1	the proceedings,	and Board Chair Lisa Marsh, Vice Chair Anna Dudek Ross, and members
2	Matthew Willian	ms III and Samantha Simmons were present. Also present was Bruce L.
3	Turcott, Assistan	at Attorney General, legal advisor to the Board.
4	1.5 B	oard staff was represented by Chad Standifer, Assistant Attorney General.
5	The Board's Exe	cutive Director Melanie de Leon and other Board staff members were present.
6	1,6 R	espondent was present and represented by Larry King, attorney at
7	law.	
8		oard Staff offered Exhibits 1-23. All were admitted into evidence. The Board
9	was provided co	pies of documents that were admitted as exhibits.
10	1.	Executive Ethics Board Complaint dated March 16, 2010 (5 pages);
11	2.	Personal documents of (19 pages);
12	3.	Personal documents of (8 pages);
13	4.	Documents relating to the Hispanic Roundtable (26 pages);
14	5.	Documents relating to the Hispanic Roundtable Youth Summit - 2009 (568 pages);
15	6.	Documents relating to the Hispanic Roundtable Youth Summit – 2008 (313 pages);
16	7.	
17	8.	PDP Expectations signed September 26, 2008 (4 pages);
18	9.	PDP Evaluation signed December 3, 2008 (3 pages);
19	10	PDP Expectations signed December 3, 2008 (2 pages);
20	11	
21	12	AS 100-400-400 (100-2000)
22	13	OMWBE Internet Usage, Computer Software Usage and Electronic E-Mail Usage Policies signed by June 11, 2008 and May 11, 2009 (8 pages);
23	14	
24	15	
25	16	100 March 100 Ma
- 13		

Based on the evidence presented in the currently existing administrative record, the Board enters the following Revised Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Final Order:

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

- Agency Support Unit since June 1, 2008. The objective of this position is to provide technical assistance to state agencies to facilitate development, compliance, and execution of their supplier diversity programs, as well as training and technical assistance to firms to increase their access to opportunities and competitiveness. The position also analyzes agency expenditures and prepares statistical reports to facilitate the agency's mission to "help create and sustain an equitable business environment by promoting the participation, in public contracting and procurement, of all qualified and available businesses owned and controlled by minorities, women and all others who may be socially and economically disadvantaged." Exhibit 7.
- 2.2 The Hispanic Roundtable is a private nonprofit corporation. Its purposes are to improve access to education, community resources and services, economic development, and employment opportunities for the Hispanic population in the South Sound. (Articles of Incorporation, Ex. 21, p.1). The Latino Youth Summit is an annual career, lifestyle, and college conference organized by the Hispanic Roundtable. (Article from The Olympian, Oct. 30, 2008, Ex. 6, p.41)

used agency time and resources, including up to five percent of his work time, agency email, storage of documents on agency computers, and use of the OMWBE logo on fundraising letters, from June 2008 to March 2, 2010, to support, promote, and solicit for outside organizations, the Hispanic Roundtable and its Latino Youth Summits of 2008 and 2009. Exhibit 5 contains 568 pages of documents related to planning, organizing, and fundraising for the Latino Youth Summit of 2009 that were stored on computer. Exhibit 6 contains 313 pages of documents related to the similar activities for the Latino Youth Summit of 2008. The OMWBE logo was used on

correspondence at Exhibit 5, pages 356-58 and 362 and at Exhibit 6, pages 33, 56, 75, 108-09, 271, 280-82, and 295. Exhibit 4 contains 26 additional pages of email relating to the Hispanic Roundtable and Latino Youth Summit. testified regarding his participation in Hispanic Roundtable affairs before and after he was hired by OMWBE, and his deposition was also taken and admitted as an exhibit.

