

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS
General Meeting Minutes
August 8, 2025

The Board of Ethics met on August 8, 2025 at 9:05 a.m. in the LaBelle Room on the 1st floor of the LaSalle Building located at 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana with Board Members Amato, Baños, Colomb, Crigler, Davis, Grand, Grimley, Huval, Nowlin, Roberts, Scott, Speer and Whipple present. Board Members Bryant and Fremin were absent. Also present were the Ethics Administrator, David Bordelon; the Executive Secretary, Carolyn Abadie Landry; and Counsel Tracy Barker, Jessica Meiners, Suzanne Mooney and Charles Reeves.

General Counsel Tracy Barker presented to the Board the consideration of the Ethics Administration position and noted civil service representatives are on hand if there were any questions regarding David Bordelon being appointed Ethics Administrator with probationary status. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board appointed David Bordelon to the position of Ethics Administrator for the Louisiana Board of Ethics under probationary status.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a request in Docket No. 24-828 regarding that the Board reconsider its decision in to decline to waive the two \$3,000 campaign finance late fees for a total of \$6,000 assessed against New Solutions PAC, a political action committee, and its committee's chairperson, Tyler L. Daniel, in connection with the November 8, 2022 election, whose 10-P and 10-G campaign finance disclosure reports were filed 169 and 139 days late, respectively. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board affirmed its prior decision to decline to waive the fees since the filer fails to state good cause which is outside of the control of filer.

Board Member Nowlin recused himself from voting on Docket No. 24-976.

Ms. Cynthia Diane Green Perry, Alexandria City Council, District 3, Rapides Parish, appeared before the Board in Docket No. 24-976 requesting that the Board reconsider its decision to decline to waive the \$2,500 late fee assessed against her for filing her amended 2023 Tier 2 annual Personal financial disclosure 33 days late. After hearing from Ms. Perry, on motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board suspended all late fees based on future compliance.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a request in Docket No. 25-025 regarding that the Board reconsider its decision to decline to waive the four (4) \$3,000 for a total of \$12,000 campaign finance late fees assessed against The Voice of the People, LLC, a political action committee, its committee's chairperson, Sidney D. Torres, IV, and treasurer, Lisa Schehr, whose 2020ANN, 2022ANN, 10-P and 10-G campaign finance disclosure reports were filed inaccurately. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board deferred the matter to a future meeting.

Mr. Nathaniel Jones appeared before the Board in Docket No. 25-228 requesting that the Board in its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, reconsider its decision to decline to waive the \$2,500 campaign finance late fee assessed against Mr. Jones, an unsuccessful candidate for Mayor, City of New Orleans in the November 13, 2021 election, whose 10-G campaign finance disclosure report was filed 54 days late. After hearing from Mr. Jones, on motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board suspended all but \$1,000 of the late fee, based on future compliance with a payment plan due by December 31, 2025.

Attorney John C. Collins and Ms. Myra N. Richardson, former member of the Baton Rouge North Economic Development District, appeared before the Board in Docket No. 25-336

requesting the Board waive a \$1,500 late fee assessed for filing her 2022 Tier 2.1 annual Personal financial disclosure 271 days late. After hearing from Ms. Richardson and Mr. Collins, on motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board suspended all but \$1,000 of the late fee based on future compliance with a payment plan.

Justin Bryson, a Louisiana Army National Guard Major, appeared before the Board for an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 25-347 regarding whether he can enter into construction contracts with the Louisiana Military Department or the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness. After hearing from Major Bryson, on motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that based on the facts presented, the Code of Governmental Ethics does not prohibit Major Bryson and his company from bidding on or entering into any contract, subcontract, or transaction that is under the supervision or jurisdiction of the Louisiana Military Department or the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, or any other state agency.

Mr. Robert L. Judge appeared before the Board in Docket No. 25-330 to request an advisory opinion concerning whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Mr. Judge, a member of the Lafayette Library Board of Control, from participating in discussions regarding settlement of a lawsuit where all members of the board in their official capacity are defendants and where Mr. Judge is also a defendant in his individual capacity. After hearing from Mr. Judge, on motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to render an advisory opinion since the matter was already settled in court proceedings.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board agreed to take action on items G7-G19 en globo subject to any items being removed from the en globo listing for further discussion.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff recommendations on items G7-G19, excluding items G9 and G10 and taking the following action:

