

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS  
Minutes  
June 5, 2026

The Board of Ethics met on June 5, 2026 at 9:01 a.m. in the LaBelle Room on the first floor of the LaSalle Building located at 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana with Members Amato, Colomb, Crigler, Danos, Davis, Fremin, Grand, Grimley, Nowlin, Scott and Whipple present. Board Members Bryant, Huval and Roberts were absent. Also present were Staff Attorney, Charles Reeves; the Executive Secretary, Carolyn Abadie Landry; and Counsel Charles McCowan, Jessica Meiners, Kathryn Rich and Kelsey Simmons.

The Board considered a reconsideration request in Docket No. 25-533 regarding the Board's decision to suspend all but \$1,000 of the \$2,500 late fee assessed against Steven Jackson, State Representative/ 2<sup>nd</sup> Representative District, for filing his 2022 Tier 2 Candidate personal financial disclosure 855 days late; and the Board's decision to suspend all but \$1,000 of a \$2,500 late fee assessed for filing his amended 2022 Tier 2 Annual personal financial disclosure 183 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board affirmed its prior decision to suspend all but \$1,000 for each \$2,500 late fee for a total of \$2,000 due, based on future compliance. The \$2,000 is payable within 20 days and if payment is not received within 20 days, the full amount of the late fee becomes due and owing.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee for Campaign Finance, the Board considered a reconsideration request in Docket No. 25-582 regarding the Board's decision to decline to waive four late fees assessed against Steven Jackson, a successful candidate for State Representative, District 2, Bossier and Caddo Parishes, in the October 14, 2023 election: 1) a \$60 late fee for a 30-P report filed 1 day late; 2) a \$660 fee for a 10-G report which was filed 11 days late; 3) a \$2,000 late fee for a 10-G report which was filed inaccurately; and 4) a \$2,000 late

fee for a SUPP2023 report which was filed inaccurately. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board affirmed its decision to decline to waive.

The Board considered a waiver request in Docket No. 26-075 regarding the \$250 and \$50 late fees assessed against Mr. Adrian Bruneau for the late filing of the November 2025 and December 2025 Lobbying Expenditure Reports. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to consider since Mr. Bruneau withdrew the request.

Ms. Karen Huggins Miller, employee of Baton Rouge Community College (“BRCC”), appeared before the Board in Docket No. 26-188 regarding an advisory opinion request as to whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits her to participate in the operation of a center which would contract with BRCC. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Ms. Miller and any company in which she owns a controlling interest from entering into transactions with BRCC. Further, the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits her from receiving compensation from the proposed center while it has a business, financial or contractual relationship with BRCC.

Attorney Brett Brinson, representing La State Pelican PAC, LLC, appeared before the Board in Docket No. 26-242 regarding a waiver request for two \$3,000 campaign finance late fees (\$6,000 total) assessed against La State Pelican PAC, LLC, a political action committee and its committee's chairperson and treasurer, Thomas C. Delahaye in the October 14, 2023 election, whose 10-G and 40-G campaign finance disclosure reports were filed 98 and 48 days late, respectively. After hearing from Mr. Brinson, in its capacity as the Supervisory Committee for Campaign Finance, on motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the fees.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board agreed to take action on Consent Agenda and Consent Opinions items G6-G17 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 G6-G17, excluding item G16, taking the following action:

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-084 from Douglas J. Lacombe, related to nepotism. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to render an advisory opinion since Mr. Lacombe lacks standing for the request and did not provide sufficient information to render an opinion.

