

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
COMMISSION ON ETHICS**

**Friday, January 23, 2026**

*First Floor Meeting Room, First District Court of Appeal  
2000 Drayton Drive  
Tallahassee, Florida*

**PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES**

At 8:41 a.m. Chair Jon M. Philipson called the meeting to order with the following members present:

MICHAEL H. HELLMAN  
JOSEPH OGLESBY  
JON M. PHILIPSON  
JEREMY M. RODGERS  
ABBEY L. STEWART  
LINDA STEWART

Paul D. Bain and Laird A. Lile were absent from the meeting.

The presence of a quorum was noted.

**Commissioner Rodgers, seconded by Commissioner Linda Stewart, moved to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2025 Public Session meeting. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

**Commissioner Linda Stewart, seconded by Commissioner Rodgers, moved to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2025 Public Video Conference meeting. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

**Commissioner Rodgers, seconded by Commissioner Linda Stewart, moved to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2025 Public Video Conference meeting. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

Chair Philipson introduced new Commissioners Abbey L. Stewart and Joseph Oglesby, and recognized James Bush, III, Luis Fusté, and Ashley Lukis for their time on the Commission.

**SELECTION OF VICE CHAIR**

**Commissioner Rodgers, seconded by Commissioner Abbey Stewart, moved to nominate Commissioner Joseph Oglesby as Commission Vice Chair. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

## **CONSIDERATION OF FINAL ACTION – JOINT STIPULATION**

### **Complaint No. 17-107, In re SUSAN HAYNIE**

Present were Mark Herron, Attorney for the Respondent; and Joseph C. Burns, Commission Advocate.

Commissioner Rodgers disclosed that he is acquainted with the Respondent.

Mr. Burns summarized the proposed joint stipulation calling for a finding of violation of Section 112.3145, Florida Statutes, and a recommended penalty of public censure and reprimand, and a total civil penalty of \$1,000.

Mr. Herron was heard by the Commission.

**Commissioner Linda Stewart, seconded by Commissioner Abbey Stewart, moved to approve the proposed joint stipulation. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

### **Complaint No. 24-262, In re REINALDO DIAZ**

Present was Melody A. Hadley, Commission Advocate.

Ms. Hadley summarized the proposed joint stipulation calling for a finding of violation of Section 112.3145, Florida Statutes, and a recommended penalty of public censure and reprimand, and a civil penalty of \$500.

**Commissioner Rodgers, seconded by Commissioner Oglesby, moved to approve the proposed joint stipulation. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

## **CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT ORDER DISMISSING PETITION FOR ATTORNEY FEES AND COSTS**

### **Complaint No. 25-079, In re JONATHAN GRIFFITH**

Present was Mark Herron, Attorney for the Complainant.

Staff Attorney Stephanie Novenario recommended that the petition be dismissed.

Mr. Herron was heard by the Commission.

**Commissioner Hellman, seconded by Commissioner Abbey Stewart, moved to dismiss the petition. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

## **CONSIDERATION OF ADVOCATE'S MOTION TO DISMISS COMPLAINT**

### **Complaint No. 19-014, In re TERENCE DAVIS**

Present was Joseph C. Burns, Commission Advocate.

Mr. Burns presented his Amended Motion to Dismiss.

**Commissioner Rodgers, seconded by Commissioner Hellman, moved to grant the Advocate's Amended Motion to Dismiss Complaint. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

## **CONSIDERATION OF ADVISORY OPINIONS**

### **File 2824. MISUSE OF PUBLIC POSITION: COUNTY COMMISSIONER ENDORSING A CANDIDATE ON COMMISSION-PROVIDED LETTERHEAD**

There was a handout provided to the Commission.

Staff Attorney Stephanie Novenario explained the basis of the draft advisory opinion and the rationale behind its conclusion.

**Commissioner Hellman, seconded by Commissioner Linda Stewart, moved to approve the draft opinion, with removal of contact information. The motion carried, with Commissioner Rodgers voting no.**

### **File 2826. GIFT ACCEPTANCE AND DISCLOSURE: MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT GENERAL EMPLOYEE PENSION BOARD WINNING A RAFFLE**

There was a handout provided to the Commission.

Staff Attorney Michael Terry explained the basis of the draft advisory opinion and the rationale behind its conclusion.

**Commissioner Oglesby, seconded by Commissioner Rodgers, moved to approve the draft opinion. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

### **File 2828. POST-EMPLOYMENT RESTRICTIONS FOR EXECUTIVE BRANCH EMPLOYEES: APPLICATION OF POST-EMPLOYMENT RESTRICTIONS TO FORMER SENIOR PSYCHOLOGIST FOR THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**

Staff Attorney Amelia Naomi explained the basis of the draft advisory opinion and the rationale behind its conclusion.

**Commissioner Hellman, seconded by Commissioner Linda Stewart, moved to approve the draft opinion. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

**File 2829. POST-EMPLOYMENT AND POST-OFFICE LOBBYING RESTRICTIONS:  
SECRETARY OF THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**

Staff Attorney Stephanie Novenario explained the basis of the draft advisory opinion and the rationale behind its conclusion.

**Commissioner Rodgers, seconded by Commissioner Hellman, moved to approve the draft opinion. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

**File 2830. NEPOTISM RESTRICTIONS FOR CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:  
APPLICATION OF THE ANTI-NEPOTISM PROVISION TO CITY COUNCIL LEADERSHIP  
ELECTIONS**

Present were Jason Gabriel, Attorney for the Requestor, and Jason Teal, Requestor.

Staff Attorney Amelia Naomi explained the basis of the draft advisory opinion and the rationale behind its conclusion.

Mr. Gabriel and Mr. Teal were heard by the Commission.

**Commissioner Philipson, seconded by Commissioner Linda Stewart, moved to approve the draft opinion. The motion failed, with Commissioner Oglesby, Commissioner Rodgers, and Commissioner Abbey Stewart voting no.**

**Commissioner Linda Stewart, seconded by Commissioner Abbey Stewart, moved to table the consideration of this matter until next meeting. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

**CONSIDERATION OF FINAL ORDERS ON FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FINES  
WHERE THERE HAS BEEN NO TIMELY APPEAL AND NO PAYMENT**

**Commissioner Rodgers, seconded by Commissioner Hellman, moved to approve the entry, as put forth by the Commission staff, of Final Orders on financial disclosure fines where there has been no timely appeal and no payment. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

**CONSIDERATION OF ORDER DECLARING FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FINE  
UNCOLLECTIBLE**

**Commissioner Rodgers, seconded by Commissioner Oglesby, moved to declare these fines uncollectible. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

**CONSIDERATION OF 2025 ANNUAL REPORT**

There was a handout provided to the Commission.

**Commissioner Philipson, seconded by Commissioner Rodgers, moved to approve the adoption of the Annual Report, with a grammatical revision and the inclusion of concluded litigation. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

**REPORTS**

The Chair acknowledged the unforeseen circumstances that resulted in 2 canceled meetings and thanked the staff for their hard work.

Executive Director Kerrie Stillman elaborated on her written Executive Director's report previously provided to the Commissioners. She also recognized the staff at the First District Court of Appeals and the staff at the Office of Legislature Information Technology Services (OLITS) for being so helpful in setting us up the new meeting space.

Executive Director Kerrie Stillman elaborated on her written legislative report previously provided to the Commissioners. She also thanked Commissioner Linda Stewart for all her efforts as the Commission's designated Legislative Liaison.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further items on the agenda, the Public Session adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

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Diana Westberry, *Secretary*

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Jon M. Philipson, *Chair*

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Date