Supporting, promoting, and soliciting for outside organizations was not part of official duties as a state employee, and it would have been outside the authority of his employing agency to authorize the use of state resources in violation of state law. Supporting, promoting, and soliciting for outside organizations is of a different nature than the general "outreach" to the Hispanic community, on behalf of OMWBE, that was reflected as one of the work activities in position

- used agency time and resources, including a state-assigned computer, to store personal and/or private information that was not agency-related on his state computer such as photographs, recipes, personal emails and jokes, and various personal letters. (Exs. 2 and 3).
- used agency time and resources, including a state-assigned computer, to engage in union activities during work hours without permission. Unauthorized union activities and Joan Gallager of WFSE regarding:
 - Downgrading a represented position (Ex. 20, p.1);
 - All-staff meetings (Ex. 20, p.5); and
- Forwarding the director's email regarding conducting union business without permission during working hours (Ex. 20, pp. 2-4).
- signed the OMWBE Policy regarding On June 11, 2008, Internet Usage, Computer Software Usage and Electronic E-Mail Usage (effective January 30, 2006. On May 11, 2009, signed the OMWBE Internet Usage,

REVISED FINDINGS OF FACT. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND FINAL

Computer Software Usage and Electronic E-Mail Usage policy (effective January 29, 2009) indicating that he read and understood the policy. This policy establishes procedures for authorized use of OMWBE computer systems to communicate outside the agency via the Internet, computer software to perform job duties within the agency and communication outside the office using electronic e-mail, and defines limitations on such usage. This policy notes that state property may not be used:

- a. For the purpose of conducting an outside business, whether or not for profit;
- For the purpose of assisting the campaign of any candidate for election to any office, or to oppose or promote a ballot proposition;
- c. For commercial purposes such as advertising or selling; or,
- d. For illegal activities or activities which are incompatible with a professional workplace, such as, but not limited to, accessing adult-oriented websites, gambling on the Internet, or other inappropriate use.
- 2.7 OMWBE's Policy on Standards of Ethical Conduct For All OMWBE Employees (Jan. 29, 2009) states at Section II.E.1.c.ii, "Supporting, promoting the interest of, or soliciting for an outside organization or group" is a violation of the Ethical Conduct Policy. (Ex. 14, p.6) All OMWBE employees are required to review and acknowledge receipt of this Policy.
- 2.8 On May 11, 2009, signed the OMWBE policy regarding Standards of Ethical Conduct for All OMWBE Employees (effective January 29, 2009). This policy contains a section entitled "Using State Resources" and states in part that the following private uses of state resources are explicitly prohibited by state law or rules:
 - Conducting an outside business or private employment;
 - Supporting, promoting the interest of, or soliciting for an outside organization or group except as allowed by law, rule, or OMWBE policy; and

c. Desk-to-desk or office-to-office solicitations for profit and/or non-profit organizations.

III. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 3.1 The Board has jurisdiction to hear this matter pursuant to RCW 42.52.360(1), which authorizes the Board to enforce the Ethics in Public Service Act, chapter 42.56 RCW, with respect to employees in the executive branch of state government. The complaint was filed in accordance with RCW 42.52.410, the Board found reasonable cause pursuant to RCW 42.52.420, and an adjudicative proceeding was conducted pursuant to RCW 42.52.430 and .500. All the required procedural notices have been provided.
- 3.2 The Ethics in Public Service Act governs the conduct of state officers and employees.
- 3.3 A state employee may not use state resources for the private benefit or gain of another under RCW 42.52.160, which states:

No state officer or state employee may employ or use any person, money, or property under the officer's or employee's official control or direction, or in his or her official custody, for the private benefit or gain of the officer, employee, or another.

3.4 The Executive Ethics Board rule relating to use of state resources provides in WAC 292-110-010(5):

Prohibited uses.

- (b) Any use for the purpose of supporting, promoting the interests of, or soliciting for an outside organization or group, including, but not limited to, a private business, or a political party, or supporting, promoting the interests of, or soliciting for a nonprofit organization unless provided for by law or authorized by an agency head or designee;
- (e) Any use related to conduct that is prohibited by a federal or state law or rule, or a state agency policy;
- 3.5 Under RCW 42.52.480, the Board may impose a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 per violation or three times the economic value of anything received or sought in

REVISED FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND FINAL ORDER

violation of the Ethics in Public Service Act, whichever is greater. The Board may also impose the cost of investigating the complaint and order restitution for any damages sustained by the state.

