BEFORE THE STATE OF FLORIDA COMMISSION ON ETHICS

In re SHAWN ELTON THOMAS)	2015 CE Form 1
)	
)	
)	

ORDER DECLARING FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FINE UNCOLLECTIBLE

This matter came before the Commission on Ethics meeting in public session on Friday, March 8, 2024, in the matter of Shawn Elton Thomas. Section 112.3145(8)(f), Florida Statutes, assesses an automatic fine of \$25 per day on each person who is required to file an annual Statement of Financial Interests (CE Form 1), but whose form is not timely filed, up to a maximum of \$1,500.

- 1. Shawn Elton Thomas served as a member of the Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys and, as such, was required to file a 2015 CE Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests, no later than September 1, 2016.
- 2. Shawn Elton Thomas' CE Form 1 was received late, resulting in an automatic fine of \$350.00.
- 3. Under Section 112.3145(8)(i), Florida Statutes, any fine that is not waived by a Final Order of the Commission, and remains unpaid more than 60 days after the Notice of Payment Due is transmitted, must be submitted to the Department of Financial Services as a claim, debt or other obligation owed to the state.

4. Under Section 17.20(3)(b), Florida Statutes, an agency may request an exemption

when assignment to a collections agency would be inappropriate. The agency must provide a

written request, explaining the reasons the agency believes the account should be precluded from

collections.

5. In January of 2024, internet research confirmed the passing of Shawn Elton Thomas

on March 18, 2022.

6. On its own motion, the Commission determines that the \$350.00 fine assessed

against Shawn Elton Thomas is uncollectible and requests that the Department of Financial

Services consider it to be exempt from collection.

DONE and ORDERED by the State of Florida Commission on Ethics meeting in public

session on Friday, March 8, 2024.

Date Rendered

Ashley Lukis

Chair

AL/dw

cc: Claims for Collection, Department of Financial Services



Shawn Elton Earl Thomas

iii March 22, 1982 - March 18, 2022 (39 years old)

Saint Petersburg, Florida

Shawn Elton Earl Thomas Obituary

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Shawn Elton Earl Thomas (Saint Petersburg, Florida), who passed away on March 18, 2022, at the age of 39, leaving to mourn family and friends. Family and friends are welcome to <u>send flowers</u> or leave their condolences on this memorial page and share them with the family.

Funeral arrangement under the care of Lawson Funeral & Cremation Services

PX

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Fri Apr 01

Visitation

Galilee Missionary Baptist Church 505 35th St S, St. Petersburg, FL 33711

Sat Apr 02

Funeral service

First Baptist Church 1900 Gandy Blvd N, St. Petersburg, FL 33702

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NEWS / ST. PETERSBURG

St. Petersburg pastor lost to drowning accident leaves legacy of mentoring youth

The Rev. Shawn E.E. Thomas spent nearly 20 years working in ministry, and became pastor of Galilee Missionary Baptist Church in November. Friends and family recalled his love of faith and community.











Galilee Missionary Baptist Church, died on March 18 after a boating :

By Natalie Weber Times staff

Published March 31, 2022 | Updated March 31, 2022

As a kid, he would come home from church on Sundays, go into the bathroom and practice imitating the pastor in front of the mirror.

AOVERT

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Tampa Bay Times

The Rev. Shawn E.E. Thomas, pastor at Galilee Missionary Baptist Church in St. Petersburg, died March 18 in a drowning accident that left the city and the faith community reeling. He was 39, just a few days short of his 40th birthday.

First responders had rescued Thomas and a friend from Lake Seminole after the boat they were using began taking on water. Thomas later went back out on the water with a different friend and tried to recover the boat, which belonged to another pastor. But as he was standing on the damaged boat, Thomas got dragged into the water and his friend wasn't able to rescue him. Pinellas deputies searched for Thomas that evening and recovered his body about four hours later.

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Jocelyn Williams, a friend of Thomas' since high school who attends Galilee, described the pastor as an analytical and critical thinker, and the question of why he chose to get back on the boat troubles her.

"If you knew him, you understood him going back to get the boat, but what you can't figure out or really wrap your brain around is why he actually got on the boat," she said.

X