The Board considered a request to withdraw an advisory opinion in Docket No. 26-167 from Mayor Beryl Holmes, on behalf of the Village of Moreauville, as to whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits the Village's Chief of Police to hire and supervise his son as a patrol officer. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board allowed the withdrawal of the advisory opinion request since the person serving as MPD chief was terminated.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-202 from Michael Hunley, member of Covington Historic District Commission (the "Commission"), as to whether to the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits his participation in a vote. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics does not prohibit Mr. Hunley, as a Commission member, from voting on the civil construction project. The Board declined to render an opinion as to payments made to him related to the concept plans. The Board instructed staff to send a copy of the adopted opinion directly to the Commission.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-211 regarding the application of the post-employment provisions to Mr. Tyler, an employee of the Louisiana Office of Broadband Development and Connectivity. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics does not prohibit Mr. Tyler from providing services to SwyftFyber through C207 LLC that were not provided to his previous agency.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-223 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits William Cox, an employee of East Feliciana Parish Sheriff's Office ("EFPSO"), from serving on the Board of Commissioners for East Feliciana Parish Communications District. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics does not prohibit Mr. Cox from serving as an appointed member of the East Feliciana Parish Communications District Board of Commissioners while he is employed by EFPSO and EFPSO transacts with the Communications District.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-240 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Lydia Jantz LeJeune, the daughter of Dr. Kevin Scott Lejeune, the Special Education Director for the Allen Parish School Board ("APSB"), from providing speech therapy services to the Allen Parish School District. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Ms. Lejeune from being employed by or from contracting with APSB to provide speech therapy services to eligible special education students while Dr. Lejeune serves as the Special Education Director for the APSB.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-246 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits the employment of Ava Breaux, the child of Regina DeWitt, an employee of the State Board of Social Worker Examiners (“LSBSWE”). On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics does not prohibit Ms. Ava Breaux, from being employed with LSBSWE while Ms. DeWitt is an Administrative Assistant for LSBSWE.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-247 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Kelly Mouisset from continuing employment as Clerk of Court for Lafayette City Court while her husband contracts 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court to provide housing for Drug Court participants who may also have matters in Lafayette City Court. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics does not prohibit Ms. Mouisset from continuing employment as Clerk of Court for Lafayette City Court while her husband contracts with the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court to provide housing for Drug Court participants who may also have matters in Lafayette City Court.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-254 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Justin Metz, a councilman, from maintaining existing contracts with the Parish School Board if he is elected as Parish President. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics does not prohibit Mr. Metz from continuing an existing contract with the West Feliciana Parish School Board if he is elected as Parish President of West Feliciana Parish, provided he abide by the recusal and financial disclosure laws in La. R.S. 42:1120 and La. R.S. 42:1124, *et seq.*

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-257 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits John Simon, an attorney for two municipal agencies from providing legal services for a bank that transacts with the public agencies. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Mr. Simon, while serving as legal counsel for the City of New Iberia, (the “City”) and for the Iberia Economic Development Authority (“IEDA”), from receiving any thing of economic value for services rendered to Community First Bank while it provides checking account banking services to the City and to IEDA.

The Board considered an advisory opinion request in Docket No. 26-266 from Lance Arnold, on behalf of Nicholls State University (the "University"), as to whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Laure Kasovich, a University employee to enter into contracts with her department. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Ms. Kasovich from entering into a contract with the Colonel Media Group, an umbrella organization within the University for student-led media, including the student radio, television, newspaper, and yearbook, that is under the supervision or jurisdiction of the Department.

The Board considered an advisory opinion and approval of a disqualification plan request in Docket No. 26-259 from the LSU Agricultural Center regarding the appointment of Dr. Todd Tarifa's child, Alyson Tarifa, as a part-time graduate assistant in the Office of Youth Development while he serves as the department head of the Office of Youth Development. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board deferred the matter to a future meeting.

The Board considered the following general business agenda items:

Board Members Davis, Grand, Nowlin, and Whipple recused themselves from voting on G18 May 2026 Board minutes.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board approved the May 7th and May 8th, 2026 Board meeting minutes.

The Board considered a consent opinion in Docket No. 24-188 regarding Guy McInnis, former President of St. Bernard Parish, relating to violations of Sections 1111A and 1112B(4) of the Code of Governmental Ethics. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the consent opinion for publication and authorized staff to dismiss the charges filed against Mr. McInnis with the Ethics Adjudicatory Board.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee for Campaign Finance, the Board considered the assessment of enhanced penalties in Docket No. 26-032 pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1505.4A(4)(b) for Emile L. Fontenot, a candidate for Police Juror, District 2, Calcasieu Parish, in the October 14, 2023 election, for his failure to file 10-P and 10-G Campaign finance disclosure reports. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board assessed a civil penalty of \$10,000 each (\$20,000 total) for the 10-P and 10-G campaign finance disclosure reports.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance, the Board considered the assessment of enhanced penalties in Docket No. 26-056 pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1505.4A(4)(a) and (b) for Patrick D. Walker, a successful candidate for Coroner, Terrebonne Parish, in the October 14, 2023 election, for his failure to file the 30-P, 10-P and 10-G Campaign finance disclosure reports. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board assessed a civil penalty of \$10,000 each (\$30,000 total) for failure to file the 30-P, 10-P and the 10-G campaign finance disclosure reports.

