

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE  
EXECUTIVE ETHICS BOARD

In the Matter of:

Jason Parker

Respondent.

No. 2023-015

STIPULATED FACTS,  
CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND  
AGREED ORDER

THIS STIPULATION is entered into by Respondent, Jason Parker and Board Staff of the WASHINGTON STATE EXECUTIVE ETHICS BOARD (Board) through KATE REYNOLDS, Executive Director, pursuant to chapter 42.52 RCW, chapter 34.05 RCW, and WAC 292-100-090(1). The following stipulated facts, conclusions of law, and agreed order will be binding upon the parties if fully executed, and if accepted by the Board without modification(s), and will not be binding if rejected by the Board, or if the Respondent does not accept the Board's proposed modification(s), if any, to the stipulation. This stipulation is based on the following:

**A. STIPULATED FACTS**

1. On February 14, 2023, the Executive Ethics Board (Board) received a complaint alleging that Jason Parker, an employee of the Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC) at the Washington State Penitentiary, may have violated the Ethics in Public Service Act. The complaint alleged that Jason Parker violated RCW Chapter 42.52, by using state resources for non-work related activities.

2. According to the complaint, Jason Parker allegedly browses the internet for personal use on state time using state computers.

3. According to DOC, Jason Parker was hired on January 1, 2005 as a Corrections and Custody Officer 2 (CO2). Jason Parker still holds that position.

4. As part of this investigation, Board staff obtained Excel spreadsheets from DOC Cyber Security Operations Supervisor David Harper of Jason Parker's web usage, which was associated with their DOC username. Board staff additionally obtained Jason Parker's DOC user profile. Utilizing Magnet Axiom software, Board staff reviewed Jason Parker's internet activity which showed evidence of personal usage, between the dates of October 4, 2022 and July 15, 2023, including:

- **October 4, 2022:**  
Facebook  
Amazon
- **October 5, 2022:**  
Amazon  
Facebook  
eBay  
YouTube  
Bankofamerica.com  
UPS.com  
Gameplayapi.intel.com (Intel's gaming support hub)  
Dailymail.com  
Fastlane.rubiconproject.com  
Yahoo.com  
Fox News
- **October 11, 2022:**  
Gameplayapi.intel.com  
Dailymail.uk
- **October 12, 2022:**  
Dailymail.uk  
Yahoo  
Rubiconproject.com
- **October 13, 2022:**  
Facebook  
Bankofamerica.com  
YouTube  
eBay  
Amazon

- **October 26, 2022:**  
 Amazon  
 Facebook  
 eBay  
 YouTube  
 Bankofamerica.com  
 UPS.com  
 Fox News  
 CNN.com  
 Dailymail.uk
- **November 10, 2022:**  
 CNN  
 Yahoo  
 Facebook  
 Dailymail.uk  
 Fox News
- **November 12, 2022:**  
 Facebook  
 eBay  
 Amazon  
 YouTube  
 Wikipedia  
 Bankofamerica.com  
 Picclicking.com (website to “search eBay faster”)  
 Cardfetcher.com (sports trading card website)
- **November 23, 2022:**  
 YouTube  
 Facebook  
 Bankofamerica.com  
 Amazon  
 eBay  
 UPS.com
- **December 13, 2022:**  
 Dailymail.uk  
 Amazon  
 Instagram  
 Yahoo
- **December 15, 2022:**  
 Amazon  
 eBay  
 Facebook  
 YouTube
- **December 26, 2022:**  
 Amazon  
 YouTube

eBay  
Bank of America  
Facebook  
Posthotelleavenworth.com  
Iqwebbook.com (hotel booking website)  
Several google searches, personal in nature

- **December 28, 2022:**

Dailymail.uk

- **December 29, 2022:**

Bankofamerica.com  
YouTube  
Amazon

- **January 4, 2023:**

Fairmontmontana.com (Hot springs resort)  
3play.com (Family resort and Fun Park)  
Greatwolf.com  
YouTube  
Roaringsprings.com  
Silverwoodthemepark.com  
eBay  
Amazon  
Facebook  
Bank of America  
Google searches, personal in nature

