# BEFORE THE STATE OF FLORIDA COMMISSION ON ETHICS

In re BARRY BICHARD,	)	Financial Disclosure Appeal No.	FD 19-065
Appellant.	)	Final Order No.	

### FINAL ORDER

This matter came before the Commission on Ethics, on its own motion, meeting in public session on April 19, 2024, in the matter of Barry Bichard, pursuant to Section 112.3145(8)(g) [formerly, Section 112.3145(7)(f)], Florida Statutes, which assesses an automatic fine of \$25 per day on a person who fails to timely file a required CE Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests. The Commission may waive the fine in whole or in part for good cause shown, based on "unusual circumstances" surrounding the failure to file by the designated date. There are no matters in dispute. Appellant did not request a hearing before the Commission.

### Findings of Fact

- 1. According to information provided to the Commission, Appellant served as an Assistant Secretary on the Board of Supervisors of Shingle Creek Community Development District ("CDD"), a position that requires the filing of a CE Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests, for the year 2018. The designated due date for submitting a 2018 CE Form 1 annual filing was July 1, 2019, with a grace period ending on September 3, 2019.
- 2. No later than June 1, 2019, the Lake County Supervisor of Elections sent Appellant a blank 2018 CE Form 1. This mailing was sent to Appellant at 6750 Forum Drive, Orlando, FL 32821, which is the address of Lennar Holmes, LLC. Appellant states that he never received this mailing.

- 3. On or before July 31, 2019, the Lake County Supervisor of Elections sent Appellant a Notice of Delinquency by certified mail. This notice was sent to the 6750 Forum Drive address. Postal records indicate the notice was delivered on July 31, 2019, but was signed for by an unknown recipient.
- 4. On August 19, 2019, the Commission mailed Appellant a courtesy postcard, which was intended to remind him of his obligation to file a 2018 CE Form 1. The Commission mailed the postcard to the 6750 Forum Drive address but added a suite number (310).
- 5. On September 6, 2019, three days after the grace period expired, the Commission mailed Appellant a courtesy notice informing him that his 2018 CE Form 1 had not been received by the Lake County Supervisor of Elections and that he was being fined \$25 per day, up to a maximum of \$1,500. The Commission mailed this notice to the 6750 Forum Drive, Suite 310 address.
- 6. On March 10, 2020, the Commission sent Appellant a Notice of Assessment of Automatic Fine by certified mail to the 6750 Forum Drive, Suite 310 address. This notice indicated that Appellant had accrued a \$1,500 fine and informed him of his right to appeal the fine. It stated that the appeal had to be received by the Commission by April 9, 2020, to be considered timely. With regards to its receipt, Commission records indicate that the address was found to be incorrect and that the notice needed to be resent to a "better address."
- 7. On June 11, 2021, the Commission mailed Appellant a Final Notice of Assessment of Automatic Fine ("Final Notice") for failure to timely file his 2018 CE Form 1. This notice was sent to the 6750 Forum Drive, Suite 310 address. The Final Notice indicated that Appellant had waived his right to appeal because he did not file an appeal when he received the Notice of Assessment of Automatic Fine. With regards to its receipt, Commission records indicate that the address was found to be incorrect and that the notice needed to be resent to a "better address."

- 8. On July 13, 2021, Appellant called Commission staff regarding the Final Notice. He stated that he left his employer (located at the 6750 Forum Drive, Suite 310 address) in April 2019 and that no notices had been forwarded to him except the Final Notice, which was forwarded to him by email on July 12, 2021. Appellant provided his current mailing and email addresses. On July 13, 2021, Commission staff emailed Appellant another Notice of Assessment of Automatic Fine and informed him that his appeal would need to be received by August 12, 2021.
- 9. On August 10, 2021, the Commission received Appellant's 2018 CE Form 1, which had been signed on August 6, 2021.
- 10. On August 12, 2021, the Commission received Appellant's Appeal of Automatic Fine for Form Year 2018.
- 11. In the appeal, Appellant stated that he did not receive any notices regarding his filing obligation, the fine, or of his delinquency until an employee at his former employer, Lennar, emailed the Final Notice to him on July 12, 2021. The employee informed Appellant that he owed a fine. Appellant states that he called the Commission on Ethics the same day and spoke with Kim Holmes. He stated in the appeal that he had filed his 2018 CE Form 1 on August 10, 2021, and requested that the fine be dismissed.

### Conclusions of Law

- 12. Financial disclosure is required of public officials and employees because it enables the public to evaluate potential conflicts of interest, deters corruption, and increases public confidence in government.
  - 13. Section 112.3145(8)(g)3., Florida Statutes, states:

Any reporting person may appeal or dispute a fine, based upon unusual circumstances surrounding the failure to file on the designated due date, and may request and is entitled to a hearing before the commission, which may waive the fine in whole or in part for good cause shown. Any such request must be in writing and received by the commission within 30 days after the notice of payment due is transmitted. In such a case, the reporting person must, within the 30-day period, notify the person designated to review the timeliness of reports in writing of his or her intention to bring the matter before the commission. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "unusual circumstances" does not include the failure to monitor an e-mail account or failure to receive notice if the person has not notified the commission of a change in his or her e-mail address.

- 14. Commission Rule 34-8.215, F.A.C., defines "unusual circumstances" as follows:
  - uncommon, rare or sudden events over which the reporting individual had no control and which directly result in the failure to act in accordance with the filing requirements. Circumstances which allow for time in which to take those steps necessary to assure compliance with the filing requirements shall be deemed not to constitute unusual circumstances.
- 15. Appellant's appeal is accepted as timely. Appellant states he did not receive any notices regarding his filing obligation until he received an email from his former employer on July 12, 2021, containing a notice that informed him that he owed a fine. Appellant told Commission staff that he left that place of employment in April, 2019, which was before the Supervisor of Elections and the Commission began sending him notices about his filing requirement and the accrual of fines. There is no evidence in the record to dispute Appellant's claims that he did not receive any notices, which notices would have informed him of his appellate rights, prior to the Final Notice that was forwarded to him on July 12, 2021. When the Commission emailed Appellant a Notice of Assessment of Automatic Fine, which contained his appeal rights, on July 13, 2021, Appellant filed his appeal in a timely manner. As such, Appellant's appeal is accepted as timely.
- 16. Turning to the merits of the appeal, Appellant denies having received any notices the Supervisor of Elections or the Commission sent him prior to his receipt of the Final Notice on July 12, 2021. He stated that he never received notice of his filing obligation and his right to

appeal until he spoke with Ms. Holmes on July 12, 2021. There is no evidence to dispute Appellant's claim. The Commission has found lack of notice to constitute "unusual circumstances," which would justify waiving a fine.

