

BEFORE THE
STATE OF FLORIDA
COMMISSION ON ETHICS

In re CHRISTOPHER PETTIT,)
)
)
)
)
Appellant.)
_____)

Financial Disclosure Appeal No. FD 19-088

Final Order No.

FINAL ORDER RESCINDING FINE

This matter came before the Commission on Ethics, on its own motion, meeting in public session on December 1, 2023, in the matter of Appellant, pursuant to Section 112.3145(8)(f), Florida Statutes, which assesses an automatic fine of \$25 per day on a person who fails to timely file a required CE Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests. The Commission may waive the fine in whole or in part for good cause shown, based on "unusual circumstances" surrounding the failure to file by the designated date. There are no matters in dispute. Appellant specifically requested a hearing before the Commission.

Findings of Fact

1. According to information provided to the Commission, Appellant served on the Board for the Lake Worth Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA), a position requiring the filing of a CE Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests, for the year 2018. In 2019, the designated due date for submitting a 2018 CE Form 1 annual filing was July 1, 2019, with a grace period ending on September 3, 2019.

2. No later than June 1, 2019, the Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections sent Appellant a 2018 CE Form 1.

3. No later than July 31, 2019, the Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections sent Appellant a Notice of Delinquency by certified mail. This Notice was sent to Appellant at 531 S

Federal Highway, Lake Worth. Records from the United States Postal Service indicate the certified mailing was returned to the Supervisor of Elections, marked "Insufficient Address" and "Unable to Forward."

4. On August 19, 2019, the Commission mailed Appellant a postcard intended to remind him of his obligation to file a 2018 CE Form 1. The Commission mailed the postcard to the 531 S Federal Highway address.

5. On September 6, 2019, the Commission sent Appellant a courtesy notice that fines were beginning to accrue, as his 2018 CE Form 1 had not been received. The notice was sent to the 531 S Federal Highway address, and was returned to the Commission, marked "Insufficient address."

6. The Commission sent Appellant a Notice of Assessment of his Automatic Fine on July 19, 2021. The Notice was sent to Appellant at the 531 S Federal Highway address. It indicated the total of Appellant's accrued automatic fine, and included a notice of the right to appeal the fine, stating that the appeal had to be received by the Commission by August 18, 2021, to be considered timely. Records from the United States Postal Service indicate the Notice was returned to the Commission as the address was "insufficient."

7. The total amount of the automatic fine levied against Appellant was \$1,500.

8. On September 20, 2021, following the expiration of the appeal period, a second and final Notice of Assessment of Automatic Fine was sent to Appellant. The Notice was again sent to the 531 S Federal Highway address.

9. Subsequently, on December 9, 2021, the Commission entered a default final order imposing the \$1,500 fine.

10. Appellant submitted his 2018 CE Form 1 to the Commission on February 21, 2022. The Form specifically stated Appellant had a change of mailing address, and indicated Appellant's new address as 3054 Shamrock St. N, Tallahassee, Florida.

11. On that same date, February 21, 2022, Appellant filed his appeal of the automatic fine with the Commission. In his appeal, Appellant claimed he had not received timely notice of his obligation to file the 2018 CE Form 1, as he moved away from his Lake Worth address—where all notices were sent—in March/April of 2019, and relocated to Tallahassee. Appellant indicated he also left the CRA Board at the same time.

Conclusions of Law

12. The Commission has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this proceeding pursuant to Section 112.3145, Florida Statutes.

13. Financial disclosure is required of public officials and employees because it enables the public to evaluate potential conflicts of interest, deters corruption, and increases public confidence in government.

14. Section 112.3145(8)(f), Florida Statutes, states:

Any reporting person may appeal or dispute a fine, based upon unusual circumstances surrounding the failure to file on the designated due date, and may request and is entitled to a hearing before the commission, which may waive the fine in whole or in part for good cause shown. Any such request must be in writing and received by the commission within 30 days after the notice of payment due is transmitted. In such a case, the reporting person must, within the 30-day period, notify the person designated to review the timeliness of reports in writing of his or her intention to bring the matter before the commission. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "unusual circumstances" does not include the failure to monitor an e-mail account or failure to receive notice if the person has not notified the commission of a change in his or her e-mail address.

15. Appellant was notified of his appellate rights on July 19, 2021, and informed that his appeal needed to be received by the Commission on or before August 18, 2021, in accordance with the 30-day appeal period allowed by Section 112.3145(8)(f)2., Florida Statutes. Appellant did not timely file an appeal. Appellant then brought his appeal on February 21, 2022, which was outside the 30-day window.

16. "An elementary and fundamental requirement of due process in any proceeding which is to be accorded finality is notice reasonably calculated, under all the circumstances, to apprise interested parties of the pendency of the action and to afford them an opportunity to present their objections." Mullane v. Cen. Hanover Bank, 339 U.S. 306, 314, 70 S.Ct. 652, 94 L.Ed. 865 (1950).

17. Appellant was provided notice of his appellate rights and of his opportunity to be heard, and did not timely file an appeal. However, it appears that Appellant did not timely receive the Notice of Appellate Rights sent on July 19, 2021. The certified notice was returned to the Commission as having been sent to an "insufficient" address, and Appellant has indicated he moved from that address in March/April of 2019. As such, there is no evidence, in this particular case, that Appellant personally received notice of his appellate rights before the expiration of the 30-day appeal period. For this reason, his appeal is accepted as timely filed.

18. Turning to the merits of Appellant's appeal, he claims he did not receive timely notice of his filing obligation as he moved in March/April of 2019—prior to any notices being sent—and the notices were mailed to his old address. Indeed, records indicate that the certified mailings, as well as at least one other notice, were all returned to either the Supervisor of Elections or the Commission. Appellant has also updated the Commission with a new mailing address.