3.6 RCW 42.52.160 provides that a state employee may not use state resources for the private benefit or gain of himself or another. WAC 292-110-010(5)(b) prohibits the use of state resources to support, promote, or solicit for an outside organization, including a nonprofit. Finally, WAC 292-110-010(5)(e) prohibits any use of state resources in violation of OMWBE policy.

As to Finding of Fact 2.2, regarding support of outside organizations, argues that he was hired to do the same work he was doing before he was hired, his job description provided for outreach to the Hispanic community, and he had his supervisor's approval for XYZ. (Respondent's Opening and Closing Statements, Trans. 16-17 and 140)

was a state employee, a Management Analyst at OMWBE, while he was engaged in planning, organizing, and fundraising activities on behalf of the Hispanic Roundtable and Latino Youth Summits of 2008 and 2009. These activities included significant amounts of work time, use of agency email, storage of documents on agency computers, and use of the OMWBE logo on fundraising letters, as detailed in Finding of Fact 2.2.

Although had been engaged in promotion of the Hispanic Roundtable before he was hired, his role and responsibilities as a state employee during work time were distinct. position description provides that his position "meets customer requirements by providing professional level technical assistance to state agencies to facilitate development, compliance, and execution of their supplier diversity programs; as well as training and technical assistance to firms to increase their access to opportunities and competitiveness." (Ex. 7, p.2) His supervisor Cathy Canorro also testified to these responsibilities at OMWBE. (Test. of Canorro at 56-57)

Based on these facts, the Board finds that used state resources for the private benefit or gain of outside organizations by supporting, promoting, and soliciting for the Hispanic Roundtable, including the Latino Youth Summits of 2008 and 2009. These actions violated RCW 42.52.160, WAC 292-110-010(5)(b) and (e), and the OMWBE Policies on Internet Usage, Computer Software Usage, and Electronic E-Mail Usage (Jan. 30, 2006 and Jan. 29, 2009) (Ex. 13) and Standards for Ethical Conduct for All OMWBE Employees (Jan. 29, 2009) (Ex. 14).

As to Finding of Fact 2.4, regarding union activities, did not address the alleged use of agency time, resources, and computer to engage in unauthorized union activities. (See Respondent's Opening and Closing Statements, Trans. 15-17 and 139-41)

It is undisputed that sent emails to Joan Gallager of Washington Federation of State Employees regarding downgrading a represented position (Ex. 20, p.1), the director's email regarding conducting union business without permission during working hours (Ex. 20, pp. 2-4), and all-staff meetings (Ex. 20, p.5).

Therefore, the Board concludes that	also used state resources to engage in
unauthorized union activities during work hours.	This violated RCW 42.52.160, WAC 292
110-010(5)(b) and (e), and the OMWBE Policy	on Standards of Ethical Conduct for Al
OMWBE Employees, II.E.1.e (Jan. 29, 2009) (Ex.	14, p. 7).

- 3.7 The Board found in Finding of Fact 2.3 that stored a limited amount of personal information on his computer—photographs, recipes, personal emails, jokes, etc.

 admits there were personal items stored on his computer but argues that he spent a very limited amount of time over the course of his employment on them. (Respondent's Opening Statement, Trans. 15-17) The Board did not base Conclusion of Law 3.6 or find a violation based on limited storage of personal information on his state computer as found in 2.2(b). Although storage of this personal information was not an appropriate use of state resources, it did not rise to the level of the violations found in Conclusion of Law 3.6.
- 3.8 A state officer or employee is prohibited under RCW 42.52.070 from using state property: "Except as required to perform duties within the scope of employment, no state officer or state employee may use his or her position to secure special privileges or exemptions for himself or herself, or his or her spouse, child, parents, or other persons." was not charged under this provision of the Ethics in Public Service Act, however the Board notes the evidence may have supported finding a violation of it as well.
- 3.9 In determining the appropriate sanction, including the amount of any civil penalty, the Board did not find any aggravating circumstances or mitigating factors under WAC 292-120-030.