17. Due to the information provided to the Commission, including postal records, we find Appellant's reason for appealing to constitute "unusual circumstances" that justify waiving the \$1,500 fine.

## <u>Order</u>

Based on the foregoing facts and conclusions of law, the Commission hereby waives the assessed fine of \$1,500.

ORDERED by the State of Florida Commission on Ethics meeting in public session on Friday, April 19, 2024.

Date Rendered	~	
Ashley Lukis		
Chair Florida Commission on Ethics		

THIS ORDER CONSTITUTES FINAL AGENCY ACTION. ANY PARTY WHO IS ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THIS ORDER HAS THE RIGHT TO SEEK JUDICIAL REVIEW UNDER SECTION 120.68, AND SECTION 112.3241, FLORIDA STATUTES, BY FILING A NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL PURSUANT TO RULE 9.110 FLORIDA RULES OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE, WITH THE CLERK OF THE COMMISSION ON ETHICS, AT EITHER 325 JOHN KNOX ROAD, BUILDING E, SUITE 200, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32303 OR P.O. DRAWER 15709, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32317-5709; AND BY FILING A COPY OF THE NOTICE OF APPEAL ATTACHED TO WHICH IS A CONFORMED COPY OF THE ORDER DESIGNATED IN THE NOTICE OF APPEAL ACCOMPANIED BY THE APPLICABLE FILING FEES WITH THE APPROPRIATE DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL. THE NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL MUST BE FILED WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DATE THIS ORDER IS RENDERED.

# AL:kbh

Copy furnished to:

Mr. Barry Bichard 11600 Thacker Drive Clermont, FL 34711

277151

TANK TO THE STATE OF THE STATE

# STATE OF FLORIDA COMMISSION ON ETHICS

325 John Knox Road Building E, Suite 200 Tallahassee, FL 32303 Telephone: (850) 488-7864 Fax: (850) 488-3077 FLORIDA COMMISSION ON ETHICS AUG 1 2 2021 RECEIVED

19-065

# APPEAL OF AUTOMATIC FINE FOR FORM YEAR 2018

Email: disclosure@leg.state.fl.us

**DIRECTIONS:** The information you provide in this form is critical for processing your appeal in a timely manner.

In Part A, please provide current contact information. If your contact information changes while your appeal is being processed, please notify us.

In Part B, please check any boxes that specify the general reason(s) for your appeal.

In Part C, please explain in detail the reason(s) for your appeal. In addition to your written explanation in Part C, you may attach any documents that support your appeal.

IMPORTANT: TO PRESERVE YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL, THIS FORM OR OTHER WRITTEN APPEAL (AND ANY ATTACHMENTS) MUST BE FILED WITH (RECEIVED BY) THE COMMISSION ON ETHICS WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS OF THE DATE THE NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT OF AUTOMATIC FINE WAS MAILED TO YOU.

# PLEASE SEND YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

Mailing Address: Commission on Ethics

P.O. Drawer 15709

Tallahassee, FL 32317-5709

Physical Address: Commission on Ethics

325 John Knox Road Building E, Suite 200 Tallahassee, FL 32303

Fax:

(850) 488-3077

Email:

disclosure@leg.state.fl.us

CONTINUED ON REVERSE SIDE

PART B: GENERAL REASON(S) FOR YOUR APPEAL
Please choose any/all reasons that apply to your appeal.
I hereby appeal the Notice of Assessment of Automatic Fine on the following basis:
a. [ ] <b>Sickness or injury</b> (Explain in Part C and attach a statement from attending physician, including dates and nature of illness or injury)
b. [✓] Lack of notification – Failure to receive notice (Explain in Part C and provide documentation that supports your assertion that you never received certified mail delinquency notice: for example, incorrect address; misdelivered mail; change in employment; extended absence from home, etc.)
c. [ ] Claim of timely filing of financial disclosure (Explain in Part C and provide copy of certified mail receipt and/or copy of completed form which had been previously filed, along with a sworn notarized statement that you filed prior to the deadline)
d. [ ] Left public position prior to December 31, 2018 (Explain in Part C and provide confirmation from agency that your office-holding/employment ended before 12/31/2018)
e. [ ] Other unusual circumstance (Explain in Part C and provide documentation explaining uncommon, rare, or sudden occurrence that prevented timely filing prior to deadline)
f. [ ] <b>Not required to file</b> (Explain in Part C and provide documentation that supports reason for not required to file)
PART C: DETAILED EXPLANATION OF YOUR APPEAL
Please provide a detailed explanation of your appeal, including why each option you selected in Part B is applicable to you. You may use the space provided and/or attach additional pages.
On July 12, 2021 I received an email from Melanie Minihan/Lennar stating a notice had been received by the Lennar office
for me notifying of a fine, I immediately called the BOE on 7/12/21 and spoke to Kim Holmes. I have filed the necessary
Financial Statement of Interests as of 8/10/21, copies of filing are attached. I was not ever notified of the requested
filing prior to the email from Lennar on 7/12/21. I respectfully request the fine be dismissed.

OPTIONAL REQUEST FOR HEARING	
[ ] In addition to this written appeal, I specifically request to appear before the Commission in a hearing pursuant to Section 112.3144(8)(f)3 or Section 112.3145(8)(g)3, Florida Statutes. Commission meeting occur in Tallahassee.	$\sim$

<u> Paragonal de la Paragonal de la calenda de la calenda</u>	SIGNATURE	
	Notice of Assessment of Automatic Fine and its ir s. I am requesting disposition of this matter as indicated in the control of	* *
8/10/2021		
DATE	SIGNATURE	