Considering Appellant's claim of lack of notice, and that there is no evidence showing otherwise, there are "unusual circumstance" here that justify waiving the \$1,500 fine.

Order

Based on the foregoing facts and conclusions of law, the Commission hereby rescinds the Default Final Order entered on December 9, 2021, and waives the assessed fine of \$1,500.

ORDERED by the State of Florida Commission on Ethics meeting in public session on Friday, December 1, 2023.

Date Rendered

Ashley Lukis
Chair, Florida Commission on Ethics

THIS ORDER CONSTITUTES FINAL AGENCY ACTION. ANY PARTY WHO IS ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THIS ORDER HAS THE RIGHT TO SEEK JUDICIAL REVIEW UNDER SECTION 120.68, AND SECTION 112.3241, FLORIDA STATUTES, BY FILING A NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL PURSUANT TO RULE 9.110 FLORIDA RULES OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE, WITH THE CLERK OF THE COMMISSION ON ETHICS, AT EITHER 325 JOHN KNOX ROAD, BUILDING E, SUITE 200, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32303 OR P.O. DRAWER 15709, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32317-5709; AND BY FILING A COPY OF THE NOTICE OF APPEAL ATTACHED TO WHICH IS A CONFORMED COPY OF THE ORDER DESIGNATED IN THE NOTICE OF APPEAL ACCOMPANIED BY THE APPLICABLE FILING FEES WITH THE APPROPRIATE DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL. THE NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL MUST BE FILED WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DATE THIS ORDER IS RENDERED.

AL: gps

Mr. Christopher Pettit
3054 Shamrock St N
Tallahassee, FL 32309-2735



STATE OF FLORIDA
COMMISSION ON ETHICS

325 John Knox Road
Building E, Suite 200
Tallahassee, FL 32303
Telephone: (850) 488-7864
Fax: (850) 488-3077
Email: disclosure@leg.state.fl.us

FLORIDA
COMMISSION ON ETHICS

FEB 21 2022

RECEIVED

APPEAL OF AUTOMATIC FINE FOR FORM YEAR 2018

DIRECTIONS: The information you provide in this form is critical for processing your appeal in a timely manner.

In Part A, please provide current contact information. If your contact information changes while your appeal is being processed, please notify us.

In Part B, please check any boxes that specify the general reason(s) for your appeal.

In Part C, please explain in detail the reason(s) for your appeal. In addition to your written explanation in Part C, you may attach any documents that support your appeal.

IMPORTANT: TO PRESERVE YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL, THIS FORM OR OTHER WRITTEN APPEAL (AND ANY ATTACHMENTS) MUST BE FILED WITH (RECEIVED BY) THE COMMISSION ON ETHICS WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS OF THE DATE THE NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT OF AUTOMATIC FINE WAS MAILED TO YOU.

PLEASE SEND YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

Mailing Address: Commission on Ethics
P.O. Drawer 15709
Tallahassee, FL 32317-5709

Physical Address: Commission on Ethics
325 John Knox Road
Building E, Suite 200
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Fax: (850) 488-3077

Email: disclosure@leg.state.fl.us

PART A: YOUR INFORMATION

Name: Christopher Pettit

Address: 3054 Shamrock St N City: Tallahassee State: FL Zip: 32309

Daytime Tel.: 9415492088 Cell: SAME

Email: chrishpettit@gmail.com Filer ID# (if known):

Public Employer: Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Public Position: Director, Office of Agricultural Water Policy

CONTINUED ON REVERSE SIDE

PART B: GENERAL REASON(S) FOR YOUR APPEAL

Please choose any/all reasons that apply to your appeal.

I hereby appeal the Notice of Assessment of Automatic Fine on the following basis:

- a. **Sickness or injury** (Explain in Part C and attach a statement from attending physician, including dates and nature of illness or injury)
- b. **Lack of notification – Failure to receive notice** (Explain in Part C and provide documentation that supports your assertion that you never received certified mail delinquency notice: for example, incorrect address; misdelivered mail; change in employment; extended absence from home, etc.)
- c. **Claim of timely filing of financial disclosure** (Explain in Part C and provide copy of certified mail receipt and/or copy of completed form which had been previously filed, along with a sworn notarized statement that you filed prior to the deadline)
- d. **Left public position prior to December 31, 2018** (Explain in Part C and provide confirmation from agency that your office-holding/employment ended before 12/31/2018)
- e. **Other unusual circumstance** (Explain in Part C and provide documentation explaining uncommon, rare, or sudden occurrence that prevented timely filing prior to deadline)
- f. **Not required to file** (Explain in Part C and provide documentation that supports reason for not required to file)

PART C: DETAILED EXPLANATION OF YOUR APPEAL

Please provide a detailed explanation of your appeal, including why each option you selected in Part B is applicable to you. You may use the space provided and/or attach additional pages.

In March/April of 2019, I left my position working for Palm Beach County government to take my current position as Director of the FDACS Office of Agricultural Water Policy.

I formally moved to Tallahassee in early 2019, vacating the address at which I resided in Lake Worth. Also at that time, I left my role on the CRA pending appointment of my replacement.

My 2018 form was sent to the address in Lake Worth that I vacated in early 2019 and subsequent correspondence has also been sent to that address, despite notification being provided by the

Executive Director of the CRA that I was no longer active on the CRA and had resigned upon appointment of my replacement and despite the Commission receiving my submitted forms in my new

position and noting my new address in Tallahassee. Even after recent discussions with staff, correspondence continued to be transmitted to the old address.

