



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

September 12, 2017

The Executive Ethics Board (Board) met on Friday, September 8, 2017 for their regular meeting. Board members present were 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:

- **Ronda Mann**, an employee with the Department of Corrections, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by taking personal time away from work without submitting the proper leave requests. Evidence shows that she received pay for at least 308 hours of time that she was not at work and did not submit the proper leave slips during a 5-month period. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$4,000 with \$1,000 suspended.
- **John Rogers**, a former Physician's Assistant with the Department of Corrections, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act when he used state resources for his private benefit and gain by taking time off work without submitting the proper leave request. Evidence indicated that Mr. Rogers took 210 hours off from work, was paid for that time, and the leave was not subtracted from his leave balance. He repaid the Department of Corrections for all of the hours. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$2,500.
- **Cassandra Moses**, an employee with the Department of Social and Health Services, may have violated RCW 42.52.160 and .070 when she used state resources and her position to obtain travel expenses from one of the residential treatment providers to visit several of their treatment facilities after she was advised by management that she could not visit as a DSHS representative. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$3,500 with \$1,750 suspended.
- **David Clark**, a WorkSource Specialist with the Employment Security Department, may have violated RCW 42.52.160 by using state resources for her private benefit and gain. Evidence collected showed that Mr. Clark spent an excessive amount of time on the internet for non-work related use. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$2,000 with \$1,000 suspended.
- **Katrina Austin**, a PREA Compliance Manager with the Department of Corrections agreed that she may have violated RCW 42.52.160 when she used a state vehicle for personal use on two separate occasions. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$2,000 with \$1,000 suspended.

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

The next meeting of the Executive Ethics Board is scheduled for November 17, 2017.

- **Bijan Khaleghi**, a State Bridge Design Engineer for the Department of Transportation, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act when he used state resources for his personal benefit and gain in support of his outside employment as an adjunct faculty member of St. Martin's University. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$4,500 with \$2,500 suspended.
- **Gail Robbins**, a supervisor with the Department of Corrections may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act when she took time off from work without submitting the proper leave slips and by allowing a subordinate to take time off without requiring her to submit leave for her time off. Evidence indicates that she received pay for at least 282 hours of time that she was not at work and did not submit the proper leave slips over a 5-month period. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$6,000 with \$1,000 suspended.
- The Board found Reasonable Cause in EEB Case 2017-005 (Berg), EEB Case 2017-012 (Patten), EEB Case 2017-015 (Owen), EEB Case 2017-022 (Goodman), and EEB Case 2017-024 (Kopp).
- The Board dismissed EEB Case 2017-006 (Beveridge), EEB Case 2017-014 (Martin).
- The Board issued Final Orders of Default in EEB Case 2015-055 (Payne), EEB Case 2015-078 (Felitz) and EEB Case 2015-081 (Popwell).
- The Board reviewed eight Executive Director's Dismissals: 2016-066 (Morris), 2016-067 (Harper), 2016-083 (Brinson), 2016-085 (Barrington), 2017-008 (Beck), 2017-013 (Sanchez), 2017-016 (Kelly-Rae) and 2017-027 (Gilbert).

Board Action:

- A. The Board reviewed proposed amendments to WAC 292-110: Agency Substantive Rules and approved the filing of the CR-102 with the Code Reviser.
- B. The Board also approved the filing of the CR-101 for Public Records rulemaking.

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