The Board considered an advisory opinion in Docket No. 26-222 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Michael Fewell, a member of the Cameron Parish Police Jury from accepting employment with K&M, an engineering firm that contracts with his agency. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Michael Fewell from accepting employment from and rendering compensated services to K&M Project Services LLC while it has a contractual, financial, or business relationship with the Cameron Parish Police Jury.

Administrator's Notes in Docket No. 3126-01: The July Board Meetings will be held on Wednesday, July 1 and Thursday, July 2, 2026.

The Board took no action on an updated legislation report in Docket No. 3126-02 regarding proposed legislation filed for the 2026 Legislative Session as to the laws administered by the Louisiana Board of Ethics.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance, the Board unanimously agreed to take action on the requests for "good cause" waivers of campaign finance disclosure late fees assessed against individuals included 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 items 26-197, 26-198, 26-241 and 26-297, taking the following action:

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board unanimously reduced to \$400 based on rule 1205C and declined to waive the campaign finance late fees assessed against the following:

Docket No. 26-066 from Tonia Schnyder, 2024 SUPP of a \$500 late fee.

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 No. 26-124 from Steven E. "Steve" Pylant, 30-P of a \$1000 late fee;  
Docket No. 26-124 from Steven E. "Steve" Pylant, 10-P of a \$1000 late fee;

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board unanimously reduced to \$1,600 based on rule 1205C and declined to waive the campaign finance late fees assessed against the following:

Docket No. 26-275 from Renada Collins, 2024 ANNUAL of a \$2500 late fee.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board unanimously reduced to \$1,800 based on rule 1205C and declined to waive the campaign finance late fees assessed against the following:

Docket No. 26-275 from Renada Collins, 180-P of a \$2500 late fee.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee for Campaign Finance, the Board considered a waiver request in Docket No. 26-197 regarding the late fee of \$500 assessed against Gavin Clyde Robertson, an unsuccessful candidate for Mayor / City of Port Allen, West Baton Rouge Parish, in the November 5, 2024 election, whose 10-G Campaign finance disclosure report was inaccurately filed. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the campaign finance late fees since filer failed to state good cause which is outside of the control of filer, as required under La. R.S. 42:1157(A)(1)(b).

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee for Campaign Finance, the Board considered a waiver request in Docket No. 26-198 regarding \$100 and \$600 campaign finance late fee (total \$700) assessed against Frank Robert Janusa, in his capacity as a candidate for Mayor, City of New Orleans in the October 11, 2025 election, whose 10-P and 10-G Campaign finance disclosure reports were filed 1 and 10 days late, respectively. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board suspended the \$100 fee based on future compliance, with respect to the 10-P report and declined to waive the \$600 campaign finance late

fees, with respect to the 10-G report since the filer failed to state good cause which is outside of the control of filer, as required under La. R.S. 42:1157(A)(1)(b).

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee for Campaign Finance, the Board considered a waiver request in Docket No. 26-241 regarding the \$60 campaign finance late fee assessed against Jon D. Johnson, an unsuccessful candidate for State Senator, 3rd Senatorial District in the February 7, 2026 election, whose 10-P Campaign finance disclosure report was filed 1 day late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board suspended all of the fee based on future compliance.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee for Campaign Finance, the Board considered a waiver request in Docket No. 26-297 regarding the \$60 campaign finance late fee assessed against Derrick Shepherd, an unsuccessful candidate for Councilman, District 3, Jefferson Parish, in the October 14, 2023 election, whose 2025 Supplemental campaign finance disclosure report was filed 1 day late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the campaign finance late fees.

The Board unanimously agreed to take action on the requests for “good cause” waivers of personal financial disclosure late fees assessed against individuals included in item G26, 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 G26, excluding item 25-092, taking the following action:

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

Docket 25-462 Michael Ricks, Jr., Amend 2023 Tier 2, 213 days late of a \$2500 late fee;  
Docket 25-527 Jerry A. Johnson, Amend 2022 Tier 3, 18 days late of a \$450 late fee;  
Docket 25-735 Dorothy Denise Costin, 2023 Tier 3, 337 days late of a \$500 late fee;  
Docket 26-135 DeJae A Broomfield, Amend 2023 Tier 2, 107 days late of a \$2500 late fee;  
Docket 26-137 Michael D. Gillie, Jr., 2023 Tier 3, 417 days late of a \$500 late fee;

