EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

TO: Members, Commission on Ethics

FROM: Chris Anderson
Executive Director

DATE: August 28, 2019

ADVISORY OPINIONS

The Commission on Ethics issued two advisory opinions in July. It has rendered 2,654 opinions since its inception in 1974.

LITIGATION

Marcos Villanueva v. Florida Commission on Ethics, First District Court of Appeal Case No. 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 the financial disclosure statute, Section 112.3145, Florida Statutes, and recommended a civil penalty of $500 and public censure and reprimand. All briefs have been filed.

Deanna Rahming and I are handling this appeal.

FINANCES

As of July 31, we've spent $252,035.82 (9.82%) of our appropriation with 8.33% of the FY gone.

PUBLIC SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS / PUBLICATIONS / HONORS

Caroline presented on August 23 at the Florida School Board Attorneys Association's annual conference, in Delray Beach. On August 27, Kerrie presented at the 2019 Florida Tax Collector Association's Fall Education Forum, in Orlando. I will be presenting to Florida Atlantic University Trustees, and others, on September 17. Also, attached please find a copy of a note in appreciation of Gray's recent presentation to the Association of Florida Conservation Districts; and a copy of an email thanking Commission staff, especially Deanna, for their work toward providing advisory opinion guidance to an elected official.

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).
Comp. No. 16-192, In re Elliot Cohen (Final Order 03/13/19).
Comp. No. 17-053, In re Richard B. Romanoff, Jr. (Final Order 03/13/19).
Comp. No. 17-106, In re Ricardo "Ric" Fernandez (Final Order 03/13/19).
Comp. No. 18-140, In re Alfredo Santamaria (Final Order 03/13/19).
Comp. No. 16-061, In re Janet McDonald (Final Order 06/12/19).
Comp. Nos. 17-115, 18-064, 18-075, and 18-079 (cons.), In re Samuel Stevens (Final Order 06/12/19).
Comp. No. 17-146, In re Andrew Gillum (Final Order 06/12/19).
Comp. No. 18-061, In re Thomas McQueen (Final Order 06/12/19).
Comp. Nos. 18-108 and 18-119 (cons.), In re Josh Santos (Final Order 06/12/19).
Comp. No. 17-178, In re Charles C. Pesano (Final Order 07/31/19).
Comp. Nos. 18-106 and 18-117, In re William Kruse (Final Order 07/31/19).
Comp. Nos. 18-107 and 18-118, In re Barbara H. Brooke (Final Order 07/31/19).
Comp. Nos. 18-111 and 18-122, In re Jared B. Reddick (Final Order 07/31/19).

HOUSE
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 Darling 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 12/13/17)
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).
Dear Gray,

Just a note to say thank you once again for the Ethics Presentation at the recent AFCO Annual Meeting. We have received many compliments on your presentation.

Charlene Meeks
A.F. C.D.
You're very welcome! 😊

Thank you! I appreciate your help too. This kind of guidance and help is invaluable for new elected officials like me.

Bill Carlson
Tampa City Council Member, District 4
City of Tampa / 315 E. Jackson / Tampa, Florida
p: (813) 274-8134 / e: bill.carlson@tampagov.net
@CarlsonBill / @CityOfTampa

Please note that all emails are subject to public records laws.

Mr. Shelby, thank you for your kind words! It was indeed a pleasure working with you. Best of wishes to you and the councilmember. Thank you, again!

Deanna

Dear Ms. Rahming,
I did not have the opportunity to thank you on Friday as we had to leave the meeting immediately after the item. Please accept my gratitude for your efforts, and that of Executive Director Chris Anderson, to provide the guidance sought by Tampa City Council member Bill Carlson.

I appreciate your diligence and professionalism, and that of the entire staff of the Florida Commission on Ethics. As a local government attorney, I am always thankful for the time and courtesy afforded me to assist me in supporting my clients in serving their constituents as stewards of the public trust.

Thanks, again.

Best wishes,

Martin Shelby  
City Council Attorney  
City of Tampa  
Florida Bar Board Certified in City, County & Local Government Law

Please note that all written communications to and from this office, including e-mails, texts and attachments, are considered public records and subject to disclosure unless expressly exempted by Florida law.