

Executive Ethics Board News

Shirley Battan, Chair
Jan Jutte, Vice Chair
Earl Key, Member
Kelli Hooke, Member
Megan Abel, Member

March 14, 2023

The Executive Ethics Board (Board) met on Friday, March 10, 2023 for their regular meeting. Board members present were Chair Shirley Battan, Vice Chair Jan Jutte and Members Kelli Hooke and Megan Abel. Others attending included: Leo Roinila, Assistant Attorney General, Julia Eisentrout, Assistant Attorney General, Ruthann Bryant, Administrative Officer, and Bobby Frye and Justin Cotte, Investigators. Members of the public also attended.

Enforcement

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

- **Katie Egbert**, Social Services Specialist 3 with the Department of Children, Youth, and Families, agreed that they may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by conducting activities that were incompatible with official duties and using state resources for personal benefit or gain. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$350.
- **Rimi Afroze**, Provider Network Capacity Program Manager at the Home and Community Services Division with the Department of Social and Health Services, agreed that they may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by conducting activities that were incompatible with official duties and using state resources for private benefit or gain. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$2,500 with \$1,000 suspended.
- **Michelle Blake**, former WorkSource Specialist 4 with the Employment Security Department, agreed that they may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by using state resources for private benefit or gain and accessing confidential information for non-work related purposes. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$3,500 with \$1,000 suspended.

The Board found Reasonable Cause in EEB Case 2021-035 (Culley), EEB Case 2022-037 (Houde), EEB Case 2022-038 (Adams) EEB Case 2022-040 (Wilks), EEB Case 2022-044 (Standford) and EEB Case 2022-047 (Hagopian).

The Board dismissed EEB Case 2022-039 (Inslee).

The Board entered a Motion for Default in EEB Case 2022-015 (Hansen).

Board Action:

The Board heard a Motion for Summary Judgment in EEB Case 2022-012 Alfred Smack.

Meeting agendas can be found at www.ethics.wa.gov under "Meetings."

The next meeting of the Executive Ethics Board is scheduled for May 12, 2023.