- **January 11, 2023:**

Dailymail.uk  
YouTube  
FoxNews

- **January 12, 2023:**

Google searches, personal in nature

- **January 25, 2023:**

Dailymail.uk

- **January 31, 2023:**

Nationbuilder.com (software website)  
Facebook

- **February 10, 2023:**

Dailymail.uk

- **February 11, 2023:**

Dailymail.uk  
Rubiconproject.com

- **June 30, 2023:**

ABCnews.com  
ESPN.com  
CNN.com  
NYTimes.com  
USAtoday.com

- **July 15, 2023:**

Google searches, personal in nature

5. Board staff provided Jason Parker with a complete listing of the websites and dates visited, and asked for their response.

6. In Jason Parker's written response to Board staff, they stated, "I used to check news sites quickly here and there to keep up with current events when working so much overtime so I could have an idea of what was going on in the world which by a loose connection is somewhat required when dealing with offenders. It helps build rapport and helps engage in everyday conversation."

7. Jason Parker further stated, "The travel sites like Fairmont and Leavenworth probably came up in conversation and I was just pulling it up to quickly show someone."

8. Lastly, Jason Parker stated, "I work a lot of overtime shifts and tried to adhere to de minimis usage. The department has since blocked the internet usage from custody staff, my job is classified as custody. This effectively has cured the violation as it cannot happen again at this time. I believe my usage was, infrequent, de minimis, immaterial, did not interfere with my duties, and did not cost the department anything extra."

9. Jason Parker disputed some of the web activity as being "personal," such as YouTube and Amazon. However, evidence indicated the browsing was personal in nature and not work related, such as the videos watched and items searched on Amazon (trading cards, such as Pokémon, etc.).



## B. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Ethics in Public Service Act, Chapter 42.52 RCW, prohibits state employees from Use of persons, money or property for private gain. RCW 42.52.160 states:

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

WAC 292-110-010 Use of state resources, states, in part:

.....  
(3) **Permitted personal use of state resources.** This subsection applies to any use of state resources not included in subsection (2) of this section.

(a) A state officer or employee's use of state resources is de minimis only if each of the following conditions are met:

- (i) There is little or no cost to the state;
- (ii) Any use is brief;
- (iii) Any use occurs infrequently;
- (iv) The use does not interfere with the performance of any state officer's or employee's official duties;
- (v) The use does not compromise the security or integrity of state property, information systems, or software;
- (vi) The use is not for the purpose of conducting an outside business, in furtherance of private employment, or to realize a private financial gain; and
- (vii) The use is not for supporting, promoting the interests of, or soliciting for an outside organization or group.

2. The Board is authorized to impose sanctions for violations to the Ethics Act pursuant to RCW 42.52.360. The Board has set forth criteria in WAC 292-120-030 for imposing sanctions and consideration of any mitigating or aggravating factors.

## C. AGGRAVATING AND MITIGATING FACTORS

In determining the appropriateness of the civil penalty, the Board reviewed the criteria in WAC 292-120-030. In the matter at hand, it is an aggravating factor these types of violations

significantly reduce the public respect and confidence in state government employees. In the matter at hand, there are no mitigating factors.

