

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

TO: Members
Commission on Ethics

FROM: Virlindia Doss *MD*
Executive Director

DATE: April 4, 2017

ADVISORY OPINIONS

The Commission on Ethics issued one advisory opinion in March. It has rendered a total of 2608 opinions since its inception in 1974.

FINANCES

As of this writing, the Commission's budget for FY 16-17 still has not been approved by the Speaker and the Senate President, and I do not expect it will be. We are operating on a "continuation" budget, meaning that although we can pay our normal expenses (such as postage, rent, and the like) we cannot make expenditures for any special projects or make any personnel moves without specific authorization from the House and Senate Presiding Officers. From what Kerrie can ascertain, it appears that as of Feb 28, the Commission has spent \$1,564,839.07 (63.34%) of its continuation budget, with 66.67% of the fiscal year gone.

PUBLIC SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS / PUBLICATIONS / HONORS

Kerrie will speak April 4 in Tallahassee to County Commissioners at a training held by the Florida Association of Counties. Chris is scheduled to present a telephone conference training to Judges of Compensation Claims on April 14.

We often receive compliments on our staff, but one very kind person took the time to send me a lovely note about the service she received. Her handwriting is a little hard to read, so a typed version is attached.

PENDING ORDERS IMPOSING PENALTIES

GOVERNOR

Comp. No. 15-178, In re Michael S. Murphy (Final Order 08/03/16).

Comp. No. 15-126, In re Barbara Sue Revels (Final Order 02/01/17).

Comp. No. 16-141, In re Katherine Van Zant (Final Order 02/01/17).

Comp. No. 15-183, In re Todd Abbott (Final Order 03/15/17).

Comp. No. 15-088, In re Stephan Carter (Final Order 03/15/17).

SENATE

Comp. Nos. 10-164, 168, 169, and 172, cons., In re Jim Norman (Final Order 04/04/12).

HOUSE

Comp. No. 11-045, In re Adam Hasner (Final Order 07/14/11).

Comp. Nos. 10-157 and 10-182, cons., In re David Rivera (Final Order 04/17/15).

Comp. Nos. 16-142 and 16-146, cons., In re Charles Van Zant (Final Order 02/01/17).

**PENDING ACTION ON STATUTORILLY-GENERATED LOBBYING FIRM AUDIT
MATTERS (GOVERNOR AND CABINET)**

Comp. No. 16-017, In re Dean Mead (Probable Cause 01/27/17).

Comp. No. 16-018, In re Buigas and Associates (Probable Cause 01/27/17).

Comp. No. 16-019, In re DDarling Consulting (Probable Cause 01/27/17).

March 12, 2017

Dear Ms. Doss,

Thank you for hiring terrific staff and for your office's great customer service!

I recently retired and had to fill out my 2016 Form 1 and Form 1F for 2017. When I dropped them off, I learned that I had filled out all of my Form 1s (since 2000) incorrectly. So, I filled out a Form 1x for each year. In doing all of this, I visited your office three times.

Your staff could not have been more professional, more helpful, or nicer. Those who helped me were Kim Holmes, Jason Arthmann, Diane Wilson, and the very special Frances Craft (who had to see me three times!).

Financial Disclosure was a bit intimidating to me-mostly because I did not want to make a mistake (and then I find out I made a mistake 17 times!). So helpfulness and kindness really meant a lot.

I am sure you are told when people are not happy with your staff. I wanted you to know when someone is.

Thank you again, Ms. Doss.

Most sincerely,