#### FORM 1 2018 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL INTERESTS FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Please print or type your name, mailing address, agency name, and position below: LAST NAME -- FIRST NAME -- MIDDLE NAME : BICHARD BARRY CURTIS MAILING ADDRESS: 11600 THACKER DR CITY: ZIP · COUNTY: CLERMONT 34711 LAKE NAME OF AGENCY : SHINGLE CREEK COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT NAME OF OFFICE OR POSITION HELD OR SOUGHT: ASSISTANT SECRETARY You are not limited to the space on the lines on this form. Attach additional sheets, if necessary. NEW EMPLOYEE OR APPOINTEE CHECK ONLY IF CANDIDATE OR \*\*\*\* BOTH PARTS OF THIS SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED \*\*\*\* THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS YOUR FINANCIAL INTERESTS FOR THE PRECEDING TAX YEAR, WHETHER BASED ON A CALENDAR YEAR OR ON A FISCAL YEAR. PLEASE STATE BELOW WHETHER THIS STATEMENT IS FOR THE PRECEDING TAX YEAR ENDING EITHER (must check one): **DECEMBER 31, 2018** SPECIFY TAX YEAR IF OTHER THAN THE CALENDAR YEAR: <u>OR</u> MANNER OF CALCULATING REPORTABLE INTERESTS: FILERS HAVE THE OPTION OF USING REPORTING THRESHOLDS THAT ARE ABSOLUTE DOLLAR VALUES. WHICH REQUIRES FEWER CALCULATIONS, OR USING COMPARATIVE THRESHOLDS, WHICH ARE USUALLY BASED ON PERCENTAGE VALUES (see instructions for further details). CHECK THE ONE YOU ARE USING (must check one): M COMPARATIVE (PERCENTAGE) THRESHOLDS OR **DOLLAR VALUE THRESHOLDS** PART A -- PRIMARY SOURCES OF INCOME [Major sources of income to the reporting person - See instructions] (If you have nothing to report, write "none" or "n/a") NAME OF SOURCE DESCRIPTION OF THE SOURCE'S SOURCE'S PRINCIPAL BUSINESS ACTIVITY OF INCOME **ADDRESS** LENNAR HOMES 6750 FORUM DR, ORLANDO, 32821 DEVELOPER PART B -- SECONDARY SOURCES OF INCOME [Major customers, clients, and other sources of income to businesses owned by the reporting person - See instructions] (If you have nothing to report, write "none" or "n/a") NAME OF NAME OF MAJOR SOURCES **ADDRESS** PRINCIPAL BUSINESS **BUSINESS ENTITY** OF BUSINESS' INCOME OF SOURCE ACTIVITY OF SOURCE NA NA NA NA

PART C -- REAL PROPERTY [Land, buildings owned by the reporting person - See instructions] (If you have nothing to report, write "none" or "n/a")

PRIMARY RESIDENCE, 11600 THACKER DR, CLERMONT, 34711

FILING INSTRUCTIONS for when and where to file this form are located at the bottom of page 2.

INSTRUCTIONS on who must file this form and how to fill it out begin on page 3.

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PART D — INTANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY [St (If you have nothing to report, write "nor		les of deposit, etc See if	istructions	
TYPE OF INTANGIBLE	BUSINESS ENTITY TO WHICH THE PROPERTY RELATES			
NA	NA			
PART E — LIABILITIES [Major debts - See instruction (If you have nothing to report, write "non				
NAME OF CREDITOR		ADDRE	SS OF CRE	DITOR
FREEDOM MORTGAGE	POB 50485, I	NDIANAPOLIS, II	v 46250-	-0485
			····	
PART F — INTERESTS IN SPECIFIED BUSINESSES (If you have nothing to report, write "none"	" or "n/a") BUSINE	ons in certain types of bu	I	Gee instructions] BUSINESS ENTITY # 2
NAME OF BUSINESS ENTITY	INA .		NA	
ADDRESS OF BUSINESS ENTITY				
PRINCIPAL BUSINESS ACTIVITY				- Andrews
POSITION HELD WITH ENTITY				
I OWN MORE THAN A 5% INTEREST IN THE BUSINESS				
NATURE OF MY OWNERSHIP INTEREST			<u> </u>	
PART G — TRAINING For elected municipal officers required to complete an	HAVE COMP	LETED THE REG	UIRED	
IF ANY OF PARTS A THROUGH G ARE	CONTINUED O	N A SEPARATE SH	EET, PLE	ASE CHECK HERE
Signature:  Signature:  Date Signed:  8-6-2021	<u>R:</u>	If a certified public acc in good standing with she must complete the I, Form 1 in accordance	countant licer the Florida B e following st with Section n. Upon my r ue and correct re:	, prepared the CE n 112.3145, Florida Statutes, and the reasonable knowledge and belief, the ct.
FILING INSTRUCTIONS:				
1				

If you were mailed the form by the Commission on Ethics or a County Supervisor of Elections for your annual disclosure filing, return the form to that location. To determine what category your position falls under, see page 3 of instructions.

**Local officers/employees** file with the Supervisor of Elections of the county in which they permanently reside. (If you do not permanently reside in Florida, file with the Supervisor of the county where your agency has its headquarters.) Form 1 filers who file with the Supervisor of Elections may file by mail or email. Contact your Supervisor of Elections for the mailing address or email address to use. Do not email your form to the Commission on Ethics, it will be returned.

State officers or specified state employees who file with the Commission on Ethics may file by mail or email. To file by mail, send the completed form to P.O. Drawer 15709, Tallahassee, FL 32317-5709; physical address: 325 John Knox Rd, Bldg E, Ste 200, Tallahassee, FL 32303. To file with the Commission by email, scan your completed form and any attachments as a pdf (do not use any other format) and send it to CEForm1@leg.state.fl.us. Do not file by both mail and email. Choose only one filing method. Form 6s will not be accepted via email.

Candidates file this form together with their filing papers.

**MULTIPLE FILING UNNECESSARY:** A candidate who files a Form 1 with a qualifying officer is not required to file with the Commission or Supervisor of Elections.

WHEN TO FILE: *Initially*, each local officer/employee, state officer, and specified state employee must file *within 30 days* of the date of his or her appointment or of the beginning of employment. Appointees who must be confirmed by the Senate must file prior to confirmation, even if that is less than 30 days from the date of their appointment.

**Candidates** must file at the same time they file their qualifying papers.

**Thereafter**, file by July 1 following each calendar year in which they hold their positions.

**Finally**, file a final disclosure form (Form 1F) within 60 days of leaving office or employment. Filing a CE Form 1F (Final Statement of Financial Interests) does <u>not</u> relieve the filer of filing a CE Form 1 if the filer was in his or her position on December 31, 2018.

# barry@floridasiteservices.com

From:

Melanie Minihan < Melanie. Minihan @Lennar.com >

Sent:

Monday, July 12, 2021 4:47 PM

To:

Barry@floridasiteservices.com

Subject:

Mailed to Lennar's address

**Attachments:** 

Barry.pdf

Good Afternoon, left you a message but then I found your email. This was mailed to the old Forum Office so it probably took a little longer to get to the new office but this letter is addressed to you and it looked like something that you may need to know or take care of. Have a good day.

