

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

TO: Members, Commission on Ethics

FROM: Kerrie Stillman
Executive Director

DATE: February 16, 2022

ADVISORY OPINIONS

The Commission on Ethics did not issue any opinions at its January meeting. It has rendered 2,689 opinions since its inception in 1974.

LITIGATION

Case Number 1D21-3115, Patrick Loebig v. Florida Commission on Ethics - This is an appeal of CEO 21-9 regarding the Taxpayers' Rights Advocate. The Appellant's Initial Brief is due February 21, 2022.

On January 7, 2022, the Respondent filed a voluntary dismissal of the rule challenge portion of the consolidated matter Carlos Beruff v. Florida Commission on Ethics, currently pending before DOAH. On January 10, 2022, an "Order Severing Case and Closing File" was issued in DOAH Case No 21-2890EC Carlos Beruff v. Florida Commission on Ethics, which severed the rules challenge portion (21-03339RX) of the consolidated matter. However, on January 14, 2022, the Respondent filed a notice asserting Respondent's intention to raise as a defense the argument under Section 120.57(1)(e), F.S., that the Commission is taking action against the Respondent based on a rule that is an invalid exercise of the Commission's delegated authority. A hearing has been set for March 9, 2022.

Case Number 5D22-322, Bill Spaude v. Florida Commission on Ethics. This is an appeal of Complaint No. 19-174. The Appellant's Initial Brief is due April 18, 2022.

FINANCES

As of January 31, we've spent \$1,435,210.39 (55.16%) of our appropriation, with 58.33% of the FY gone.

PUBLIC SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS / PUBLICATIONS / HONORS

Gray conducted a 50-minute pre-recorded training session for a Florida Bar online Education Law workshop. He also delivered a 40-minute training at the Florida Public Pension Trustee Association's Winter Conference in Orlando, on January 24.

Caroline gave a 1-hour lecture to the Office of the Judges of Compensation Claims via Zoom.

Caroline, Gray, and Steve will each be presenting at the Florida Bar's Annual Sunshine Law, Public Records, and Ethics Conference in Orlando on February 25.

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

We hired Rachel Campbell as a part-time clerk. She started working with us on February 8 and is off to a great start.

PENDING ORDERS IMPOSING PENALTIES

GOVERNOR

Complaint No. 15-178, In re Michael S. Murphy (Final Order 08/03/16)
Complaint No. 17-108, In re Joel Davis (Final Order 06/13/18)
Complaint No. 17-088, In re Cheryl Thomas-Hughes (Final Order 12/12/18)
Complaint No. 16-062, In re Dennis McDonald (Final Order 10/30/19)
Complaint No. 18-211, In re Thomas L. Clyce (Final Order 02/10/21)
Complaint No. 19-154, In re Doug Belden (Final Order 03/10/21)
Complaint No. 18-168, In re Dustin Daniels (Final Order 04/21/21)
Complaint No. 18-047, In re Brian Burkeen (Final Order 04/21/21)
Complaint No. 19-158, In re Thomas R. Hardee [Referral] (Final Order 04/21/21)
Complaint No. 20-124, In re Francis David Bourrie (Final Order 06/09/21)
Complaint No. 19-192, In re Marilyn D. Sconions (07/28/21)
Complaint No. 20-054, In re Milissa Holland (Final Order 09/15/21)
Complaint No. 16-130, In re Frantz Pierre (Final Order 09/15/21)
Complaint No. 20-125, In re Muhammad Amin (Final Order 10-27-21)
Complaint No. 20-225, In re Alexis P. Rodriguez (Final Order 10-27-21)
Complaint No. 21-077, In re Reginald Sessions (Final Order 10-27-21)
Complaint No. 20-170, In re Betsy Vanderley (Final Order 12-8-21)
Complaint No. 19-174, In re William "Bil" Spaude (Final Order 1-26-22)
Complaint No. 18-141, In re Andreama Jackson (Final Order 1-26-22)
Complaint No. 18-020, Joseph Kilsheimer (Final Order 1-26-22)

HOUSE

Complaint No. 18-026, In re Kim Daniels (Final Order 01/30/19)
Complaint No. 20-206, In re Jackie Toledo (Final Order 10-27-21)
Complaint No. 20-211, In re Tracie Davis (Final Order 10-27-21)

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

Complaint No. 16-017, In re Dean Mead (Probable Cause 01/27/17)
Complaint No. 16-018, In re Buigas and Associates (Probable Cause 01/27/17)
Complaint No. 16-019, In re DDarling Consulting (Probable Cause 01/27/17).
Complaint No. 16-174, In re Kathy Till and Associates, Inc., (Probable Cause 08/02/17)
Complaint No. 16-170, In re Capitol Group, Inc., (Probable Cause 10/25/17)
Complaint No. 16-173, In re Johnson Strategies, LLC (Probable Cause 12/13/17)
Complaint No. 16-175, In re Sayfie Law Firm (Probable Cause 10/25/17)
Complaint No. 17-132, In re Andrew J. Liles (Probable Cause 08/01/18)
Complaint No. 17-134, In re Lester Abberger (Probable Cause 08/01/18)
Complaint No. 17-135, In re Pruitt and Associates (Probable Cause 08/01/18)
Complaint No. 17-136, In re Wilson and Associates, LLC (Probable Cause 08/01/18)

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Complaint No. 17-137, In re TC Wolfe (Probable Cause 08/01/18)

Complaint No. 19-031, In re Impact GR (Probable Cause 09/18/19)

Complaint No. 20-055, In re All Florida Solutions, Inc. (Probable Cause 03/10/21)

Complaint No. 20-056, In re Carr Allison (Probable Cause 03/10/21)

Complaint No. 20-058, In re Pyle and Associates (Probable Cause 03/10/21)

Complaint No. 21-127, In re Diana Hadi Padgett (Probable Cause 12/3/21)

Complaint No. 21-128, CJT Strategies, LLC (Probable Cause 12/3/21)