OPTIONAL REQUEST FOR HEARING

In addition to this written appeal, I specifically request to appear before the Commission in a hearing pursuant to Section 112.3144(8)(f)3 or Section 112.3145(8)(g)3, Florida Statutes. Commission meetings occur in Tallahassee.

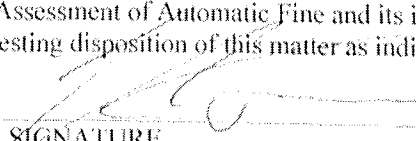
SIGNATURE

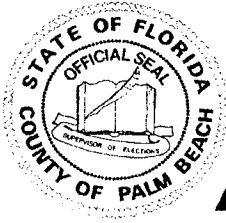
I have received and read the Notice of Assessment of Automatic Fine and its instructions on How to Appeal and I understand my options. I am requesting disposition of this matter as indicated.

DATE

2/15/20

SIGNATURE





Wendy Sartory Link
Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections

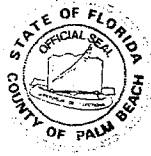
Palm Beach County
Florida Commission on Ethics
Financial Disclosure Notification System
2019 Delinquency Certification
Reported 11/07/2019

**FLORIDA
COMMISSION ON ETHICS**
NOV 15 2019
RECEIVED

I Wendy Sartory Link, the Supervisor of Elections of Palm Beach County, hereby certify that each person whose PID number, name, agency, and position appears above or on the attached list:

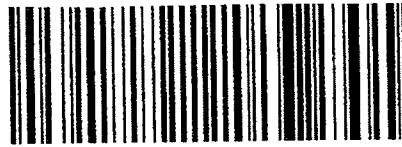
1. was sent a notice of the July 1, 2019 financial disclosure deadline and a blank Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests, not later than June 1, 2019;
2. was determined to be delinquent in filing a Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests, by July 1, 2019;
3. was sent a delinquency notice by certified mail not later than July 31, 2019 advising him or her of the grace period in effect until September 3, 2019; and of the penalties that could be imposed as provided in Section 112.3145(7)(c), Florida Statutes; and
4. did not file a Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests, until the date shown or, had not filed a Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests by November 2, 2019; and further
5. that the date of filing shown is based upon the earliest of the following:
 - a. when the Form 1 was actually received by my office;
 - b. when the Form 1 was postmarked;
 - c. when the certificate of mailing (if any) was dated; or
 - d. when the receipt (if any) from an established courier company was dated.

Signed *Wendy Sartory Link*
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS



WENDY SARTORY LINK
 PALM BEACH COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
 Post Office Box 22309
 West Palm Beach, FL 33416

CERTIFIED MAIL™



7012 1010 0001 1872 9136

2019 AUG 15 AM 11:48
 PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL.
 SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Emailed 8/7

CITY: 268893 COUNTY: _____
 NAM Christopher Pettit
 Community Redevelopment Board
 NAM 531 S Federal Hwy
 Lake Worth FL 33460

NEXT PAGE 001 OF 1 0000/00/10

RETURN TO SENDER
 INSUFFICIENT ADDRESS
 UNABLE TO FORWARD

33416250000 *2287-08460-31-48
 33416250000 CO1

Certified Mail service provides the following benefits:

- A receipt (this portion of the Certified Mail label).
 - A unique identifier for your mailpiece.
 - Electronic verification of delivery or attempted delivery.
 - A record of delivery (including the recipient's signature) that is retained by the Postal Service™ for a specified period.
- for an electronic return receipt, see a retail associate for assistance. To receive a duplicate return receipt for no additional fee, present this USPS®-postmarked Certified Mail receipt to the retail associate.
- Restricted delivery service, which provides delivery to the addressee specified by name, or to the addressee's authorized agent.

Important:

- You may First-Class or Priority Certified Internet Insurance with Certain Insurances
- For an endorsement on the mailpiece, you may request the following services:
 - Return receipt service, which provides a record of delivery (including the recipient's signature). You can request a hardcopy return receipt or an electronic version. For a hardcopy return receipt, complete PS Form 3811, Domestic Return Receipt; attach PS Form 3811 to your mailpiece;

which of age nified agent
 ear a on r

Certified Mail item at a Post Office for postmarking. If you don't need a postmark on this Certified Mail receipt, detach the barcoded portion of this label, affix it to the mailpiece, apply appropriate postage, and deposit the mailpiece.

IMPORTANT: Save this receipt for your records.

U.S. Postal Service™
CERTIFIED MAIL™ RECEIPT
 (Domestic Mail Only; No Insurance Coverage Provided)

For delivery information visit our website at www.usps.com

OFFICIAL USE

Postage	\$	Postmark Here
Certified Fee		
Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required)		
Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required)		
Total		268893

Sent to Christopher Pettit
 Street or PO Community Redevelopment Board
 City, State Lake Worth FL 33460

PS Form 3800, August 2006 See Reverse for Instructions

9136 2101 0001 1872 1012

**BEFORE THE
STATE OF FLORIDA
COMMISSION ON ETHICS**

In re **Christopher Pettit**
Community Redevelopment Board
Community Redevelopment Agency
Lake Worth

PID#: 268893

NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT OF AUTOMATIC FINE

The Commission on Ethics hereby gives notice of an assessment of a fine against you pursuant to Section 112.3145(8)(g), Florida Statutes, due to your failure to timely file your 2018 CE Form 1, Statement Of Financial Interests. Under the law, your 2018 CE Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests, was due by July 1, 2019. The law provided for a penalty-free grace period extending the due date to September 3, 2019. After that date, you accrued fines of \$25.00 per day for each day your financial disclosure was late, up to the maximum fine of \$1,500.00 (60 days late), pursuant to Section 112.3145(8)(g), Florida Statutes.