Thank you,

## LENNAR

Melanie Minihan Land Coordinator

Melanie.Minihan@Lennar.com www.LennarOrlando.com

Office: 407-586-4016 Cell: 352-404-2404

6675 Westwood Blvd. 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Orlando, FL 32821

From: LenWHC Scanner

Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 4:44 PM

To: Melanie Minihan < Melanie. Minihan @ Lennar.com >

Subject: HP Scan

## BEFORE THE STATE OF FLORIDA COMMISSION ON ETHICS

In re Barry Bichard PID#: 277151

Assistant Secretary Board of Supervisors Shingle Creek Community Development District

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### NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT OF AUTOMATIC FINE

The Commission on Ethics hereby gives notice of an assessment of a fine against you pursuant to Section 112.3145(8)(g), Florida Statutes, due to your failure to timely file your 2018 CE Form 1, Statement Of Financial Interests. Under the law, your 2018 CE Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests, was due by July 1, 2019. The law provided for a penalty-free grace period extending the due date to September 3, 2019. After that date, you accrued fines of \$25.00 per day for each day your financial disclosure was late, up to the maximum fine of \$1,500.00 (60 days late), pursuant to Section 112.3145(8)(g), Florida Statutes.

Inasmuch as your 2018 CE Form 1 has not been filed with the Supervisor of Elections for Lake County within the 60 days of the grace period date (September 3, 2019), you have accrued the maximum fine amount of \$1,500.00. This fine must be paid to the Commission on Ethics within 30 days of the date of this notice unless you appeal the fine to the Commission. The Commission has the authority to consider the appeal and waive the fine in whole or in part if your failure to file on time was due to "unusual circumstances" surrounding the failure to file. Unless the fine is successfully appealed, the Commission is required to investigate public officers and employees who receive the maximum \$1,500 fine, to determine whether their failure to file was willful. The penalty for willfully failing to file disclosure is removal from public office or employment.

### **HOW TO APPEAL**

- 1. Read these instructions carefully before submitting your appeal.
- 2. **LEGAL AUTHORITY:** Appeals are governed by Section 112.3145(8)(g)3., Florida Statutes, and Commission Rule 34-8.215, Florida Administrative Code.
- 3. **FORMAT:** Your appeal must be in writing and mailed to <u>Florida Commission on Ethics</u>, P. O. <u>Drawer 15709</u>, <u>Tallahassee</u>, <u>FL 32317-5709</u>, or delivered to <u>Florida Commission on Ethics</u>, <u>325 John Knox Road</u>, <u>Building E, Suite 200</u>, <u>Tallahassee</u>, <u>FL 32303</u>. The appeal may take the form of a letter or you may use the appeal form included in this mailing. The appeal form also is available at the Commission's website: www.ethics.state.fl.us. Click on "Financial Disclosure" and then the link to the sample appeal form.
- 4. **DUE DATE:** Your appeal must be <u>received</u> by the Commission on Ethics on or before <u>August 12, 2021.</u> NOTE: Failure to timely file an appeal will constitute a waiver of your right to appeal and will result in the entry of a default order against you.
- 5. UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES: An appeal must demonstrate that you submitted your CE Form 1 after the extended due date because of "unusual circumstances." "Unusual circumstances" is defined in Commission Rule 34-8.215(4), Florida Administrative Code, as "uncommon, rare, or sudden events over which the reporting individual had no control and which directly result in the failure to act in accordance with the filing requirements." Therefore, circumstances that allowed for time to take steps necessary to file on time do not constitute "unusual circumstances" that will allow the Commission to waive the fine. You have the burden to establish "unusual circumstances." Your appeal must specifically state the circumstances that led to your not filing by September 3, 2019, and must include any documentation or evidence supporting your appeal, such as:
  - a. **SICKNESS/INJURY:** a statement from attending physician, including dates and nature of the illness or injury;
  - b. **LACK OF NOTICE (WRONG ADDRESS):** documentation that you did not reside at the address to which notice was sent;

- c. LACK OF NOTICE (ABSENCE FROM HOME): documentation establishing the period of time of your absence covering the notification period;
- d. **CLAIM OF TIMELY FILING OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE:** (1) an affidavit from you attesting under oath or affirmation that you filed your financial disclosure and your recollection of when and how you filed and (2) a copy of a certified mail receipt and/or a copy of the completed form which was filed. If you have witnesses to your filing, we also will need an affidavit from each witness. NOTE: A claim of having filed the CE Form 1F for the current year does not satisfy the CE Form 1 filing requirement or excuse a late filing;
- e. **LEFT PUBLIC POSITION BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2018:** confirmation of your last date of office or employment by your former agency, showing the last date to be before December 31, 2018; or
- f. **UNCLAIMED CERTIFIED MAIL**: if deliquency notice was addressed correctly but not received, you must explain why.
- 6. YOUR RIGHT TO A HEARING: You have the right to have your appeal heard by the Commission and to appear before the Commission at the hearing, but, to exercise this right, you must specifically request a hearing in your appeal. If you do not request a hearing, you will waive your right to a hearing, the Commission will determine the outcome of your appeal based upon the written record (including the documentation you provide and any documentation in your case file), and you will receive no further notice until after the Commission decides your appeal.

## FAILURE TO PAY FINE OR FILE APPEAL WITHIN 30 DAYS

If you do not timely file an appeal or pay the assessed fine within 30 days of this Notice, a default order will be entered against you and the Commission will take the steps provided by law to collect the fine, including:

- Referral to the CFO of the Department of Financial Services, if you are a salaried state officer or employee, for withholding of a portion of you salary until the fine is satisfied; or
- Referral to your agency's governing body for withholding of a portion of your salary until the fine is satisfied;
- Referral to a collection agency, which can seek garnishment of your wages; and/or
- An additional civil penalty, not limited by this automatic fine, may be imposed if your disclosure statement is filed more than 60 days late and a complaint is filed against you pursuant to Section 112.324, Florida Statutes.

Please contact our office if you have any questions about this matter.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I certify that a copy of the foregoing Notice of Assessment of Automatic Fine was furnished to:

Barry Bichard 11600 Thacker Dr Clermont, FL 34711

by Certified Mail on this Tuesday, July 13, 2021.