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 25-258 regarding the adoption of a disqualification plan submitted by Jay Clune, President of Nichols State University, for Amanda Enclade Fremin. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits the businesses owned by Dale and Donovan Fremin from entering into contracts, subcontracts or transactions under the jurisdiction or supervision of the Office of Student Affairs while Amanda Enclade Fremin is employed in the Office of Student Affairs. Since the contracts, subcontracts or transactions involving the Office of Student Affairs are prohibited, there is no need for a disqualification plan. Therefore, the Board has not approved the disqualification plan.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 25-260 from Yazan Rantisi, on behalf of Department of Children and Family Services ("DCFS") as to whether the Code of Governmental Ethics permits DCFS employees to accept food and beverages from DCFS vendors at an event. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics permits DCFS employees to accept food and beverages from DCFS vendors at an event where the vendors are present and the value of the food and beverages does not exceed \$81.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 25-337 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Mangham Alderman Kathryn Carter's husband from being appointed interim police chief while she serves as an alderman. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that Section 1113A of the Code

of Governmental Ethics prohibits Mr. Tracy Carter from entering into a transaction with the Town of Mangham. The appointment by the Board of Alderman is a transaction between the Town of Mangham and the Board of Aldermen. Therefore Mr. Tracy Carter is prohibited from being appointed Interim Police Chief. However, he would not be prohibited from running for election to become Police Chief.

Board Member Roberts recused herself from voting in Docket No. 25-363.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 25-363 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Gregory Pete, the Executive Director of the Lake Charles Housing Authority, from continuing to serve on the Lake Charles Planning and Zoning Commission. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that no provision of the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Mr. Pete from continuing to serve on the Lake Charles Planning and Zoning Commission while also serving as the Executive Director of the Lake Charles Housing. However, this may present an issue concerning Louisiana Dual Office-holding and Dual Employment prohibitions, which are not under the jurisdiction of the Board but are under the Attorney General's jurisdiction. The Board suggested that Mr. Pete contact that office regarding the application of those laws. A copy of his request and this opinion will be forwarded to the Attorney General's Office.

The Board approved the withdrawal of an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 25-364 from Sarina Lirette, member of Terrebonne Parish Recreation District, relating to family member use of tennis facilities.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 25-367 from Jeanie Donovan, on behalf of the City of New Orleans as to whether the Code of Governmental Ethics permits certain City departments and employees to engage in political advocacy. On motion

made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to render an advisory opinion since the restrictions on political activities of employees is regulated by the City of New Orleans's Civil Service Commission. The Board of Ethics does not have jurisdiction over the interpretation or enforcement of those restrictions.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 25-374 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics permits Amanda Martin's continued service as a board member for the SMILE Community Action Agency while she is employed as a staff attorney with the Louisiana Housing Corporation ("LHC"). On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics does not prohibit Amanda Martin's continued service as a board member for the SMILE Community Action Agency while she is employed as a staff attorney with the LHC. The Code of Governmental Ethics also does not prohibit her from participating in matters involving LHC in which SMILE has a substantial economic interest, provided she does not receive compensation for her service on the SMILE Board. Additionally, in the event SMILE board members are compensated for their service, she should seek an updated advisory opinion.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 25-375 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Malcolm Larvadain, a Councilman for the City of Alexandria, from filing a lawsuit in his capacity as a private attorney against the Alexandria Housing Authority. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that Section 1111E(2)(a) of the Code of Governmental Ethics does not prohibit Mr. Larvadain from assisting a client in filing a lawsuit against the Alexandria Housing Authority. The Alexandria Housing Authority is a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana and is not

part of the City of Alexandria. Therefore, Mr. Larvadain is not assisting a person in a transaction involving his agency by filing suit against the Alexandria Housing Authority.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 25-379 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Nichole Gaubert, the Public Safety Grants and Administration Director for Jefferson Parish Government, from seeking secondary outside employment in the private sector writing grants. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that Section 1111C(1)(a) of the Code of Governmental Ethics does not prohibit Ms. Gaubert from secondary outside employment writing out of state grants for other public or private entities on applications with which she has never participated in her public capacity.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 25-421 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics post-employment restrictions prohibit Robert Boudreaux, a former employee of the Louisiana Facility Planning and Control, from being employed with Jacobs Engineering. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that Section 1121B of the Code of Governmental Ethics does not prohibit Mr. Boudreaux from being employed with Jacob's Engineering within two years of the termination of his public service with Louisiana Facility Planning and Control.

Board Member Whipple recused herself from voting in Docket No. 25-295.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 25-295 from Robert Page regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits the renewal of insurance policies with the Bayou Cane Fire Protection District (the "District") while Mr. Page serves as a member of the Bayou Cane Fire Protection District. On motion made, seconded and passed with a vote of 10 yeas from Board Members Amato, Baños, Colomb, Crigler, Davis, Grand, Nowlin,

Roberts, Scott and Speer and 2 nays from Board Members Grimley and Huval and 1 abstention from Board Member Whipple, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits the Charles A. Page and Sons Insurance Company from entering into transactions with the Parish and the District, including any actions to affect a renewal of the Subject Policies.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 25-296 from Michele Steib regarding whether her company, SMITT, LLC., is permitted to enter into a services contract with another company, Spears Global, that has a site control agreement with the Port of New Orleans while she is an employee of the Port of New Orleans. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board deferred the matter until a future meeting.