Inasmuch as your 2018 CE Form 1 has not been filed with the Supervisor of Elections for Palm Beach County within the 60 days of the grace period date (September 3, 2019), you have accrued the maximum fine amount of \$1,500.00. This fine must be paid to the Commission on Ethics within 30 days of the date of this notice unless you appeal the fine to the Commission. The Commission has the authority to consider the appeal and waive the fine in whole or in part if your failure to file on time was due to "unusual circumstances" surrounding the failure to file. Unless the fine is successfully appealed, the Commission is required to investigate public officers and employees who receive the maximum \$1,500 fine, to determine whether their failure to file was willful. The penalty for willfully failing to file disclosure is removal from public office or employment.

HOW TO APPEAL

1. Read these instructions carefully before submitting your appeal.
2. **LEGAL AUTHORITY:** Appeals are governed by Section 112.3145(8)(g)3., Florida Statutes, and Commission Rule 34-8.215, Florida Administrative Code.
3. **FORMAT:** Your appeal must be in writing and mailed to Florida Commission on Ethics, P. O. Drawer 15709, Tallahassee, FL 32317-5709, or delivered to Florida Commission on Ethics, 325 John Knox Road, Building E, Suite 200, Tallahassee, FL 32303. The appeal may take the form of a letter or you may use the appeal form included in this mailing. The appeal form also is available at the Commission's website: www.ethics.state.fl.us. Click on "Financial Disclosure" and then the link to the sample appeal form.
4. **DUE DATE:** Your appeal must be received by the Commission on Ethics on or before **August 18, 2021**. **NOTE:** Failure to timely file an appeal will constitute a waiver of your right to appeal and will result in the entry of a default order against you.
5. **UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES:** An appeal must demonstrate that you submitted your CE Form 1 after the extended due date because of "unusual circumstances." "Unusual circumstances" is defined in Commission Rule 34-8.215(4), Florida Administrative Code, as "uncommon, rare, or sudden events over which the reporting individual had no control and which directly result in the failure to act in accordance with the filing requirements." Therefore, circumstances that allowed for time to take steps necessary to file on time do not constitute "unusual circumstances" that will allow the Commission to waive the fine. You have the burden to establish "unusual circumstances." Your appeal must specifically state the circumstances that led to your not filing by September 3, 2019, and must include any documentation or evidence supporting your appeal, such as:
 - a. **SICKNESS/INJURY:** a statement from attending physician, including dates and nature of the illness or injury;
 - b. **LACK OF NOTICE (WRONG ADDRESS):** documentation that you did not reside at the address to which notice was sent;

- c. **LACK OF NOTICE (ABSENCE FROM HOME):** documentation establishing the period of time of your absence covering the notification period;
 - d. **CLAIM OF TIMELY FILING OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE:** (1) an affidavit from you attesting under oath or affirmation that you filed your financial disclosure and your recollection of when and how you filed and (2) a copy of a certified mail receipt and/or a copy of the completed form which was filed. If you have witnesses to your filing, we also will need an affidavit from each witness. **NOTE:** A claim of having filed the CE Form 1F for the current year does not satisfy the CE Form 1 filing requirement or excuse a late filing;
 - e. **LEFT PUBLIC POSITION BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2018:** confirmation of your last date of office or employment by your former agency, showing the last date to be before December 31, 2018; or
 - f. **UNCLAIMED CERTIFIED MAIL:** if delinquency notice was addressed correctly but not received, you must explain why.
6. **YOUR RIGHT TO A HEARING:** You have the right to have your appeal heard by the Commission and to appear before the Commission at the hearing, but, to exercise this right, you must specifically request a hearing in your appeal. If you do not request a hearing, you will waive your right to a hearing, the Commission will determine the outcome of your appeal based upon the written record (including the documentation you provide and any documentation in your case file), and you will receive no further notice until after the Commission decides your appeal.

FAILURE TO PAY FINE OR FILE APPEAL WITHIN 30 DAYS

If you do not timely file an appeal or pay the assessed fine within 30 days of this Notice, a default order will be entered against you and the Commission will take the steps provided by law to collect the fine, including:

- Referral to the CFO of the Department of Financial Services, if you are a salaried state officer or employee, for withholding of a portion of your salary until the fine is satisfied; or
- Referral to your agency's governing body for withholding of a portion of your salary until the fine is satisfied;
- Referral to a collection agency, which can seek garnishment of your wages; and/or
- An additional civil penalty, not limited by this automatic fine, may be imposed if your disclosure statement is filed more than 60 days late and a complaint is filed against you pursuant to Section 112.324, Florida Statutes.

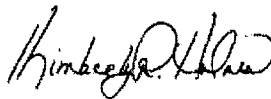
Please contact our office if you have any questions about this matter.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that a copy of the foregoing Notice of Assessment of Automatic Fine was furnished to:

**Christopher Pettit
531 S Federal Hwy
Lake Worth, FL 33460 -4680**

by Certified Mail on this Monday, July 19, 2021.