KIMBERLY R. HOLMES Program Administrator

Florida Commission on Ethics P. O. Drawer 15709

-or-

Florida Commission on Ethics 325 John Knox Road, Building E, Ste. 200

Tallahassee, FL 32317-5709 Tallahassee, FL 32303

Tel.: (850) 488-7864 Fax: (850) 488-3077 Email: disclosure@leg.state.fl.us JoAnne Leznoff
Chair
John Grant
Vice Chair
Michelle Anchors
Antonio Carvajal
Travis Cummings
Don Gaetz
Glenton "Glen" Gilzean, Jr.
William "Willie" N. Meggs
Jim Waldman



State of Florida COMMISSION ON ETHICS P.O. Drawer 15709 Tallahassee, Florida 32317-5709

325 John Knox Road Building E, Suite 200 Tallahassee, Florida 32303

"A Public Office is a Public Trust"

C. Christopher Anderson, III Executive Director/ General Counsel

Kerrie J. Stillman Deputy Executive Director

> (850) 488-7864 Phone (850) 488-3077 (FAX) www.ethics.state.fl.us

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# FINAL NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT OF AUTOMATIC FINE FOR FAILURE TO TIMELY FILE FORM 1, STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL INTERESTS

TO:

Barry Bichard 277151

Shingle Creek Community Development District

Board of Supervisors

FROM:

Kimberly R. Holmes, Program Administrator

DATE:

June 11, 2021

On March 10, 2020, we notified you that your Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests, for the year 2018 was not filed and that you therefore have been assessed the maximum fine, for a total fine of \$1500. At that time, you were advised that you had 30 days from the date that letter was transmitted in which to either pay the fine or to appeal the fine to the Commission on Ethics.

It has been more than 30 days since we sent you that letter, and you have neither paid the fine nor filed an appeal. By not responding, you have waived your right to appeal the assessed fine.

If you do not pay the assessed fine by July 12, 2021 (30 days from the date of this letter) or contact our office to make arrangements for payment of the fine, the Commission on Ethics will enter an order setting your fine at \$1500 and will utilize all methods allowed by law to collect this fine including referral to a collection agency which can seek to garnish your wages.

# **Certificate of Mailing:**

I certify that a copy of the foregoing Final Notice of Assessment of Automatic Fine was furnished to:

Barry Bichard **277151** 6750 Forum Dr Ste 310 Orlando FL 32821 -8088

By United States Mail on this Friday, June 11, 2021.

Kimberly R. Holmes Program Administrator

# Pay your fine online today!

We are pleased to offer a fast, easy, and free option to pay this fine to the Florida Commission on Ethics.

Please visit the LEGISTORE-The Florida Legislature www.flalegistore.com and click on "Pay Fines."

Visa, MasterCard, and Discover cards are accepted at this secure site.

To pay this fine online you will need the PID number located on the letter enclosed. Note: <u>ONLY</u> full payments are accepted online.

If you have any questions, please contact the financial disclosure section at (800) 262-8824 or (850) 488-7864.



State of Florida Commission on Ethics P.O. Drawer 15709 Tallahassee, FL 32317-5709

## BEFORE THE STATE OF FLORIDA COMMISSION ON ETHICS

PID#: 277151

In re

Barry Bichard

Assistant Secretary

Board of Supervisors

Shingle Creek Community Development District

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- 1. Read these instructions carefully before submitting your appeal.
- 2. **LEGAL AUTHORITY:** Appeals are governed by Section 112.3145(8)(g)3, Florida Statutes, and Commission Rule 34-8.215, Florida Administrative Code.
- 3. **FORMAT:** Your appeal must be in writing and mailed to <u>Florida Commission on Ethics, P. O. Drawer 15709, Tallahassee, FL 32317-5709</u>, or delivered to <u>Florida Commission on Ethics, 325 John Knox Road, Building E, Suite 200, Tallahassee, FL 32303</u>. The appeal may take the form of a letter or you may use the appeal form included in this mailing. The appeal form also is available at the Commission's website: www.ethics.state.fl.us. Click on "Financial Disclosure" and then the link to the sample appeal form.
- 4. **DUE DATE:** Your appeal must be <u>received</u> by the Commission on Ethics on or before <u>April 9, 2020</u>. <u>NOTE</u>: Failure to timely file an appeal will constitute a waiver of your right to appeal and will result in the entry of a default order against you.
- 5. UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES: An appeal must demonstrate that you submitted your CE Form 1 after the extended due date because of "unusual circumstances." "Unusual circumstances" is defined in Commission Rule 34-8.215(4), Florida Administrative Code, as "uncommon, rare, or sudden events over which the reporting individual had no control and which directly result in the failure to act in accordance with the filing requirements." Therefore, circumstances that allowed for time to take steps necessary to file on time do not constitute "unusual circumstances" that will allow the Commission to waive the fine. You have the burden to establish "unusual circumstances." Your appeal must specifically state the circumstances that led to your not filing by September 3, 2019, and must include any documentation or evidence supporting your appeal, such as:
  - a. SICKNESS/INJURY: a statement from attending physician, including dates and nature of the illness or injury;
  - b. LACK OF NOTICE (WRONG ADDRESS): documentation that you did not reside at the address to which notice was sent;

- c. LACK OF NOTICE (ABSENCE FROM HOME): documentation establishing the period of time of your absence covering the notification period;
- d. CLAIM OF TIMELY FILING OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE: (1) an affidavit from you attesting under oath or affirmation that you filed your financial disclosure and your recollection of when and how you filed and (2) a copy of a certified mail receipt and/or a copy of the completed form which was filed. If you have witnesses to your filing, we also will need an affidavit from each witness. NOTE: A claim of having filed the CE Form 1F for the current year does not satisfy the CE Form 1 filing requirement or excuse a late filing;
- LEFT PUBLIC POSITION BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2018: confirmation of your last date of
  office or employment by your former agency, showing the last date to be before December 31, 2018;
  or
- f. UNCLAIMED CERTIFIED MAIL: if deliquency notice was addressed correctly but not received, you must explain why.
- 6. YOUR RIGHT TO A HEARING: You have the right to have your appeal heard by the Commission and to appear before the Commission at the hearing, but, to exercise this right, you must specifically request a hearing in your appeal. If you do not request a hearing, you will waive your right to a hearing, the Commission will determine the outcome of your appeal based upon the written record (including the documentation you provide and any documentation in your case file), and you will receive no further notice until after the Commission decides your appeal.

## FAILURE TO PAY FINE OR FILE APPEAL WITHIN 30 DAYS

If you do not timely file an appeal or pay the assessed fine within 30 days of this Notice, a default order will be entered against you and the Commission will take the steps provided by law to collect the fine, including:

- Referral to the CFO of the Department of Financial Services, if you are a salaried state officer or employee, for withholding of a portion of you salary until the fine is satisfied; or
- Referral to your agency's governing body for withholding of a portion of your salary until the fine is satisfied;
- Referral to a collection agency, which can seek garnishment of your wages; and/or
- An additional civil penalty, not limited by this automatic fine, may be imposed if your disclosure statement is filed more than 60 days late and a complaint is filed against you pursuant to Section 112.324, Florida Statutes.

