

**STATE OF LOUISIANA
DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW**

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

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DOCKET NO.

IN THE MATTER OF

LASHANDA BRIDGES

AGENCY TRACKING NO. 2019-051

CHARGES

The Louisiana Board of Ethics voted on February 6, 2020, to and does hereby file the following charges:

1.

LaShanda Bridges was continuously employed with the Louisiana Department of Public Safety, Office of Motor Vehicles (“OMV”), as a Motor Vehicle Compliance Analyst from July 27, 2015 until her resignation on August 11, 2017.

2.

At the time of her resignation as a Motor Vehicle Compliance Analyst, LaShanda Bridges received an annual salary of \$28,849.60, paid bi-weekly in the amount of \$1,109.60.

3.

As a Motor Vehicle Compliance Analyst, LaShanda Bridges’s job duties included the collecting and balancing of required OMV fees submitted by OMV customers.

4.

From February 6, 2016, through August 11, 2017, LaShanda Bridges received cash receipts from OMV customers paying fees to reinstate driving privileges. At the time of payment, LaShanda Bridges printed her computer screen showing the fees owed and gave the screen-shot

printout to OMV customers as a receipt for the fees paid. Ms. Bridges would then alter the OMV record to indicate that no fee was owed by the OMV customer.

5.

LaShanda Bridges failed to remit to the OMV payments totaling \$29,020 from February 6, 2016 through August 11, 2017, instead keeping those fees for her personal use that she was not duly entitled to for the performance of her job duties and responsibilities.

6.

La. R.S. 42:1111A(1)(a) prohibits a public servant from receiving anything of economic value for the performance of her job duties other than the compensation and benefits from the governmental entity to which she is duly entitled.

7.

La. R.S. 42:1153B provides with respect to penalties:

Upon a determination that any public employee or other person has violated any provision of any law within the jurisdiction of the Board of Ethics ... the Ethics Adjudicatory Board may remove, suspend, or order a reduction in pay, or demotion of the public employee or other person, or **impose a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars, or both.**

8.

La. R.S. 42:1155 provides with respect to penalties for illegal gain:

If an investigation conducted pursuant to this Part reveals that any public servant or other person has violated any law within the jurisdiction of the Board of Ethics to his economic advantage, and after an adjudicatory hearing on the matter, the Ethics Adjudicatory Board may order the payment of penalties. **Recovery may include, in addition to an amount equal to such economic advantage, penalties not to exceed one half of the amount of the economic advantage.**

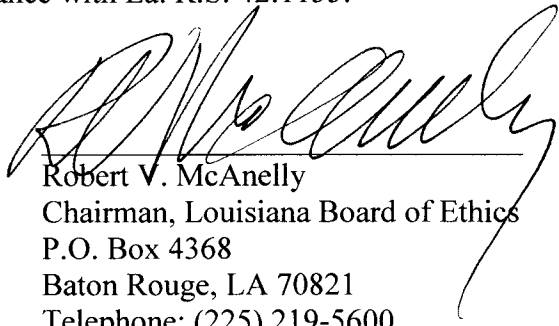
9.

Based on the foregoing facts, LaShanda Bridges, while serving as a Motor Vehicle Compliance Analyst for the Office of Motor Vehicles with the Louisiana Department of Public Safety, violated La. R.S. 42:1111A(1)(a) when she received payments totaling \$29,020, from OMV customers, which she was not duly entitled to receive, for the performance of her job duties and responsibilities as a Motor Vehicle Compliance Analyst.

10.

In accordance with La. R.S. 42:1141C(3)(b)(iv), the Board designates David M. Bordelon and Tracy M. Barker as the Board's trial attorneys in this matter.

WHEREFORE, the Louisiana Board of Ethics requests that the Ethics Adjudicatory Board (a) conduct a hearing on the foregoing charge; (b) determine that LaShanda Bridges violated La. R.S. 42:1111A(1)(a); and (c) assess an appropriate penalty in accordance with La. R.S. 42:1153; and (d) assess an appropriate penalty in accordance with La. R.S. 42:1155.



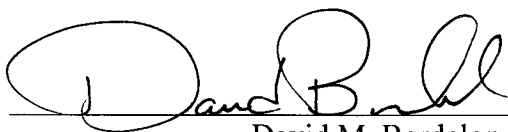
Robert V. McAnelly
Chairman, Louisiana Board of Ethics
P.O. Box 4368
Baton Rouge, LA 70821
Telephone: (225) 219-5600
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CERTIFICATE:

I hereby certify that a copy of this document has been forwarded to the Respondent via registered/certified mail, and to the attorney of record via electronic mail, on this 10th day of February, 2020.

RESPONDENT: LaShanda Bridges
1022 Louisa Drive
Sulphur, Louisiana 70665

ATTORNEY: None

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David M. Bordelon", is written over a horizontal line.

David M. Bordelon
Trial Attorney