KIMBERLY R. HOLMES
Program Administrator

Florida Commission on Ethics P. O. Drawer 15709 Tallahassee, FL 32317-5709	-or-	Florida Commission on Ethics 325 John Knox Road, Building E, Ste. 200 Tallahassee, FL 32303
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Tel.: (850) 488-7864
Fax: (850) 488-3077
Email: disclosure@leg.state.fl.us

Mail Piece Details**Print this page****Recipient Address**

CHRISTOPHER PETTIT
531 S FEDERAL HWY
LAKE WORTH, FL 33460-4680

Record / Case Number:
268893

Return Address

STATE OF FLORIDA
COMMISSION ON ETHICS
PO DRAWER 15709
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32317-5709

Entry Point ZIP:
32317

Mail Piece Information

Tracking Number: 92148901066154000164711459

Date Created: 07/19/2021 01:57:55 PM

Mail Class: USPS First Class Mail

Special Services: Certified Mail
Return Receipt Electronic

Memo: --

Created By: Kimberly Holmes - Commission on Ethics

Signature Information

Signed For By: CHRISTOPHER PETTIT
Signature Status: Available (Click Here)

*Having issues viewing the signature file?
Make sure you are using the latest version of Adobe Acrobat Reader*

Tracking Information

Mailed, July 19, 2021, 01:57:55 PM, TALLAHASSEE,FL 32317
Pre-Shipment Info Sent To Usps, Usps Awaiting Item, July 19, 2021, 12:00:00 AM
Pre-Shipment Info Sent Usps Awaits Item, July 19, 2021, 01:17:00 PM, TALLAHASSEE,FL 32317
Arrived At Usps Regional Destination Facility, July 21, 2021, 06:46:00 AM
Processed Through Usps Facility, July 21, 2021, 06:46:00 AM, WEST PALM BEACH FL DISTRIBUTION 33416
Departed Usps Regional Destination Facility, July 21, 2021, 03:55:00 PM
Processed Through Usps Facility, July 21, 2021, 03:55:00 PM, WEST PALM BEACH FL DISTRIBUTION 33416
Departed Usps Regional Destination Facility, July 21, 2021, 08:58:00 PM
Processed Through Usps Facility, July 21, 2021, 08:58:00 PM, WEST PALM BEACH FL DISTRIBUTION 33416
Insufficient Address, July 22, 2021, 11:28:00 AM, LAKE WORTH BEACH,FL 33460
Arrived At Usps Regional Destination Facility, July 25, 2021, 01:46:00 PM
Processed Through Usps Facility, July 25, 2021, 01:46:00 PM, MIAMI FL DISTRIBUTION CENTER 33152
In Transit To Next Facility, July 26, 2021, 12:00:00 AM
In Transit To Next Facility, July 27, 2021, 12:00:00 AM
Arrived At Usps Regional Origin Facility, July 28, 2021, 08:47:00 AM
Processed Through Usps Facility, July 28, 2021, 08:47:00 AM, TALLAHASSEE FL DISTRIBUTION CEN 32301
Processed Through Usps Facility, July 28, 2021, 10:27:00 PM, TALLAHASSEE FL DISTRIBUTION CEN 32301
Departed Usps Regional Facility, July 28, 2021, 11:11:00 PM
Depart Usps Facility, July 28, 2021, 11:11:00 PM, TALLAHASSEE FL DISTRIBUTION CEN 32301
In Transit To Next Facility, July 29, 2021, 12:00:00 AM
In Transit To Next Facility, July 30, 2021, 12:00:00 AM
In Transit To Next Facility, July 31, 2021, 12:00:00 AM
In Transit To Next Facility, August 01, 2021, 12:00:00 AM
Delivered To Original Sender, August 04, 2021, 11:16:00 AM, TALLAHASSEE,FL 32317

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August 4, 2021

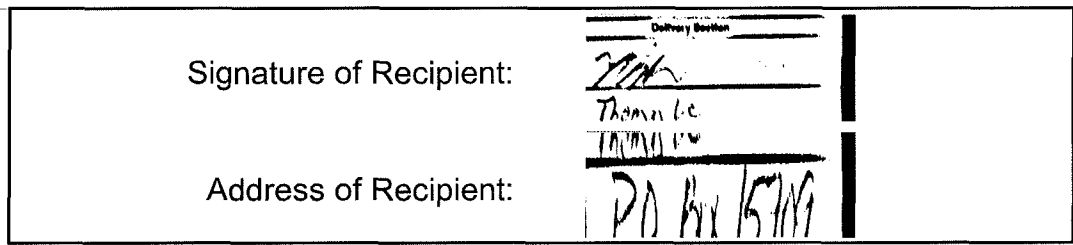
Dear MAIL MAIL:

The following is in response to your request for proof of delivery on your item with the tracking number:
9214 8901 0661 5400 0164 7114 59.

Item Details

Status:	Delivered, To Original Sender
Status Date / Time:	August 4, 2021, 11:16 am
Location:	TALLAHASSEE, FL 32317
Postal Product:	First-Class Mail®
Extra Services:	Certified Mail™ Return Receipt Electronic
Recipient Name:	CHRISTOPHER PETTIT

Recipient Signature



Note: Scanned image may reflect a different destination address due to Intended Recipient's delivery instructions on file.

Thank you for selecting the United States Postal Service® for your mailing needs. If you require additional assistance, please contact your local Post Office™ or a Postal representative at 1-800-222-1811.

Sincerely,
United States Postal Service®
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, D.C. 20260-0004

The customer reference information shown below is not validated or endorsed by the United States Postal Service. It is solely for customer use.

Reference ID: 92148901066154000164711459
268893
CHRISTOPHER PETTIT
531 S Federal Hwy
Lake Worth, FL 33460-4680

JoAnne Leznoff
Chair
John Grant
Vice Chair
Michelle Anchors
Antonio Carvajal
Travis Cummings
Don Gaetz
Glenton "Glen" Gilzean, Jr.
William "Willie" N. Meggs
Jim Waldman



State of Florida
COMMISSION ON ETHICS
P.O. Drawer 15709
Tallahassee, Florida 32317-5709

325 John Knox Road
Building E, Suite 200
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

Kerrie J. Stillman
Executive Director

Caroline M. Klancke
Deputy Executive Director/
General Counsel

(850) 488-7864 Phone
(850) 488-3077 (FAX)
www.ethics.state.fl.us

"A Public Office is a Public Trust"

**FINAL NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT OF AUTOMATIC FINE FOR FAILURE TO
TIMELY FILE FORM 1, STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL INTERESTS**

TO: Christopher Pettit 268893
Lake Worth
Community Redevelopment Agency
FROM: Kimberly R. Holmes, Program Administrator
DATE: September 20, 2021

On July 19, 2021, we notified you that your Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests, for the year 2018 was not filed and that you therefore have been assessed the maximum fine, for a total fine of \$1500. At that time, you were advised that you had 30 days from the date that letter was transmitted in which to either pay the fine or to appeal the fine to the Commission on Ethics.