Please contact our office if you have any questions about this matter.

### **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I certify that a copy of the foregoing Notice of Assessment of Automatic Fine was furnished to:

Barry Bichard 6750 Forum Dr Ste 310 Orlando, FL 32821 -8088

by Certified Mail on this Tuesday, March 10, 2020.

KIMBERLY R. HOLMES Program Administrator

Florida Commission on Ethics

P. O. Drawer 15709 Tallahassee, FL 32317-5709 Florida Commission on Ethics -or- 325 John Knox Road, Building

325 John Knox Road, Building E, Ste. 200

Tallahassee, FL 32303

Tel.: (850) 488-7864 Fax: (850) 488-3077 Email: disclosure@leg.state.fl.us

## FORM 1

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL INTERESTS

2018

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Barry Bichard
Assistant Secretary
Shingle Creek Community Development District
Board of Supervisors
6750 Forum Dr
Ste 310
Orlando FL 32821 -8088

2 7 7 1 5 1

277151

lattadillaladdadlladdaddaladdaddadll

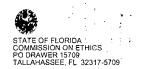
You are not limited to the space on the lines on this form. Attach additional sheets, if necessary.

CHECK ONLY IF CANDIDATE OR

■ NEW EMPLOYEE OR APPOINTEE

**Bichard Barry** 

### \*\*\*\* BOTH PARTS OF THIS SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED \*\*\*\* **DISCLOSURE PERIOD:** THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS YOUR FINANCIAL INTERESTS FOR THE PRECEDING TAX YEAR, WHETHER BASED ON A CALENDAR YEAR OR ON A FISCAL YEAR. PLEASE STATE BELOW WHETHER THIS STATEMENT IS FOR THE PRECEDING TAX YEAR ENDING EITHER (must check one): SPECIFY TAX YEAR IF OTHER THAN THE CALENDAR YEAR: **DECEMBER 31, 2018** <u>OR</u> **MANNER OF CALCULATING REPORTABLE INTERESTS:** FILERS HAVE THE OPTION OF USING REPORTING THRESHOLDS THAT ARE ABSOLUTE DOLLAR VALUES, WHICH REQUIRES FEWER CALCULATIONS, OR USING COMPARATIVE THRESHOLDS, WHICH ARE USUALLY BASED ON PERCENTAGE VALUES (see instructions for further details). CHECK THE ONE YOU ARE USING (must check one): **COMPARATIVE (PERCENTAGE) THRESHOLDS** OR **DOLLAR VALUE THRESHOLDS** PART A -- PRIMARY SOURCES OF INCOME [Major sources of income to the reporting person - See instructions] (If you have nothing to report, write "none" or "n/a") NAME OF SOURCE SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF THE SOURCE'S OF INCOME **ADDRESS** PRINCIPAL BUSINESS ACTIVITY SECONDARY SOURCES OF INCOME PART B -[Major customers, clients, and other sources of income to businesses owned by the reporting person - See instructions] (If you have nothing to report, write "none" or "n/a") NAME OF NAME OF MAJOR SOURCES **ADDRESS** PRINCIPAL BUSINESS **BUSINESS ENTITY** OF BUSINESS' INCOME OF SOURCE **ACTIVITY OF SOURCE** PART C -- REAL PROPERTY [Land, buildings owned by the reporting person - See instructions] FILING INSTRUCTIONS for when (If you have nothing to report, write "none" or "n/a") and where to file this form are located at the bottom of page 2. INSTRUCTIONS on who must file this form and how to fill it out begin on page 3.







9214 8901 0661 5400 0149 3847 22

RETURN RECEIPT (ELECTRONIC)

277151
BARRY BICHARD 6750 FORUM DR STE 310
ORLANDO, FL 32821-8088

URGENT - Open Immediately!

CUT / FOLD HERE	Zone 3
&XO*EMTELOFE CUT / FOLD HERS	
 CUT/FOLD HERE	

### Holmes, Kim

From: Sent: Canady, Cecelia < cecelia@lakevotes.com> Wednesday, November 20, 2019 4:28 PM

To:

Holmes, Kim

Subject:

RE: Late and Non filers-Form 1

Hello Kim,

We were closed September 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks,



Cecelia Canady

**Voter Services Director** 

**Lake County Supervisor of Elections** 

**Office:** 352-253-1426 | **Fax:** 352-343-3605 1898 E. Burleigh Blvd. | Tavares, FL 32778

NOTICE: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communication to or from government officials regarding government/public business is public record available to the public and media upon request. Your email communications may be subject to public disclosure.

From: Holmes, Kim < HOLMES.KIM@leg.state.fl.us>
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2019 3:38 PM
To: Canady, Cecelia < cecelia@lakevotes.com>
Subject: RE: Late and Non filers-Form 1

Hi Cecelia,

Thank you! It was received yesterday, November 19th.

Was your office closed at any time during Hurricane Dorian? I would like to make a note before fines are levied.

Thanks, Kim

# Kimberly R. Holmes

Program Administrator Financial Disclosure Section Florida Commission on Ethics P.O. Drawer 15709 Tallahassee, FL 32317-5709 (850) 488-7864

(850) 488-3077 (Fax) www.ethics.state.fl.us

Physical address: 325 John Knox Road **Building E, Suite 200** Tallahassee, FL 32303

From: Canady, Cecelia <cecelia@lakevotes.com> Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2019 12:09 PM To: Holmes, Kim < HOLMES.KIM@leg.state.fl.us>

Subject: Late and Non filers-Form 1

Helio Mrs. Holmes,

I have mailed the 2019 Delinquency Certification and the copies of the supporting documentation for each person on the Lake County, FL list. If you have any questions please let me know.

Thanks,

www.lakevotes.com

Cecelia Canady

**Voter Services Director** 

**Lake County Supervisor of Elections** 

Office: 352-253-1426 | Fax: 352-343-3605 1898 E. Burleigh Blvd. | Tavares, FL 32778

NOTICE: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communication to or from government officials regarding government/public business is public record available to the public and media upon request. Your email communications may be subject to public disclosure.