The Board considered the following general business agenda items:

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board approved the minutes of the July 2nd and July 3rd, 2025 meetings.

The Board considered a consent opinion in Docket No. 21-701 regarding Terry Hoof, Mayor of the Town of Cullen, and Denise Epps-Hoof, and Floydean White, Aldermen/Alderwomen for the Town of Cullen, relating to violations of Sections 1119D and 1117 of the Code of Governmental Ethics. Mr. Hoof, Ms. Eps-Hoff and Ms. White have signed the consent opinion admitting to the violations of Sections 1119D and 1117 of the Code of Governmental Ethics and paid the civil penalty. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted for publication the consent opinion and dismissed charges pending before the Ethics Adjudicatory Board.

The Board considered a consent opinion in Docket No. 24-395 regarding David Duplechein, a member of the Ascension Parish School Board, rendering services for compensation to a person that has contractual relationships with the school system. Mr.

Duplechain executed a consent opinion for the violation of Section 1111C(2)(d) of the Code of Governmental Ethics and paid a civil penalty of \$7,500. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the consent opinion for publication.

The Board considered Administrator's Notes from Mr. Bordelon in Docket No. 3125-01:

1. David Bordelon introduced the new Applications Specialist, Brian McGarry.
2. The Legislature tasked our staff last year with creating a report detailing the best practices related to campaign finance disclosure filings. The effort was led by Jerri Brees and Slava Sereda with input from Kathleen Allen, Kristi Gary, Angela Newsom, and the campaign finance staff. The report was approved by the Board at the January 2025 meeting and subsequently presented to the Legislature, the Governor's Office, and the Secretary of State.

The report is one of twelve reports nationwide to be named a 2025 Notable Document Award Recipient by the National Conference of State Legislatures - Legislative Research Librarians Professional Staff Association, for demonstrating excellence in documents or publication that explore topics of interest to legislators and legislative staff and present substantive material in an outstanding format.

3. No Objection to Candidacy suits were filed following the July qualifying period

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board unanimously agreed to take action on the requests for "good cause" waivers of late fees assessed against candidates and committees included in item G24, en globo, subject to any items being removed from the en globo listing for further discussion.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff recommendations on the items in G24, excluding Docket Nos. 25-097 and 25-393, taking the following action:

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board unanimously declined to waive the campaign finance late fees assessed against the following:

- Docket 25-301 from Richard Lee Twiggs, Jr., 2024 Annual of a \$2,000 late fee;
- Docket 25-321 from TANGI DPEC PAC, February 2025 monthly of a \$400 late fee;
- Docket 25-323 from Roger P. Hamilton, Jr., 2024 Annual of a \$420 late fee;
- Docket 25-339 from Jefferson Parish Republican Executive Committee, 2024 Annual of a \$2,200 late fee;
- Docket 25-340 from Daniel G. Kyle, 2024 SUPP of a \$800 late fee;

Docket 25-391 from Rachel Touchet Mouton, 10-P of a \$360 late fee; and,
Docket 25-392 from Cheryl Wooley, 10-P of a \$500 late fee.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board unanimously suspended all campaign finance late fees based on future compliance assessed against the following:

Docket 25-368 from Maggie "May" Campbell, 10-P of a \$80 late fee.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board unanimously suspended all but \$200 of campaign finance late fees based on future compliance assessed against the following:

Docket 25-372 from Michael "Mike" Irvin Wilson, 2024 SUPP of a \$420 late fee.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a waiver request in Docket No. 25-393 regarding a \$40 campaign finance late fee assessed against Charles Gallien, an unsuccessful candidate for Councilman, District C, City of Lake Charles, Calcasieu in the March 29, 2025 election, whose 10-G campaign finance disclosure report was 1 day late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board suspended all of the late fee based on future compliance.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a waiver request in Docket No. 25-097 regarding four (4) \$3,000.00 for a total of \$12,000.00 campaign finance late fees assessed against Lafayette Republican Parish Executive Committee, a political action committee, its committee's chairperson, Tim M. Breaux, and treasurer, Charles Buckels, in the October 14, 2023 election whose, 30-P and 10-P have not been filed and 10-G and 40-G campaign finance disclosure reports were inaccurately filed. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board deferred the matter until a future meeting.