It has been more than 30 days since we sent you that letter, and you have neither paid the fine nor filed an appeal. By not responding, you have waived your right to appeal the assessed fine.

If you do not pay the assessed fine by October 21, 2021 (30 days from the date of this letter) or contact our office to make arrangements for payment of the fine, the Commission on Ethics will enter an order setting your fine at \$1500 and will utilize all methods allowed by law to collect this fine including referral to a collection agency which can seek to garnish your wages.

Certificate of Mailing:

I certify that a copy of the foregoing Final Notice of Assessment of Automatic Fine was furnished to:

Christopher Pettit 268893
531 S Federal Hwy
Lake Worth FL 33460 -4680

By United States Mail on this Monday, September 20, 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kimberly R. Holmes".

Kimberly R. Holmes
Program Administrator

JoAnne Leznoff
Chair
John Grant
Vice Chair
Michelle Anchors
Antonio Carvajal
Travis Cummings
Don Gaetz
Glenton "Glen" Gilzean, Jr.
William "Willie" N. Meggs
Jim Waldman



State of Florida
COMMISSION ON ETHICS
P.O. Drawer 15709
Tallahassee, Florida 32317-5709

325 John Knox Road
Building E, Suite 200
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

"A Public Office is a Public Trust"

Kerrie J. Stillman
Executive Director

Caroline M. Klancke
*Deputy Executive Director/
General Counsel*

(850) 488-7864 Phone
(850) 488-3077 (FAX)
www.ethics.state.fl.us

**NOTIFICATION OF ISSUANCE OF
DEFAULT FINAL ORDER**

TO: Christopher Pettit 268893
Community Redevelopment Board
Lake Worth
Community Redevelopment Agency
FROM: Kimberly R. Holmes, Program Administrator
DATE: December 9, 2021

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kimberly R. Holmes", is written over the printed name of the Program Administrator.

Enclosed is an Order issued by the Commission on Ethics at its meeting on December 3, 2021.

If you do not pay the assessed fine by January 10, 2022 (30 days from the date of this letter) or contact our office to make arrangements to pay the fine in installments, the Commission will refer your fine to the Florida Department of Financial Services (DFS) and their contract collection agency—Transworld Systems Inc.—will undertake collecting the fine.

This referral will increase the amount you owe by adding a service fee of 13% of the fine to the balance due, and may affect your credit rating.

If you pay your fine now, you can do so online by credit card. See the enclosed flyer or call us for more information. **Once your fine has been submitted to Collections you will no longer be able to take advantage of our online payment system.**

Failure to pay, or make arrangements to pay, the fine by the above date will also result in a copy of the enclosed Order being provided to your agency head, appointing authority, and presiding officer, as well as to the Florida Bar, if you are an attorney.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Enclosures

**BEFORE THE
STATE OF FLORIDA
COMMISSION ON ETHICS**

In re Christopher Pettit,

)
)
)
)

2018 CE Form 1

DEFAULT FINAL ORDER

This matter comes before the Commission on Ethics for the failure of Christopher Pettit to pay the assessed fine. Pursuant to Section 112.3145(8)(g), Florida Statutes, the Florida Commission on Ethics is charged with assessing automatic fines of \$25 per day up to a maximum of \$1500 for persons who are required to file financial disclosure but who either file late, or not at all.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Christopher Pettit, Lake Worth, Community Redevelopment Agency, was on the list of persons required to file a Statement of Financial Interests for the year 2018.

2. Pursuant to Section 112.3145(8)(g), Florida Statutes, Christopher Pettit was mailed a copy of the 2018 CE Form 1 no later than June 1, 2019, and was mailed a delinquency notice by certified mail no later than July 31, 2019. Additional attempts to contact Christopher Pettit were also made by Commission staff.

3. However, Christopher Pettit did not file a 2018 CE Form 1 by the designated due date. Christopher Pettit was sent a notice of payment due advising of the statutory rights to appeal or dispute the automatic fine in a hearing before the Commission if such appeal was received within 30 days of the notice of payment due. No timely appeal was received from Christopher Pettit.

4. More than 60 days have elapsed since the notice of payment due was transmitted without Christopher Pettit paying the fine.

5. On its own motion, the Commission voted to affirm that a fine in the amount of \$1500 has accrued in this matter.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

6. The Commission has jurisdiction over the parties to and subject matter of this case, pursuant to Section 112.3145, Florida Statutes.

7. Christopher Pettit's failure to timely appeal the assessed fine constitutes a waiver of the entitlement to an appeal, pursuant to Rule 34-8.215(2), Florida Administrative Code.

ORDER


8. Pursuant to Section 112.3145(8) and 112.31455, Florida Statutes, the Commission on Ethics shall attempt to determine whether Christopher Pettit is currently a public officer or public employee receiving salary or wages from a governmental entity. If so, the matter will be referred to either the Chief Financial Officer for the State of Florida or the governing body for Lake Worth, as appropriate, for withholding of salary until the debt is satisfied.

9. If Christopher Pettit is no longer a public officer or employee, or if the Commission cannot determine filer's status, the matter will be referred to the Florida Department of Financial Services for collection or wage garnishment.

