

## Executive Ethics Board News

**Shirley Battan, Chair**  
**Gerri Davis, Vice Chair**  
**Lisa Marsh, Member**  
**Anna Dudek Ross, Member**  
**Jan Jutte, Member**

January 11, 2021

The Executive Ethics Board (Board) met virtually on Friday, January 8, 2021 for their regular meeting. Board members present were Chair Shirley Battan, Vice Chair Gerri Davis and Members Lisa Marsh, Anna Dudek Ross and Jan Jutte. Others attending included: Kate Reynolds, Executive Director, Chad Standifer, Assistant Attorney General, Michelle Carr, Assistant Attorney General, David Killeen, Senior Investigator, Bobby Frye, Investigator and Ruthann Bryant, Administrative Officer. Members of the public also attended.

### **Enforcement**

In lieu of an enforcement hearing, the Board accepted stipulations from:

- **Josie Meyer**, Clinical Placement Coordinator at Clover Park Technical College, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by using state resources for her private benefit and gain in supporting her outside business. Evidence indicated that she accessed the internet and accessed folders/files stored on her work computer related to her outside business on at least 58 occasions over a 10-day period. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$2,750 with \$500 suspended.
- **Melanie Nelson**, Community Corrections Officer with the Department of Corrections, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by using state resources for her private benefit and gain. Evidence indicated that Ms. Nelson spent an excessive amount of time on her work computer doing personal research as she studied for her Law School Admissions Test and other non-work related activity. A review of her computer revealed over 48 hours on internet activity over an eight-month period. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$3,500 with \$1,000 suspended.
- **Rosalba Valdez**, Corrections Specialist with the Department of Corrections, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by using her position to secure special privileges and using state resources for her private benefit or gain. Evidence indicated that Ms. Valdez was using state equipment during working hours to do work as an adjunct instructor for Heritage University and spending time browsing the internet for non-work related reasons. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$2,500 with \$500 suspended.

The Board found Reasonable Cause in EEB Case 2020-039 (Andrew), EEB Case 2020-040 (Hailey) and EEB Case 2020-055 (Birch).

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Meeting agendas can be found at [www.ethics.wa.gov](http://www.ethics.wa.gov) under "Meetings."

*The next meeting of the Executive Ethics Board is scheduled for March 12, 2021.*

The Board dismissed EEB Case 2020-024 (Griffin-Sobel), EEB Case 2020-041 (Kennedy), EEB Case 2020-047 (Hael), EEB Case 2020-048 (Aspden), EEB Case 2020-053 (Close) and EEB Case 2020-056 (Garris).

The Board issued Final Orders of Default in EEB Case 2020-011 (Russell), EEB Case 2020-025 (Braddock) and EEB Case 2020-030 (Burriss).

The Board reviewed two Executive Director's Dismissals: EEB Case 2020-045 (Kreiger) and EEB Case 2020-050 (Woodward-Pratt).

**Board Action:**

The Board reviewed and approved Tacoma Community College's Affinity Groups policy.

Approved versions of policies will be uploaded to the Board's website at [www.ethics.wa.gov](http://www.ethics.wa.gov).

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