#### **D. STIPULATION AND AGREED ORDER**

1. Pursuant to chapter 42.52 RCW, the Executive Ethics Board has jurisdiction over Jason Parker and over the subject matter of this complaint.
2. Under RCW 34.05.060, the Board can establish procedures for attempting and executing informal settlement of matters in lieu of more formal proceedings under the Administrative Procedures Act, including adjudicative hearings. The Board has established such procedures under WAC 292-100-090.
3. Pursuant to WAC 292-100-090(1), the parties have the authority to resolve this matter under the terms contained herein, subject to Board approval.
4. Jason Parker agrees that if any or all of the alleged violations were proven at a hearing, the Board may impose sanctions, including a civil penalty under RCW 42.52.480(1)(b) of up to \$5,000, or the greater of three times the economic value of anything received or sought in violation of chapter 42.52 RCW, for each violation found. The Board may also order the payment of costs, including reasonable investigative costs, under RCW 42.52.480(1)(c).
5. Jason Parker further agrees that the evidence available to the Board is such that the Board may conclude they violated the Ethics in Public Service Act. Therefore, in the interest of seeking an informal and expeditious resolution of this matter, the parties agree to entry of the stipulated findings of fact, conclusions of law and agreed order.
6. Jason Parker waives the opportunity for a hearing, contingent upon acceptance of this stipulation by the Board, or their acceptance of any modification(s) proposed by the Board, pursuant to the provisions of WAC 292-100-090(2).

7. If the Board accepts this stipulation, the Board agrees to release and discharge from all further ethics proceedings under chapter 42.52 RCW for any allegations arising out of the facts in this matter, subject to payment of the full amount of the civil penalty due and owing, any other costs imposed, and compliance with all other terms and conditions of the stipulation. Jason Parker in turn agrees to release and discharge the Board, its officers, agents and employees from all claims, damages, and causes of action arising out of this complaint and this stipulation.

8. If the Board accepts this stipulation, it does not purport to settle any other claims between Jason Parker and the Washington State Executive Ethics Board, the State of Washington, or other third party, which may be filed in the future. No other claims of alleged violations are pending against Jason Parker at this time.

9. If the Board accepts this stipulation, it is enforceable under RCW 34.05.578 and any other applicable statutes or rules.

10. If the Board rejects this stipulation, or if Jason Parker does not accept the Board's proposed modification(s), if any, this matter will be scheduled for an administrative hearing before the Board. If an administrative hearing is scheduled before the Board, waives any objection to participation by any Board member at the hearing to whom this stipulation was presented for approval under WAC 292-100-090(2). Further, Jason Parker understands and agrees that this stipulation as well as information obtained during any settlement discussions between the parties shall not be admitted into evidence during the administrative hearing, unless otherwise agreed by the parties.

11. Jason Parker agrees to pay a civil penalty in the amount of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) associated with violations of RCW 42.52. The Board agrees to suspend one thousand dollars (\$1,000) on the condition that Jason Parker complies with all terms and conditions of this



Stipulation and Order and commits no further violations of RCW 42.52 for a period of two years from the date this agreement is executed.

12. The civil penalty in the amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) is payable in full to the Washington State Executive Ethics Board within forty-five (45) days after this stipulation is signed and accepted by the Board, or as otherwise agreed to by the parties.

### I. CERTIFICATION

I, Jason Parker, hereby certify that I have read this stipulation in its entirety, that my counsel of record, if any, has fully explained the legal significance and consequence of it. I further certify that I fully understand and agree to all of it, and that it may be presented to the Board without my appearance. I knowingly and voluntarily waive my right to a hearing in this matter and if the Board accepts the stipulation, I understand that I will receive a signed copy.

Jason Parker  
Jason Parker  
Respondent

4/28/25  
Date

Presented by:

K. Reynolds  
KATE REYNOLDS  
Executive Director

5/8/2025  
Date



## II. ORDER

Having reviewed the proposed stipulation, WE, THE STATE OF WASHINGTON EXECUTIVE ETHICS BOARD, pursuant to WAC 292-100-090, HEREBY ORDER that the Stipulation is

✓ ACCEPTED in its entirety;

REJECTED in its entirety;

MODIFIED. This stipulation will become the order of the Board if the Respondent approves\* the following modification(s):

DATED this 9<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025.

Kelli Hooke  
Kelli Hooke, Chair

Megan Abel  
Megan Abel, Vice Chair

Cam Comfort  
Cam Comfort, Member

David Hankins  
David Hankins, Member

Mark Rapozo  
Mark Rapozo, Member

\* I, Jason Parker, accept/do not accept (circle one) the proposed modification(s).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Parker, Respondent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date