WHEREFORE, the automatic fine that Christopher Pettit accrued in the amount of \$1500 is affirmed. The fine shall be paid to the Florida Commission on Ethics within 30 days of the date this Default Final Order is entered. After that date, nonpayment will result in collection as provided for in Section 112.3145(8) and 112.31455, Florida Statutes.

ORDERED by the State of Florida Commission on Ethics meeting in public session on
December 3, 2021.

December 8, 2021
Date Rendered



JOANNE LEZNOFF
CLERK
FLORIDA COMMISSION ON ETHICS

THIS ORDER CONSTITUTES FINAL AGENCY ACTION. ANY PARTY WHO IS ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THIS ORDER HAS THE RIGHT TO SEEK JUDICIAL REVIEW UNDER SECTIONS 112.3241 AND 120.68, FLORIDA STATUTES, BY FILING A NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL PURSUANT TO RULE 9.110, FLORIDA RULES OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE, WITH THE CLERK OF THE COMMISSION ON ETHICS, BY U.S. MAIL AT P.O. DRAWER 15709, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32317-5709 (OR BY DELIVERY TO 325 JOHN KNOX ROAD, BUILDING E, SUITE 200, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32303); AND BY FILING A COPY OF THE NOTICE OF APPEAL ACCOMPANIED BY THE APPLICABLE FILING FEES WITH THE APPROPRIATE DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL. THE NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL MUST BE FILED WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DATE THIS ORDER IS RENDERED.

Copy Furnished to:

Christopher Pettit
531 S Federal Hwy
Lake Worth FL 33460 -4680

JL/kh

cc: Pamela J Lopez

PART D — INTANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY [Stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, etc. - See instructions]
 (If you have nothing to report, write "none" or "n/a")

TYPE OF INTANGIBLE	BUSINESS ENTITY TO WHICH THE PROPERTY RELATES
Stocks - Vanguard	Self

PART E — LIABILITIES [Major debts - See instructions]
 (If you have nothing to report, write "none" or "n/a")

NAME OF CREDITOR	ADDRESS OF CREDITOR
Student Loans	Direct Loan Servicing

PART F — INTERESTS IN SPECIFIED BUSINESSES [Ownership or positions in certain types of businesses - See instructions]
 (If you have nothing to report, write "none" or "n/a")

NAME OF BUSINESS ENTITY	BUSINESS ENTITY # 1	BUSINESS ENTITY # 2
ADDRESS OF BUSINESS ENTITY		
PRINCIPAL BUSINESS ACTIVITY		
POSITION HELD WITH ENTITY		
I OWN MORE THAN A 5% INTEREST IN THE BUSINESS		
NATURE OF MY OWNERSHIP INTEREST		

PART G — TRAINING

For elected municipal officers required to complete annual ethics training pursuant to section 112.3142, F.S.

I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE COMPLETED THE REQUIRED TRAINING.

IF ANY OF PARTS A THROUGH G ARE CONTINUED ON A SEPARATE SHEET, PLEASE CHECK HERE

SIGNATURE OF FILER:

Signature:

/s/ Christopher Pettit

Date Signed:

2/10/22

CPA or ATTORNEY SIGNATURE ONLY

If a certified public accountant licensed under Chapter 473, or attorney in good standing with the Florida Bar prepared this form for you, he or she must complete the following statement:

I, _____, prepared the CE Form 1 in accordance with Section 112.3145, Florida Statutes, and the instructions to the form. Upon my reasonable knowledge and belief, the disclosure herein is true and correct.

CPA/Attorney Signature: _____

Date Signed: _____

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

If you were mailed the form by the Commission on Ethics or a County Supervisor of Elections for your annual disclosure filing, return the form to that location. To determine what category your position falls under, see page 3 of instructions.

Local officers/employees file with the Supervisor of Elections of the county in which they permanently reside. (If you do not permanently reside in Florida, file with the Supervisor of the county where your agency has its headquarters.) Form 1 filers who file with the Supervisor of Elections may file by mail or email. Contact your Supervisor of Elections for the mailing address or email address to use. Do not email your form to the Commission on Ethics, it will be returned.

State officers or specified state employees who file with the Commission on Ethics may file by mail or email. To file by mail, send the completed form to P.O. Drawer 15709, Tallahassee, FL 32317-5709; physical address: 325 John Knox Rd, Bldg E, Ste 200, Tallahassee, FL 32303. To file with the Commission by email, scan your completed form and any attachments as a pdf (do not use any other format) and send it to CEForm1@leg.state.fl.us. Do not file by both mail and email. Choose only one filing method. Form 6s will not be accepted via email.

Candidates file this form together with their filing papers.

MULTIPLE FILING UNNECESSARY: A candidate who files a Form 1 with a qualifying officer is not required to file with the Commission or Supervisor of Elections.

WHEN TO FILE: Initially, each local officer/employee, state officer, and specified state employee must file *within 30 days* of the date of his or her appointment or of the beginning of employment. Appointees who must be confirmed by the Senate must file prior to confirmation, even if that is less than 30 days from the date of their appointment.

Candidates must file at the same time they file their qualifying papers.

Thereafter, file by July 1 following each calendar year in which they hold their positions.

Finally, file a final disclosure form (Form 1F) within 60 days of leaving office or employment. Filing a CE Form 1F (Final Statement of Financial Interests) does not relieve the filer of filing a CE Form 1 if the filer was in his or her position on December 31, 2018.