Docket 26-144 Katharyn Deville, Amend 2023 Tier 2.1, fail to file of a \$1500 late fee;  
Docket 26-145 Rhonda S. Sheridan, Amend 2023 Tier 2.1, 65 days late of a \$1500 late fee;  
Docket 26-165 Jennifer Van Vrancken, Amend 2023 Tier 2, 5 days late of a \$500 late fee;  
Docket 26-165 Jennifer Van Vrancken, Amend 2024 Tier 2, 5 days late of a \$500 late fee;  
Docket 26-194 Jeremy M. Williams, Amend 2023 Tier 2, 12 days late of a \$1200 late fee;  
Docket 26-194 Jeremy M. Williams, Amend 2024 Tier 2, 12 days late of a \$1200 late fee;  
Docket 26-196 Ivan P. Gill, Amend 2023 Tier 3, 113 days late of a \$500 late fee;  
Docket 26-199 John Cathey, Sr., 2020 Tier 3, 1076 days late of a \$500 late fee; and,  
Docket 26-199 John Cathey, Sr., 2021 Tier 3, 1076 days late of a \$500 late fee.

The Board unanimously suspended all but \$1,250 of the personal financial disclosure late fees based on future compliance and payable within 20 days for the following:

Docket 26-133 Joseph L. Culpepper, Amend 2023 Tier 2, 89 days late of a \$2500 late fee.

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

Docket 26-134 Chantell Brown Clair, Amend 2023 Tier 3, 71 days late of a \$500 late fee;  
Docket 26-139 Chris L. Davis, Amend 2023 Tier 3, 124 days late of a \$500 late fee; and,  
Docket 26-195 Chanel D. Long, Amend 2023 Tier 3, 20 days late of a \$500 late fee.

The Board unanimously waived the personal financial disclosure late fees for the following:

Docket 26-148 Kenneth L. Stansbury, Amend 2023 Tier 2, 89 days late of a \$2500 late fee.

The Board unanimously suspended all but \$250 of the personal financial disclosure late fees based on future compliance and payable within 20 days for the following:

Docket 26-150 Donnell Grace, Jr., 2024 Tier 2, 16 days late of a \$2,500 late fee; and,  
Docket 26-166 William Jackson McGrew, 2023 Tier 2.1, 146 days late of a \$1,500 late fee.

The Board considered a waiver request in Docket No. 25-092 submitted by Dustin Michael Suire, New Iberia City Council / District 6 / Iberia Parish, regarding a \$2,500 late fee assessed for filing his 2023 Tier 2 Annual personal financial disclosure 120 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined waive the late fees.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board moved to consider the untimely request in Docket No. 26-090.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee for Campaign Finance, the Board considered an untimely waiver request in Docket No. 26-090 regarding the \$500 Campaign finance late fee assessed against Gary Brooks, a successful candidate for Councilman, District B, City of Shreveport, in the November 18, 2022 election, whose 2024 supplemental campaign finance disclosure report was filed 184 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board unanimously reduced to \$400 based on rule 1205C of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act and declined to waive the campaign finance late fees.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee for Campaign Finance, the Board considered a reconsideration request in Docket No. 23-554 regarding its decision to decline to waive the \$120 and \$2,000 Campaign finance late fees (for a total of \$2,120) assessed against Miguel Romar, "Roche" Wilson, an unsuccessful candidate for Jefferson Parish School Board, District 1, in the November 8, 2022 election, whose 10-P and 10-G Campaign finance disclosure reports were filed 2 and 537 days late, respectively. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board reaffirmed its decision to decline to waive the fee with respect to the 10-P and reduced to \$600 based on rule 1205C of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act and declined to waive the campaign finance late fees with respect to the 10-G.

The Board considered a reconsideration request in Docket No. 26-027 regarding its decision to decline to waive the \$500 late fee assessed against Jered Michael Thomas, Chief of Police / Lake Arthur / Jefferson Davis Parish, for filing his amended 2023 Tier 3 Annual personal financial disclosure 48 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board affirmed its decision to decline to waive the fee since the filer fails to state good cause which is outside of the control of filer, as required under Section 1157(A)(1)(b) of the Code of Governmental Ethics.

The Board considered and took no action on the General Supplemental Agenda.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

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**Secretary**

**APPROVED:**

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**Chairman**