The Board unanimously agreed to take action on the requests for "good cause" waivers of personal financial disclosure late fees assessed against individuals contained in item G25 en globo subject to any items being removed from the en globo listing for further discussion.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff recommendations on the items in G25, excluding Docket Nos. 25-250 and 25-373, taking the following action:

The Board unanimously declined to waive all of the personal financial disclosure late fees for the following:

Docket 25-346 Denis M. Jordan, 2020 Tier 3, 1093 days late of a \$500 late fee;
Docket 25-370 Christopher Corzo, 2023 Tier 2.1, 389 days late of a \$1500 late fee; and,
Docket 25-389 Angelo Kingvalsky, 2022 Tier 2.1, 110 days late of a \$1500 late fee.

The Board unanimously suspended all of the personal financial disclosure late fees based on future compliance for the following:

Docket 25-350 Damon L. Humphrey, Sr., 2023 Tier 2.1, 188 days late of a \$1500 late fee;
Docket 25-371 Phyllis M. Mendoza, 2023 Tier 2.1, 5 days late of a \$250 late fee;
Docket 25-390 Rhonda Davis, Amend 2023 Tier 3, 4 days late of a \$100 late fee; and
Docket 25-396 Sarintha Buras Stricklin, Amend 2022 Tier 2.1, 20 days late of a \$1000 late fee.

The Board rescinded all of the personal financial disclosure late fee for the following:

Docket 25-395 Dennis Hershel Bjornberg, II, Amend 2022 Tier 3, 9 days late of a \$225 late fee.

Board Member Baños recused herself from voting in Docket No. 25-250.

The Board considered a waiver request in Docket No. 25-250 regarding a \$1,500 late fee assessed against Mr. Shawn Gibbs for filing his 2021 Tier 2.1 Annual personal financial disclosure 48 days late; and, a \$1,500 late fee assessed for filing his 2022 Tier 2.1 Annual personal financial disclosure 48 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board deferred the matter until a future meeting.

Board Member Whipple recused herself from voting in Docket No. 25-373

The Board considered a waiver request in Docket No. 25-373 regarding a \$2,500 late fee assessed against Mr. Jason G. Ard, Sheriff of Livingston Parish, for filing his 2022 Tier 2 Annual

personal financial disclosure 512 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board deferred the matter until a future meeting.

The Board considered a waiver request in Docket No. 24-551 regarding a \$1,500 late fee assessed against Anna Perry, a member of the Virgil Browne Glencoe Charter School Board, St. Mary Parish, for filing her 2023-2024 School Board Disclosure Statement 137 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the late fee.

The Board declined to consider an untimely waiver request in Docket No. 25-369, submitted by Nino V. Covington, former member of the St. Tammany Fire District, District 12, regarding a \$1,500 late fee assessed for filing his Amended 2021 Tier 2.1 Annual personal financial disclosure 577 days late.

Board Member Roberts recused herself from voting on Docket No. 25-394.

The Board considered two waiver requests in Docket No. 25-394 regarding a \$1,000 campaign finance late fee assessed against Lori Jupiter, an unopposed candidate for Judge, Civil District Court, Division I, New Orleans Parish, in the November 3, 2020 election, whose 2024 Supplemental campaign finance disclosure report was filed 18 days late; and a \$800 and \$2,300 (\$3,100 total) campaign finance late fees assessed against Judge Jupiter, for the same election, whose 2023 and 2021 Supplemental campaign finance disclosure reports were filed 8 and 23 days late respectively. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board considered the untimely request but declined to waive the late fees for all reports.

The Board unanimously agreed to take action on the requests for “good cause” reconsiderations of waivers of personal financial disclosure late fees assessed against individuals contained in item G28 en globo subject to any items being removed from the en globo listing for further discussion.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff recommendations on the items in G28, taking the following action:

The Board unanimously affirmed the prior decision to decline to waive all of the personal financial disclosure late fees for the following:

Docket 24-615 Steven “Ike” Segrera II, 2022 Tier 3, 225 days late of a \$500 late fee; Docket 24-977 Tina Shows Johnson, 2023 Tier 3, 58 days late of a \$500 late fee; and, Docket 25-095 Laura O’Brien, 2023 Tier 3, 97 days late of a \$500 late fee.

The Board considered the following items on the General Supplemental Agenda.

The Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 25-481 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits a member of the City of Kenner Planning and Zoning Commission from applying for a variance by the City of Kenner Planning and Zoning Commission. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded

The Board considered a Request for Hearing in Docket No. 5123-018 involving Rodney Jiles. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board dismiss charges due to lack of service.

The Board considered a Request for Hearing in Docket No. 5123-019 involving Harry Hayes. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board dismiss charges due to lack of service.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Secretary

APPROVED:

Chairman