Financial Disclosure Management System
THE FLORIDA COMMISSION ON ETHICS

Filer - Fines and Appeals - PID 268893 - Christopher Pettit

Filer Information

Org Membership

Forms

Communications

Fines and Appeals >

View All

Filer Flags

- [2000](#) [2001](#) [2002](#) [2003](#) [2004](#)
- [2005](#) [2006](#) [2007](#) [2008](#) [2009](#)
- [2010](#) [2011](#) [2012](#) [2013](#) [2014](#)
- [2015](#) [2016](#) [2017](#) [2018\(S\)](#) [2019](#)
- [2020](#) [2021](#) [2022](#)

<<2022 Form Year

Status

Filing: INACTIVE
Fine: No Fine

Flags

Public Address
Filing Extensions
Indefinite: None
Temporary:
None

Eligible for Fines

The filer has fines for: [2019 \(Appeal\)](#)

2019 Fines and Appeals

Form Year 2018 Filed Forms						
Received Date	Form Type	Form Signed	Filed by Email	Filing Location	Updated	Comments
02/21/22	Form 1	Yes	Yes	COE	holmesk on 02/25/2022	

2019 Fine Information				<input type="button" value="Update Fine Information"/> <input type="button" value="Assign Agency Contact"/>			
Fine Balance	Fine Status	Fine Date	Original Assessment	Fine Amount	Last Payment Date	Payment Plan Start Date	Payment Plan Amount
\$1,500.00	Appeal	3/19/2021	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00			
Fine Address 531 S Federal Hwy Lake Worth FL 33460-4680 Org/Suborg Lake Worth-Community Redevelopment Agency							

2019 Fine Payment History					
Date Posted	Description	Amount	Method	Payment ID	Comments
3/19/2021	Fine Levied	+ \$1,500.00			Fined \$1500.00
Current Balance: \$1,500.00					

2019 Fine Year Event
Chronology

 Add a New Filer

 Jump To A Filer

PID:

 Quick Filer Search

First Name:

Last Name:

Date	Type	Description	Reference
08/19/2019	Postcard Sent	Courtesy Postcard Reminder	Print Queue: 8/19/2019 Printing Confirmed: 8/19/2019

Letter Sent To:
Christopher Pettit
531 S Federal Hwy
Lake Worth, FL 33460 -4680

09/6/2019	Letter Sent	Courtesy Notice of Fines Accruing	Print Queue: 9/6/2019 Printing Confirmed: 9/6/2019
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Letter Sent To:
Christopher Pettit
531 S Federal Hwy
Lake Worth, FL 33460 -4680

09/17/2019 Filer Fine accruing letter returned Emily Prine
Communication: insufficient address
Letter

03/19/2021 Fine Levied Fined \$1500.00 Journal: [3/19/2021](#)
[4:23 AM](#)

06/11/2021 Notice of Initial Fine Notice Journal: [6/11/2021](#)
Assessed Fine [9:36 AM](#)

07/19/2021	Letter Sent	Notice of Assessed Fine - Filer 1st Fine Letter	Print Queue: 7/19/2021 Printing Confirmed: 7/19/2021
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Letter Sent To:
Christopher Pettit
531 S Federal Hwy
Lake Worth, FL 33460 -4680

09/20/2021 Final Notice of 2nd Fine Notice Journal: [9/20/2021](#)
Assessed Fine [1:52 PM](#)

09/20/2021	Letter Sent	Final Notice of Assessed Fine - Second Fine Notice	Print Queue: 9/20/2021
------------	-------------	---	---

Printing Confirmed:
9/20/2021

Letter Sent To:
Christopher Pettit
531 S Federal Hwy
Lake Worth, FL 33460 -4680

11/12/2021 Collection Orders Collection Order Notice Journal: 11/12/2021
4:37 PM

🕒 12/9/2021 Letter Sent Collection Orders - Prepare Print Queue:
Collection Orders 12/9/2021

Printing Confirmed:
12/9/2021

Letter Sent To:
Christopher Pettit
531 S Federal Hwy
Lake Worth, FL 33460 -4680

02/4/2022 Warning to Withhold Salary Warning to Withhold Salary Journal: 2/4/2022
2:59 PM

🕒 02/4/2022 Letter Sent Warning to Withhold Salary Print Queue:
2/4/2022

Printing Confirmed:
2/4/2022

Letter Sent To:
Christopher Pettit
531 S Federal Hwy
Lake Worth, FL 33460 -4680

🕒 02/21/2022 Form Received Form 1 Received, Signed

Form Received By:
Filing Location: COE
Record Created By: Kimberly Holmes on 02/25/2022

02/25/2022 Fine Appeal FD 19-088 Journal: 2/25/2022
9:55 AM

🕒 02/25/2022 Letter Sent Fine Appeal Print Queue:
2/25/2022

Printing Confirmed:

2/25/2022

Letter Sent To:
 Christopher Pettit
 531 S Federal Hwy
 Lake Worth, FL 33460 -4680

2019 Fine Appeal -- FD 19-088	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="868 499 1136 541">Update Appeal</td> <td data-bbox="1136 499 1453 541">Withdraw Appeal</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="868 541 1136 583">Assign Attorney</td> <td data-bbox="1136 541 1453 583">Request More Info</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="1036 583 1453 625">Record Appeal Outcome</td> </tr> </table>	Update Appeal	Withdraw Appeal	Assign Attorney	Request More Info	Record Appeal Outcome	
Update Appeal	Withdraw Appeal						
Assign Attorney	Request More Info						
Record Appeal Outcome							
Appeal Status: Active Appeal Receipt Date: 02/21/2022 Timely Filed: No Print Appeal Letter: Yes Hearing Requested: Yes Appeal Reason: Lack of Notification Appeal Notes: Appeal Number: FD 19-088 Appeal Analyst Assigned: Final Order Number: Final Order Date:	A Hearing has been requested but not yet scheduled. Schedule a Fine Appeal Hearing						