EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

TO:       Members, Commission on Ethics

FROM:     Virlindia Doss  
           Executive Director

DATE:     February 18, 2019

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ADVISORY OPINIONS

The Commission on Ethics issued four advisory opinions in December. It has rendered 2,646 opinions since its inception in 1974.

LITIGATION

Javoney D. Roberts v. Florida Commission on Ethics, 1D18-3488.
Roberts, an inmate appearing pro se, is appealing the Second Judicial Circuit's order denying his Petition for Writ of Mandamus, which sought to compel the Executive Director to log his complaint in for investigation, notwithstanding that it was not on a complaint form, failed to allege elements of misuse of public position, and alleged conduct outside the statute of limitations. Roberts has filed his petition for insolvency/indigency status.
Gray Schafer is handling this appeal.

Marcos Villanueva v. Florida Commission on Ethics, 1D19-0089.
Villanueva, a member of the City Commission of the City of Sweetwater and a former candidate for the City Commission, is appealing the Commission's Final Order rendered on December 12, 2018. The order found that Mr. Villanueva violated Section 112.3145, Florida Statutes, and recommended a civil penalty of $500 and public censure and reprimand. Appellant's initial brief is due by March 18.
Deanna Rahming and Chris Anderson are handling this appeal.

FINANCES

As of January 31, we've spent $1,436,538.45 (56.55%) of our appropriation with 58.33% of the FY gone.

PUBLIC SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS / PUBLICATIONS / HONORS

Caroline gave two presentations (one 40 minute and one 80 minute) to the Florida Public Pension Trustees Association (FPPTA) on February 5, at their conference in Orlando, and will also be giving a 100 minute lecture to the Florida Clerks of Court & Comptrollers on March 1, at their Winter Conference in Daytona Beach.
I presented two one-hour trainings for the Association of Government Accountant's 2019 Conference in Tallahassee on February 15, and Gray recorded a 35-minute webinar for the
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Florida Bar, to be made available February 15 for lawyers taking the Education Law Certification Exam.

Kerrie will speak at the Florida Association of Property Appraisers' 2019 Pre-Legislative Conference in Tallahassee on February 19. Gray and Chris will be presenting for two hours to members of the Property Appraisers Association of Florida, at the Association's 2019 Mid-Winter Conference on February 21, in Tallahassee. On March 6, in Tallahassee, Chris will be presenting to the Board of Trustees of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. Caroline, Gray, and Chris will be presenting in Orlando on April 5, at the 2019 Sunshine Law, Public Records, and Ethics Seminar, sponsored by The Florida Bar and the Bar's City, County, and Local Government Law Section.

PENDING ORDERS IMPOSING PENALTIES

GOVERNOR
Comp. No. 15-178, In re Michael S. Murphy (Final Order 08/03/16).
Comp. No. 17-108, In re Joel Davis (Final Order 06/13/18).
Comp. No. 17-088, In re Cheryl Thomas-Hughes (Final Order 12/12/18).
Comp. Nos. 16-072, 16-079, and 17-017 (cons.), In re Shane Crawford (Final Order 12/12/18).
Comp. Nos. 16-113 and 17-016 (cons.), In re Ricky Thompson (Final Order 12/12/18).
Comp. No. 17-050, In re Jere Stambaugh (Final Order 12/12/18).
Comp. No. 17-055, In re Marcos Villanueva (Final Order 12/12/18) (pending appeal).
Comp. No. 17-013, In re Nancy Oakley (Final Order 01/30/19).
Comp. No. 17-123, In re Derryl O'Neal (Final Order 01/30/19).

HOUSE
Comp. Nos. 10-157 and 10-182 (cons.), In re David Rivera (Final Order 04/17/15, Mandate Issued 08/26/16, Pet. for Review Denied by Fla. S. Ct. 12/06/16).
Comp. No. 18-026, In re Kim Daniels (Final Order 01/30/19).

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

Comp. No. 16-017, In re Dean Mead (Probable Cause 01/27/17).
Comp. No. 16-018, In re Buigas and Associates (Probable Cause 01/27/17).
Comp. No. 16-019, In re DDarling Consulting (Probable Cause 01/27/17).
Comp. No. 16-174, In re Kathy Till and Associates, Inc., (Probable Cause 08/02/17).
Comp. No. 16-173, In re Johnson Strategies, LLC (Probable Cause 1213/17)
Comp. No. 16-175, In re Sayfie Law Firm (Probable Cause 10/25/17).
Comp. No. 17-132, In re Andrew J. Liles (Probable Cause 08/01/18).
Comp. No. 17-134, In re Lester Abberger (Probable Cause 08/01/18).
Comp. No. 17-135, In re Pruitt and Associates (Probable Cause 08/01/18).
Comp. No. 17-136, In re Wilson and Associates, LLC (Probable Cause 08/01/18).
Comp. No. 17-137, In re TC Wolfe (Probable Cause 08/01/18).