IV. ORDER

4.1 Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is hereby ordered that is assessed a total monetary civil penalty of \$9,884, payable in full within 90 days of the effective date of this order.

4.2 The amount was calculated as follows: \$5,000 civil penalty for violations of WAC 292-110-010(5)(b) and (e) plus \$4,884 for use of at least five percent of time on Hispanic Roundtable and related matters. His annual salary during the relevant time period was \$53,285, therefore the monthly salary was \$4,440, and five percent of monthly salary was \$222. The relevant time period covered twenty-two months (June 2008 through March 2010). Therefore, \$222 x 22 months = \$4,884.

DATED this 15 day of June, 2014.

WASHINGTON STATE EXECUTIVE ETHICS BOARD

Lisa Marsh, Chair

APPEAL RIGHTS

RECONSIDERATION OF FINAL ORDER – BOARD

Any party may ask the Executive Ethics Board to reconsider a Final Order. The request must be in writing and must include the specific grounds or reasons for the request.

The request must be delivered to Board office within 20 days after the postmark date of this order.

The Board is deemed to have denied the request for reconsideration if, within 20 days from the date the request is filed, the Board does not either dispose of the petition or serve the parties with written notice specifying the date by which it will act on the petition. (RCW 34.05.470).

The Respondent is not required to ask the Board to reconsider the Final Order before seeking judicial review by a superior court. (RCW 34.05.470).

FURTHER APPEAL RIGHTS - SUPERIOR COURT

A Final Order issued by the Executive Ethics Board is subject to judicial review under the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 34.05 RCW. See RCW 42.52.440. The procedures are provided in RCW 34.05.510 - .598.

Judicial review must be sought with the superior court under Thurston County Case No. 13-2-01086-8, in accordance with the February 25, 2014 Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order in that case, and served on the Board and any other parties within 30 days of the date that the Board serves this Final Order on the parties. (RCW 34.05.542(2)).

Service is defined in RCW 34.05.010(19) as the date of mailing or personal service.

ENFORCEMENT OF FINAL ORDERS

If there is no timely request for reconsideration, this is the Final Order of the Board. The Respondent is legally obligated to pay any penalty assessed.

The Board will seek to enforce a Final Order in superior court and recover legal costs and attorney's fees if the penalty remains unpaid and judicial review has not been timely sought under chapter 34.05 RCW. This action will be taken without further order by the Board.

