Executive Ethics Board News

Shirley Battan, Chair Gerri Davis, Vice Chair Jan Jutte, Member Earl Key, Member

March 18, 2022

The Executive Ethics Board (Board) met virtually on Friday, March 11, 2022 for their regular meeting. Board members present were Chair Shirley Battan, Vice Chair Gerri Davis and Members Jan Jutte and Earl Key. Others attending included: Kate Reynolds, Executive Director, Leo Roinila, Assistant Attorney General, Chad Standifer, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Julia Eisentrout, Assistant Attorney General, Ruthann Bryant, Administrative Officer, Bobby Frye, Investigator and Justin Cotte, Investigator. Members of the public also attended.

Enforcement

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

- **Kristina Brown,** former Executive Director with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by being involved with the negotiations of a contract while employed with the Lieutenant Governor's Office and then accepting a position with the same entity after leaving state service. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$750.
- Laura Lindstrand, Policy Analyst with the Human Rights Commission, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by using state resources for her private benefit or gain. Evidence indicated that she connected two external hard drives containing personal data to her assigned work computer which resulted in personal information being downloaded to agency servers including documents related to an outside business. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$3,500 with \$1,000 suspended.
- **Meg Cayanan,** former Cashier at Seattle Central College, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by using state resources for personal benefit and gain. Evidence indicated that she removed misappropriated cash deposits over a one month period. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$3,500.
- **David Jennings,** Correctional Industries Supervisor with the Department of Corrections, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by accessing the Offender Management Network Information database to obtain information regarding an exoffender and sharing that information with an outside party and using state resources for personal benefit and gain. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$2,500 with \$1,000 suspended.

The Board found Reasonable Cause in EEB Case 2021-037 (Derrick), EEB Case 2021-048 (Bertsch), EEB Case 2021-050 (Bang) and EEB Case 2021-054 (Maxwell). Meeting agendas can be found at www.ethics.wa.gov under "Meetings."

The next meeting of the Executive Ethics Board is scheduled for May 13, 2022.

The Board dismissed EEB Case 2021-041 (Treat), EEB Case 2021-042 (Bringman), EEB Case 2021-043 (Ryan), EEB Case 2021-044 (Johnson), and EEB Case 2021-049 (Mackey).

Board Action:

- A. The Board heard a Motion for Summary Judgment regarding EEB Case 2020-057 Terrence Renwick.
- B. The Board continued their scheduled review of advisory opinions (AO). The Board staff is facilitating this review by grouping like subjects together, so that the Board reviews all of the opinions on that subject at the same time, and completing a pre-review to provide the Board with context and recommendations. During their review the Board will determine if the AO should remain unchanged, be updated or archived. This review regarded one final use of state resources AO:
 - Advisory Opinion 02-02A: Use of State Resources Questions and Answers
- C. The Board reviewed and approved the following policy:
 - Use of State Resources -- Washington State Investment Board

Approved versions of policies will be uploaded to the Board's website at <u>www.ethics.wa.gov</u>.

Meeting agendas can be found at <u>www.ethics.wa.gov</u> under "Meetings."