 Tier 2.1 Annual personal financial disclosure statement 239 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the suspended \$1,250 late fee but suspended all but \$500 conditioned upon future compliance with the Code of Governmental Ethics and instructed the staff to offer Mr. Shea a payment plan.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a request for reconsideration in Docket No. 17-172 for a waiver of the \$600 late fee assessed against Frank Duson, Jr., a candidate for City Court Marshal, Town of Vidalia in Concordia Parish in the November 8, 2016 election, for filing his 10-P campaign finance disclosure report 16 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$600 late fee but suspended \$400 conditioned upon future compliance with the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act and provided payment is made within 30 days. If the payment is not received in 30 days, the full amount becomes due and owing.

The Board considered a request in Docket No. 16-1246 for reconsideration of a waiver of the \$250 late fee assessed against Chris Guedry, a member of the Morganza Town Council in Pointe Coupee Parish, for filing his 2015 Tier 3 Annual personal financial disclosure statement 5 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board waived the \$250 late fee, since Mr. Guedry is deceased.

Ms. Allen provided an overview of the enacted legislation for the 2017 Regular Legislative Session which will affect the laws administered by the Board of Ethics, including the Code of Governmental Ethics, the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act, and the Legislative, Executive and Local Lobbying Disclosure Acts.

The Board unanimously adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

Secretary

APPROVED:

Chairman