REVISED FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND FINAL ORDER

FILED SUPERIOR COURT THURSTON COUNTY, WA

1	□ EXPEDITE 2016 JAN 29 AM 9: 23
	☑ No Hearing Set ☐ Hearing is Set: ☐ Linda Myhre Enlow
2	Date: Thurston County Olerk
3	Time: The Honorable Anne-Hirsch
4	ENK Prince
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6	EX PARTE
0	STATE OF WASHINGTON
7	THURSTON COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
8	NO. 13-2-01086-8
9	Petitioner, FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND
10	v. ORDER ON JUDICIAL REVIEW
11	WASHINGTON STATE EXECUTIVE [PROPOSED] ETHICS BOARD,
12	Respondent.
13	This matter came before the Court for trial on August 28, 2015 and December 18, 2015
14	on the Second Petition for Judicial Review filed by counsel for Petitioner
15	("Petitioner"), who sought review of the Revised Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and
16	Final Order issued by the Washington State Executive Ethics Board ("Respondent"). The
1.7	Respondent was represented by Chad C. Standifer, Assistant Attorney General, and the
18	Petitioner was represented by Frederick H. Gautschi, III, of Gautschi Law Firm, LLC.
19	The Court, having considered the pleadings filed in this matter, the supporting papers,
20	and the administrative record on file in this matter, and the argument of counsel, hereby makes
21	the following:
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- 1.1 Respondent Washington State Executive Ethics Board entered a final administrative order on April 16, 2013, against Petitioner titled Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Final Order, EEB No. 2010-018 ("Final Order").
- 1.2 The Final Order concluded that the Petitioner violated RCW 42.52.160 and WAC 292-110-010(5)(b) and (e) with respect to his use of state resources. The Board assessed a penalty of \$9,884.
- 1.3 The Petitioner filed a petition seeking judicial review of the Final Order. Following a hearing on that petition for review, the Court concluded that the appropriate remedy was vacate the Final Order and remand the case to the Executive Ethics Board. Upon remand, the Board was ordered to determine whether: 1) it may issue a new Final Order in compliance with RCW 34.05.461(3) based on the administrative record; or 2) a new hearing is required because it deemed issuing a Final Order based on the administrative record not to be possible. The Court retained jurisdiction in the event that the Board decided to issue a new Final Order without holding a new hearing in the matter. The Court concluded that the Petitioner had not prevailed with respect to his request for a declaration that Board staff did not meet its burden of proving he violated the Ethics in Public Service Act, RCW 42.52, and related agency policies.
- 1.4 Following the remand of his matter by the Court, Respondent Washington State Executive Ethics Board entered a final administrative order on June 14, 2015, against Petitioner titled Revised Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Final Order, EEB No. 2010-018 ("Revised Final Order").

authorizes Respondent Washington State Executive Ethics Board to order a payment of a civil

1	penalty of up to five thousand dollars per violation. The Respondent's assessment of a \$5,000
2	penalty in this matter is neither arbitrary nor capricious.
3	2.5 With respect to the Petitioner's first petition for judicial review, he is entitled to
4	attorney's fees pursuant to RCW 4.84.350(1). By virtue of this Court's remand of the matter to
5	the Board, he is a prevailing party within the meaning of RCW 4.84.350(1). In addition, the
6	Board's action in this matter was not substantially justified. The Petitioner is awarded a total
7	\$15,000 in attorney's fees. The Petitioner is also awarded costs of \$378.50, which includes the
8	\$240 filing fee in relation to his first petition for judicial review, and \$138.50 for the
9	transmittal of the agency record in this case.
10	2.6 With respect to the Petitioner's second petition for judicial review, he is not
11	entitled to attorney's fees. The Board's action in this matter was substantially justified, making
12	attorney's fees unavailable to him pursuant to RCW 4.84.350(1). Although he obtained relief
13	in the form of a reduction in the amount of \$4,884 in the penalty levied by the Board, the
14	Board was substantially justified in levying that amount.
. 15	III. ORDER
16	IT IS ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the final decision as set forth in
17	the Revised Final Order of the Washington State Executive Ethics Board, EEB No. 2010-018,
- 18	made in the above-entitled matter is affirmed with the above stated amendments, and the
19	Petitioner's Second Petition for Judicial Review is hereby dismissed. The Petitioner shall pay
20	
21	///
22	,

1	the Respondent a civil penalty of \$5,000. The Respondent shall pay attorney's fees and costs
2	to the Petitioner of \$15,378.50.
3	DATED this 29 day of January, 2016.
4	
5	
6	Errle D. Price
7	Presented by:
8	ROBERT W. FERGUSON Attorney General
9	
10	CHAD C. STANDIFER, WSBA #29724
11	Assistant Attorney General Attorneys for Respondent
12	Approved as to form; notice of presentation waived:
13	
14	Frederick II Courseli WERA #20480
15	Frederick H. Gautschi, WSBA #20489 Attorney for Petitioner,
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FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER ON JUDICIAL REVIEW

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON 1125 Washington Street SE PO Box 40100 Olympia, WA 98504-0100 (360) 664-9006