Lake County Supervisor of Elections You will be logged out after Financial Disclosure System 2019

Log Out

Log Out

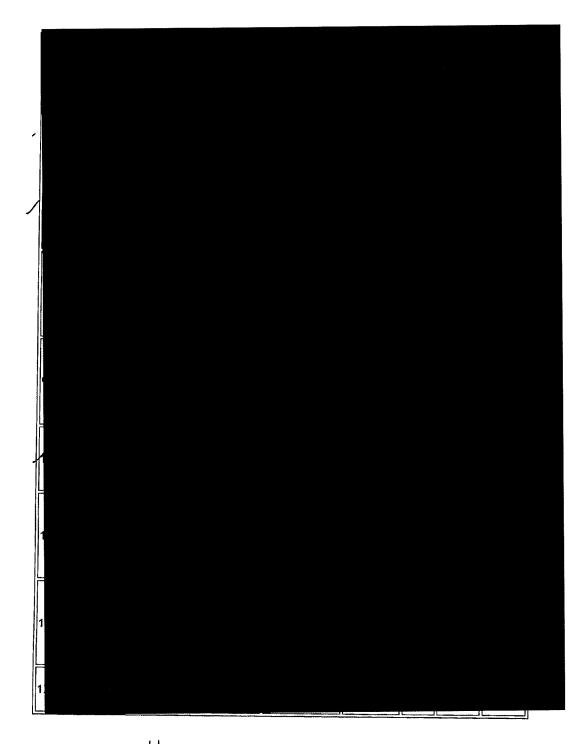
**Print List** 

# Lake County

# Florida Commission on Ethics Financial Disclosure Notification System 2019 Delinquency Certification Reported 11/14/2019

This is a list of all delinquent Lake County filers. The date indicated in the "Form Receipt Date" column is the date the form was received. Any persons with no form receipt date indicated have not filed.

Record Number	Form Receipt Date	ID	Name	Organization	Title	1	Filing County	County
2		277151	Barry Bichard	Shingle Creek Community Development District	Assistant		45	Lake



the Supervisor of Elections of Lake County, hereby certify that each person whose PID number, name, agency, and position appears above or on the attached list:

 was sent a notice of the July 1, 2019 financial disclosure deadline and a blank Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests, not later than June 1, 2019;

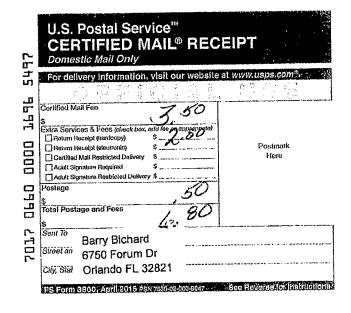
- 2. was determined to be delinquent in filing a Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests, by July 1, 2019;
- was sent a delinquency notice by certified mail not later than July 31, 2019
  advising him or her of the grace period in effect until September 3, 2019; and
  of the penalties that could be imposed as provided in Section 112.3145(7)(c),
  Florida Statutes; and
- 4. did not file a Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests, until the date shown or, had not filed a Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests by November 2, 2019; and further
- 5. that the date of filing shown is based upon the earliest of the following:
  - a. when the Form 1 was actually received by my office;
  - b. when the Form 1 was postmarked;
  - c. when the certificate of mailing (if any) was dated; or
  - d. when the receipt (if any) from an established courier company was dated.

Signed , Plan

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Confirm

Cancel



ENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON	DELIVERY
I Complete items 1, 2, and 3. I Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. I Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.  Article Addressed to:  Barry Bichard  6750 Forum Dr  Orlando FL 32821	A. Signature  X  B. Received by (Printed Name)  CS (A 78 Y)  D. Is delivery address different fro If YES, enter delivery address	
9590 9402 4053 8079 5029 04  Article Number (Transfer from service label) 7017 0660 0000 1696 5497	3. Service Type  □ Adult Signature □ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery □ Certifled Mall® □ Certifled Mail Restricted Delivery □ Collect on Delivery □ Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery □ Insured Mail □ Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500)	☐ Priority Mail Express® ☐ Registered Mail™ ☐ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery ☐ Return Receipt for Merchandise ☐ Signature Confirmation™ ☐ Signature Confirmation ☐ Restricted Delivery
S Form 3811, July 2015 PSN 7530-02-000-9053		Domestic Return Receipt



# Financial Disclosure Management System

THE FLORIDA COMMISSION ON ETHICS

🚨 Filer - Fines and Appeals - PID 277151 - Barry Bichard

Filer Information

Org Membership

**Forms** 

Communications

Fines and Appeals >

View All

### Filer Flags

 2000
 2001
 2002
 2003
 2004

 2005
 2006
 2007
 2008
 2009

 2010
 2011
 2012
 2013
 2014

 2015
 2016
 2017
 2018(\$)
 2019

 2020
 2021
 2022

<<2022 Form Year

### Status

Filing: ACTIVE Fine: No Fine

### Flags

Public Address
Filing Extensions
Indefinite: None
Temporary:
None
Eligible for Fines

Update Flags

The filer has fines for: 2019 (Appeal)

2019 Fines and Appeals

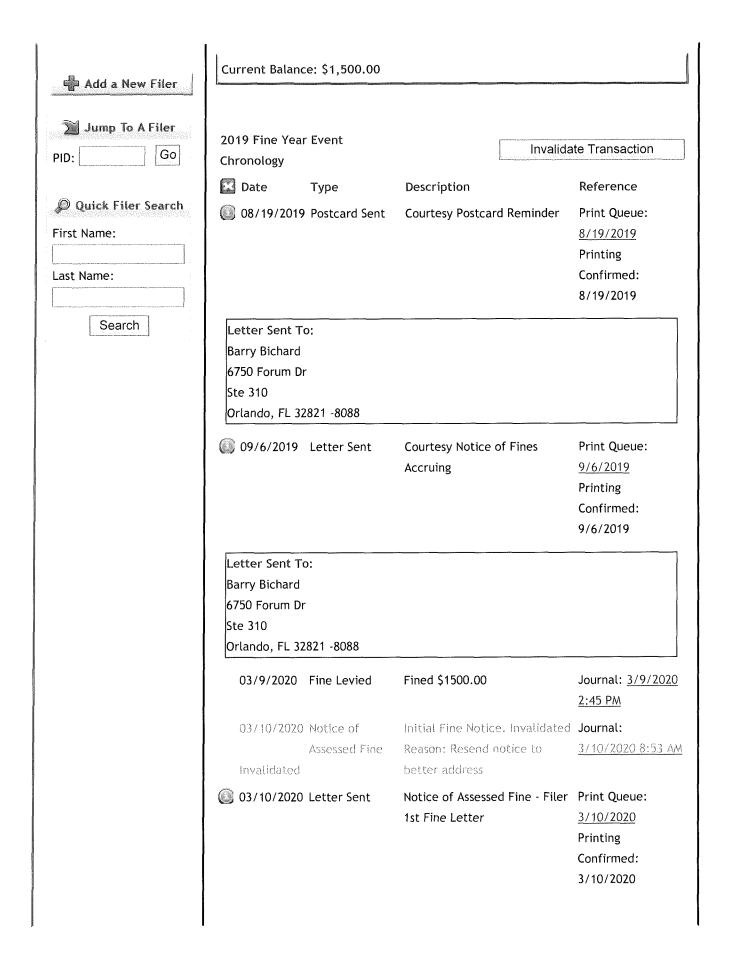
Form Year 2018 Filed Forms						
Received Date	Form Type	Form Signed	Filed by Email	Filing Location	Updated	Comments
08/10/21	Form 1	Yes	No	SOE	HOLMESK on 08/23/2021	Received by COE on behalf of Lake Supervisor of Elections (copy- original on file with SOE)

