



# Washington State Executive Ethics Board

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## Executive Ethics Board News

Anna Dudek Ross, Chair  
Samantha Simmons, Vice Chair  
Lisa Marsh, Member  
Sumeer Singla, Member  
John Ladenburg Sr., Member

July 11, 2016

The Executive Ethics Board (Board) met on Friday, July 8, 2016 for their regular business meeting. Board members present were Vice Chair Samantha Simmons and Members Lisa Marsh and Sumeer Singla. Others attending included: Kate Reynolds, Executive Director, Bruce Turcott, Assistant Attorney General, David Killeen, Senior Investigator, Dan Davis, Investigator, and Ruthann Bryant, Administrative Officer. Members of the public also attended.

### Rule Making

#### **Hearing – WAC 292-130 Agency Organization – Public Records**

The Board held a public hearing regarding WAC 292-130 Agency Organization – Public Records amendments. No one signed up to testify. The intended adoption date is July 29, 2016.

### Enforcement

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

- **Christine Shriner**, an employee with the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Western State Hospital, may have violated RCW 42.52.160 when she took time off from work without submitting the proper leave slips. Ms. Shriner received pay for approximately 129 hours of time that she was not at work and did not submit the proper leave slips. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$3,500 with \$1,750 suspended.
- **Rob Fitch**, a Biology Professor with Wenatchee Valley College, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act by using state resources for his personal benefit and gain in support of his homeschooling business. The Board levied a civil penalty of \$2,500 with \$1,000 suspended.
- The Board found Reasonable Cause in EEB Case No. 2014-083 (Simpson), EEB Case No. 2014-088 (Williams), EEB Case No. 2015-032 (Davis), EEB Case No. 2015-073 (Hawk), EEB Case 2016-041 (Madill) and EEB Case No. 2016-046 (Ling).
- The Board Dismissed EEB Case 2015-046 (Templeton).
- The Board reviewed five Executive Director's Dismissals: 2014-089 (Ingbertson), 2014-100 (Van Fossen), 2015-035 (Harris), 2016-001 (Hanson) and 2016-040 (Grondel).

### Board Action:

- A. The Board reviewed proposed revisions to WAC 292-100:Procedural Rules and approved the filing of the CR-101 with the Code Reviser.

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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 September 9, 2016.*

B. The Board continued their 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. The Board reviewed changes made to Use of Resources for Political Campaigns and Use of State Facilities, Including Electronic Mail to Distribute Newspaper Articles and Editorial Opinions as a follow up from the May meeting. This round of reviews regarded Activities Incompatible, Financial Interests, Assisting in Transactions and Confidential Information and encompassed the following AOs:

- **Advisory Opinion 96-09:** Disclosure Requirement for Boards and Commissions
- **Advisory Opinion 96-09A:** Boards and Commissions
- **Advisory Opinion 97-03:** Outside Employment with a Regulated Entity
- **Advisory Opinion 97-11:** Financial Interests/Board Membership
- **Advisory Opinion 97-12:** Stock ownership by State Employee
- **Advisory Opinion 97-13:** Financial Interests/Board Membership
- **Advisory Opinion 98-04:** Elective Office/Confidential Information
- **Advisory Opinion 98-05:** Transactions Involving the State
- **Advisory Opinion 98-07:** Outside Employment/Subcontracting
- **Advisory Opinion 98-08:** Conflict of Interest/Board Membership
- **Advisory Opinion 98-11:** Potential Conflicts of Interest Regarding Prospective Employment
- **Advisory Opinion 99-04:** Conflict of Interest/Spouse's Business Interest
- **Advisory Opinion 99-07:** Conflicts of Interest Regarding Board Membership
- **Advisory Opinion 00-04:** Use of State Resources/Cell Phones
- **Advisory Opinion 00-14:** Serving on the Board of a Non-state entity that is Seeking Funds from a State Employee's Parent Agency
- **Advisory Opinion 01-02:** Membership in Non-state Organizations that are Affected by State Agency Decisions
- **Advisory Opinion 01-03:** State Employee's Outside Business Relationship with an Agency Vendor
- **Advisory Opinion 01-04:** State Officer's Outside Business Relationship with an Agency that they Oversee
- **Advisory Opinion 02-03:** Conflicts Between the Regulatory and Proprietary Functions of Agency Employees
- **Advisory Opinion 03-03:** Use of Frequent Flyer Miles by State Officers and Employees
- **Advisory Opinion 03-05:** Holding an Interest Beneficial or Otherwise in a Person Regulated by a Citizen Body Whose Members May be Selected from Identified Groups or Interests
- **Advisory Opinion 04-03:** Conflicts of Interest related to Membership in Groups that are Sponsored by the Department of Natural Resources

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