

## Executive Ethics Board News

**Jan Jutte, Chair**  
**Kelli Hooke, Vice Chair**  
**Megan Abel, Member**  
**Cam Comfort, Member**

May 13, 2024

The Executive Ethics Board (Board) met on Friday, May 10, 2024, for their regular meeting. Board members present were Chair Jan Jutte, Vice Chair Kelli Hooke and Member Cam Comfort. Others attending included: Kate Reynolds, Executive Director, Matt Kernutt, Senior Counsel, Julia Eisentrout, Assistant Attorney General, Ruthann Bryant, Administrative Officer and Justin Cotte, Senior Investigator. Members of the public also attended.

### **Enforcement**

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

- **Paul McDole**, a Corrections/Custody Officer with the Department of Corrections, agreed that they may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by using state resources for private benefit or gain. Evidence indicated that Paul McDole browsed the internet, visiting sites including YouTube, sports and news websites, Netflix and online shopping. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$5,000 with \$1,000 suspended.
- **Jeffrey Larsen**, a Correctional Industries Supervisor 2 with the Department of Corrections, agreed that they may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by using state resources for private benefit or gain. Evidence indicated Jeffrey Larsen visited sports websites, YouTube and social media websites. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$2,000 with \$1,000 suspended.

The Board found Reasonable Cause in EEB Case 2023-050 (Humes), EEB Case 2023-054 (Schillreff), EEB Case 2023-055 (Rawls) and EEB Case 2023-062 (James).

The Board dismissed EEB Case 2023-036 (Brown), EEB Case 2023-051 (Flaxman) and EEB Case 2023-057 (Nemhauser).

The Board issued Final Orders of Default in EEB Case 2023-014 (McHale), EEB Case 2023-023 (McMillan), EEB Case 2023-027 (Keith), and EEB Case 2023-043 (Black).

The Board also reviewed one Executive Director Dismissal in EEB Case 2023-042 (Grissom).

### **Board Action:**

A. The Board reviewed and approved the following policies:

- Ethics Conflicts of Interest, Post-State Employment, and Obtaining Ethics Advisor Advice – Health Care Authority
- Ethics use of State Resources – Health Care Authority

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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 July 12, 2024.*

- Outside Employment – Health Care Authority
- Accepting an Honorarium – Health Care Authority
- Accepting Gifts – Health Care Authority
- Code of Ethics – Lower Columbia College

Approved versions of policies are posted on the Board's website at [www.ethics.wa.gov](http://www.ethics.wa.gov).

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