



Washington State Executive Ethics Board

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Executive Ethics Board News

Anna Dudek Ross, Chair
Samantha Simmons, Vice Chair
Lisa Marsh, Member
John Ladenburg Sr., Member
Shirley Battan, Member

November 21, 2017

The Executive Ethics Board (Board) met on Friday, November 17, 2017 for their regular meeting. Board members present were Chair Anna Ross, Vice Chair Samantha Simmons, Members Lisa Marsh, John Ladenburg and Shirley Battan. Others attending included: Kate Reynolds, Executive Director, Bruce Turcott, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Chad Standifer, Assistant Attorney General, David Killeen, Senior Investigator, Dan Davis, Investigator, and Ruthann Bryant, Administrative Officer. Members of the public also attended.

Enforcement

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

- **Kim Pattan**, an employee with Washington State University Pacific County Extension Office, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act when he used state resources to conduct research for his personal benefit. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$450.
- **Joel Berg**, former Dean and Professor of Pediatric Dentistry at the University of Washington School of Dentistry, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act when he used state resources for his private benefit or gain by using state resources for his outside business. Evidence also indicated that Mr. Berg had a private interest in vendors and potential vendors used by the School of Dentistry. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$6,000 with \$2,000 suspended.
- **Katie Worl**, an employee with the Department of Social and Health Services, may have violated RCW 42.52.160 when she used state resources for her private benefit. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$2,000 with \$1,000 suspended.
- **David Kopp**, a former Social Service Specialist with the Department of Social and Health Services, may have conducted activities incompatible with his official duties in regard to a DSHS client, that he provided a special privilege to that client and that he used state resources for the private benefit of himself or another. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$8,000.
- The Board found Reasonable Cause in EEB Case 2016-075 (Linder), EEB Case 2017-017 (Smith) and EEB Case 2017-026 (Hobbs).
- The Board approved Motions for Default in EEB Case 2016-037 (Torres) and EEB Case 2017-022 (Goodman).

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

The next meeting of the Executive Ethics Board is scheduled for January 12, 2018.

- The Board reviewed ten Executive Director's Dismissals: 2016-081 (Sacks-Lawlar), 2016-087 (Charles), 2017-003 (Weldon), 2017-010 (Vendiola), 2017-020 (Sipma), 2017-021 (Taylor-Sparks), 2017-028 (Fluaitt), 2017-045 (Aldrich), 2017-047 (Macklin), and 2017-050 (Cox).

Board Action:

- A. The Board elected their officers for 2018. John Ladenburg will serve as the Chair and Shirley Battan will serve as the Vice-chair.
- B. The Board held a public hearing regarding proposed amendments to WAC 292-110: Agency Substantive Rules. No one signed up to testify. One comment was received and will be considered during the CR-102 process.
- C. The Board reviewed and approved the following policies:
 - Ethics – Board of Accountancy
 - Ethical Standards – Eastern Washington University
 - Outside Business Activities and Employment – Department of Revenue
 - Conflict of Interest and Ethics in Public Service – Department of Revenue
 - Using State Resources, Equipment and Facilities – Department of Revenue
 - Ethical and Professional Standards of Conduct – Department of Veteran's Affairs
 - Use of WDVA Facilities – Department of Veteran's Affairs

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