2019 Fine Information			Update Fine Information Assign Agency Contact				
Fine Balance	Fine Status	Fine Date	Original Assessment	Fine Amount	Last Payment Date	Payment Plan Start Date	Payment Plan Amount
\$1,500.00	Appeal	3/9/2020	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00			

Fine Address 415 PALM LN CLERMONT FL 34711-3436

Org/Suborg Shingle Creek Community Development District-Board of Supervisors

2019 Fine Payment History							
Date Posted	Description	Amount	Method	Payment ID	Comments		
3/9/2020	Fine Levied	+ \$1,500.00			Fined \$1500.00		



Letter Sent To: Barry Bichard 6750 Forum Dr Ste 310 Orlando, FL 32821 -8088 06/11/2021 Final Notice of 2nd Fine Notice. Invalidated Journal: Assessed Fine Reason: Resend notice to 6/11/2021 9:38 AM Invalidated better address 06/11/2021 Letter Sent Final Notice of Assessed Fine - Print Queue: Second Fine Notice 6/11/2021 Printing Confirmed: 6/11/2021 Letter Sent To: Barry Bichard 6750 Forum Dr Ste 310 Orlando, FL 32821 -8088 07/13/2021 Notice of Initial Fine Notice Journal: Assessed Fine 7/13/2021 4:13 PM 07/13/2021 Letter Sent Notice of Assessed Fine - Filer Print Queue: 1st Fine Letter 7/13/2021 Printing Confirmed: 7/13/2021 Letter Sent To: Barry Bichard 11600 Thacker Dr Clermont, FL 34711 07/13/2021 Filer Mr. Bichard called regarding Kimberly Holmes Communication: final notice of fine. He stated Phone that he left in April 2019 and no notices were ever forwarded to him. He just received the final notice that was forwarded to him by email on July 12, 2021 at 4:47

pm. He was upset that they company never forwarded anything until now. I advised that all notices were mailed to the company address and that I would email him the notices previously mailed. Mr. Bichard provided an updated address, which I will resend his notice of assessed fine.

07/13/2021 Filer

Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021

Kimberly Holmes

Communication: 2:18 PM To: Holmes, Kim

Email

Subject: FW: Mailed to Lennar's address Kim Can you call me at your earliest convenience to discuss the attached fine letter. As you can see by the letter below I just received this notice. I have not worked for Lennar since April of 2019. The mailing address is Lennar's Orlando office, I was never notified prior to yesterday about this issue. Please call me at your earliest

convenience to discuss. Thank You, Barry Bichard Director

Mobile 352-552-6969

Barry@floridasiteservices.com From: Melanie Minihan Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 4:47 PM

To:

Barry@floridasiteservices.com Subject: Mailed to Lennar's address Good Afternoon, left you a message but then I found your email. This was mailed to the old Forum Office so it probably took a little longer to get to the new

office but this letter is addressed to you and it looked like something that you may need to know or take care of. Have a good day. Thank you, Melanie Minihan Land Coordinator Melanie.Minihan@Lennar.com www.LennarOrlando.com Office: 407-586-4016 Cell: 352-404-2404 6675 Westwood

32821

07/13/2021 Filer

From: Holmes, Kim Sent:

Blvd. 5th Floor Orlando, FL

Kimberly Holmes

Communication: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 4:28

PM To:

Email

'barry@floridasiteservices.com'

Subject: RE: Mailed to

Lennar's address Mr. Bichard, Attached is your new notice of assessed fine allowing you 30 days to appeal. Your appeal must be received no later than August 12, 2021.

Sincerely, Kimberly R. Holmes

Program Administrator Financial Disclosure Section Florida Commission on Ethics

P.O. Drawer 15709

Tallahassee, FL 32317-5709 (850) 488-7864 (850) 488-3077 (Fax) www.ethics.state.fl.us Physical address: 325 John Knox Road Building E, Suite 200 Tallahassee, FL 32303 From: Holmes, Kim Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 4:04

PM To:

'barry@floridasiteservices.com'

Subject: RE: Mailed to Lennar's address Per our

telephone conversation, see information attached. Additionally, attached is the 2018 Form 1 and appeal form for your completion. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me. Sincerely, Kim Kimberly R. Holmes Program Administrator Financial Disclosure Section Florida Commission on Ethics P.O. Drawer 15709 Tallahassee, FL 32317-5709 (850) 488-7864 (850) 488-3077 (Fax) www.ethics.state.fl.us 07/13/2021 Filer Notice of assessed fine letter Kimberly Holmes Communication: was emailed instead of Other mailed. Email sent to barry@floridasiteservices.com 08/10/2021 Form Received Form 1 Received, Signed Form 1 Received by Received by COE on behalf of Lake Supervisor of Elections (copyoriginal on file with SOE) SOE Form Received By: Kimberly Holmes Filing Location: Lake County SOE Record Created By: Kimberly Holmes on 08/23/2021 08/23/2021 Fine Appeal FD 19-065 Journal: 8/23/2021 3:05 PM 08/23/2021 Letter Sent Fine Appeal Print Queue: 8/23/2021 **Printing** Confirmed: 8/23/2021 Letter Sent To:

Barry Bichard 11600 Thacker Dr Clermont, FL 34711				
2019 Fine	Update Appeal Withdraw Appeal			
Appeal – FD 19-	Assign Attorney Request More Info			
065	Record Appeal Outcome			
Appeal Status: Active Appeal Receipt Date: 08/12/2021 Timely Filed: Yes Print Appeal Letter: Yes Hearing Requested: No Appeal Reason: Lack of Notification Appeal Notes: Appeal Number: FD 19-065 Appeal Analyst Assigned: Final Order Number: Final Order Date:	No Hearing Requested			