

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
COMMISSION ON ETHICS**

**Friday, October 20, 2023**

*Third Floor Courtroom, First District Court of Appeal  
2000 Drayton Drive  
Tallahassee, Florida*

**PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES**

At 8:35 a.m. Chair Ashley Lukis called the meeting to order with the following members present:

MICHELLE ANCHORS  
WILLIAM CERVONE  
TINA DESCOVICH  
FREDDIE FIGGERS  
LUIS M. FUSTÉ  
ASHLEY LUKIS  
ED MOORE  
WENGAY NEWTON, SR.

The presence of a quorum was noted.

**SELECTION OF VICE CHAIR**

**Commissioner Cervone, seconded by Commissioner Moore, moved to nominate Commissioner Michelle Anchors as Commission Vice Chair. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

**Commissioner Moore, seconded by Commissioner Newton, moved to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2023, Public Session meeting. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

**CONSIDERATION OF FINAL ACTION – PRE-PROBABLE CAUSE JOINT STIPULATION**

**Complaint No. 23-108, In re LESLIE C. RICCIARDELLI**

Present were Mark Herron, Attorney for the Respondent; and Melody A. Hadley, Commission Advocate.

Ms. Hadley summarized the proposed pre-probable cause joint stipulation calling for a finding of violation of Section 112.3145, Florida Statutes, with a recommended civil penalty of \$1,000.

Mr. Herron was heard by the Commission.

**Commissioner Cervone, seconded by Commissioner Moore, moved to approve the proposed pre-probable cause joint stipulation. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

#### **CONSIDERATION OF FINAL ACTION – JOINT STIPULATION**

##### **Complaint No. 22-163, In re WILLIAM OPPENHEIMER**

Present was Elizabeth A. Miller, Commission Advocate.

Ms. Miller summarized the proposed joint stipulation calling for a finding of violation of Article II, Section 8, Florida Constitution, and Section 112.3144, Florida Statutes, and a recommended civil penalty of \$1,500.

**Commissioner Newton, seconded by Commissioner Anchors, moved to approve the proposed joint stipulation. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

##### **Complaint No. 22-164, In re HEATHER POST**

Present were Mark Herron, Attorney for the Respondent; and Elizabeth A. Miller, Commission Advocate.

Ms. Miller summarized the proposed joint stipulation calling for a finding of violation of Article II, Section 8, Florida Constitution, and Section 112.3144, Florida Statutes, and a recommended penalty of public censure and reprimand, and a civil penalty of \$1,000.

Mr. Herron was heard by the Commission.

**Commissioner Moore, seconded by Commissioner Fusté, moved to approve the Motion to Withdraw. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

**Commissioner Cervone, seconded by Commissioner Fusté, moved to approve the proposed joint stipulation. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

#### **CONSIDERATION OF ADVOCATE'S MOTION TO DISMISS COMPLAINT FOR LACK OF JURISDICTION**

##### **Complaint No. 19-196, In re STEVE KENNY**

Present was Elizabeth A. Miller, Commission Advocate.

Ms. Miller presented her Motion to Dismiss.

**Commissioner Newton, seconded by Commissioner Cervone, moved to grant the Motion to Dismiss for Lack of Jurisdiction.**

## **CONSIDERATION OF ADVISORY OPINION**

**File 2803. CONFLICT OF INTEREST; VOTING CONFLICTS: MEMBER OF COUNTY COMMISSION LOBBYING FOR COMPENSATION ON BEHALF OF MUNICIPAL CLIENTS BEFORE FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES OTHER THAN HIS COUNTY**

Present was Tim Elliott, Attorney for Requestor.

Assistant General Counsel Gray Schafer explained the basis of the draft advisory opinion and the rationale behind its conclusion.

Mr. Elliott was heard by the Commission.

**Commissioner Anchors, seconded by Commissioner Fusté, moved to approve the draft opinion, with recommended changes. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

## **CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE APPEALS**

### **NO HEARING**

**FD20-057, In re MARK ST. VIL  
FD21-004, In re MARK ST. VIL**

Present was Mark St. Vil.

Assistant General Counsel Gray Schafer explained the basis of the draft final orders and the rationale behind its conclusion.

Mr. St. Vil was heard by the Commission.

**Commissioner Cervone, seconded by Commissioner Anchors, moved to approve the staff's recommendations affirm the \$850 fine, and waive the \$1,500 fine.**

**Commissioner Newton, seconded by Commissioner Descovich, made a substitute motion to reduce the \$850 fine to \$400. The motion to take up the substitute motion failed, with Commissioner Anchors, Commissioner Cervone, Commissioner Figgers, Commissioner Fusté, Commissioner Lukis, and Commissioner Moore voting no.**

**The original motion to approve the staff's recommendations carried, with Commissioner Descovich, and Commissioner Newton voting no.**

## **DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED FY 2024/2025 BUDGET**

**Commissioner Fusté, seconded by Commissioner Newton, moved to approve the proposed budget. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

**REPORTS**

The Chair had no report.

Executive Director Kerrie Stillman elaborated on her written report previously provided to the Commissioners. She acknowledged that Don Gaetz resigned from the Commission.

Executive Director Kerrie Stillman updated the Commission on the relaunch of e-filing, and updated the Commission with the financial disclosure compliance numbers for the current filing year.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further items on the agenda, the Public Session adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

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Diana Westberry, *Secretary*

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Ashley Lukis, *Chair*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date