

BEFORE THE
STATE OF FLORIDA
COMMISSION ON ETHICS

In re GEORGE W. MAREK,)
)
Appellant.)
_____)

Financial Disclosure Appeal No. FD 20-071

Final Order No. XXX

FINAL ORDER

This matter came before the Commission on Ethics, meeting in public session on October 23, 2026, on the appeal of Appellant, pursuant to Section 112.3145(8)(g), Florida Statutes, (subsequently renumbered to Section 112.3145(8)(f)) 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.

Findings of Fact

1. According to information provided to the Commission, Appellant served as a member of the Board of Building Examiners for the City of Mount Dora, a position requiring the filing of a 2019 CE Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests. In 2020, the designated due date for submitting a 2019 CE Form 1 was July 1, 2020, with a grace period ending on September 1, 2020.

2. No later than June 1, 2020, the Lake County Supervisor of Elections sent Appellant a 2019 CE Form 1.

3. No later than August 1, 2020, the Lake County Supervisor of Elections sent Appellant a notice of delinquency by certified mail. This notice was sent to Appellant at PO Box 11, Mount Dora, FL 32756-0011, and returned as "not deliverable as addressed."

4. On September 9, 2020, the Commission on Ethics mailed Appellant a courtesy notice of fines accruing. This notice was sent to PO Box 11, Mount Dora, FL 32756-0011.

5. On April 23, 2025, the Commission mailed Appellant a Notice of Assessed Fine. The notice was sent by mail to PO Box 913, Sorrento, FL 32776-0913. It indicated the total of Appellant's accrued automatic fine was \$1,500 (\$25 per day for up to 60 days late) and provided that the Commission must receive an appeal of the fine by May 23, 2025.

6. On May 20, 2025, the Commission received Appellant's appeal of his automatic fine for Form Year 2020 by mail. In part B of his appeal form, Appellant checked "Lack of notification- failure to receive notice" as the general reason for his appeal. In part C of his appeal form, where an appellant is asked to provide a detailed explanation of his or her appeal, Appellant wrote that in 2021, he received communication from the Lake County Clerk's office indicating that his 2020 Form 1 (as well as a re-appointment letter) was returned to their office because of an address error. Appellant theorized that this may have also happened when his 2019 CE Form 1 was sent to him in 2020, but was not caught like it was for his 2020 CE Form 1 the following year.

7. On May 20, 2025, the Commission also received Appellant's 2020 CE Form 1 by mail.

Conclusions of Law

8. The Commission has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this proceeding pursuant to Section 112.3145, Florida Statutes.

9. 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.

10. Section 112.3145(8)(g)3., Florida Statutes, (subsequently renumbered to Section 112.3145(8)(f)(2)) 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.

11. Pursuant to Rule 34-8.215(4), F.A.C., "unusual circumstances" means 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.

12. Here, Appellant stated that he did not receive notice, and provided evidence that there was also a mailing issue with his Form 1 for the subsequent year. Additionally, in materials provided by the Lake County Supervisor of Elections, it is clear that the certified mailing sent to him from that office was returned as "not deliverable as addressed." There is no evidence to dispute Appellant's claims. Considering Appellant's claims, and that there is no evidence showing otherwise, there are "unusual circumstances" here that justify waiving the \$1,500 fine.

Order

Based on the foregoing facts and conclusions of law, the Commission hereby finds that unusual circumstances for failure to file have been demonstrated. We therefore waive the assessed fine of \$1,500.

ORDERED by the State of Florida Commission on Ethics meeting in public session on October 23, 2026.

Date Rendered

Jeremy M. Rodgers
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.

JMR: aln

George W. Marek
PO Box 913
Sorrento, FL 32776-0913



252208 20-071

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
Email: disclosure@leg.state.fl.us

FLORIDA
COMMISSION ON ETHICS

MAY 20 2025

RECEIVED

APPEAL OF AUTOMATIC FINE FOR FORM YEAR 2019

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

PART A: YOUR INFORMATION

Name: GEORGE MAREK

Address: P.O. BOX 913 City: SORRENTO State: FL Zip: 32776

Daytime Tel.: 352-455-5547 Cell: 352-455-5547

Email: Scotsman@mydigs.net Filer ID# (if known): _____

Public Employer: LAKE COUNTY BCC

Public Position: MEMBER OF BOARD OF BUILDING EXAMINERS (VOLUNTEER POSITION)

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. ☐ **Sickness or injury** (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, 2019** (Explain in Part C and provide confirmation from agency that your office-holding/employment ended before 12/31/2019)
- 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. ☐ **Not required to file** (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.

THIS NOTICE COMES AS A TOTAL SURPRISE. I APOLOGIZE. AT THE TIME, SIX YEARS AGO, I RELIED ON RECEIPT OF THE FORM VIA MAIL. PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE LAKE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE ALERTING THE BOARD THAT THE ²⁰²⁰ FORM NOTICE WAS RETURNED BY THE POST OFFICE DUE TO AN ADDRESS PROBLEM, PERHAPS THAT WAS A PROBLEM IN 2019 AND WAS NOT CAUGHT.

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 meetings occur in Tallahassee.

SIGNATURE

I have received and read the Notice of Assessment of Automatic Fine and its instructions on How to Appeal and I understand my options. I am requesting disposition of this matter as indicated.

5/17/2025
DATE


SIGNATURE

Marek, George

From: Woods, Jessica <JWoods@lakecountyfl.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2021 9:18 AM
To: Marek, George
Subject: FW: Appointment Letter for George Marek
Attachments: Statement of Financial Interests 2020.pdf

**** This message originated outside of the City of Mount Dora network. Please think before you click. ****

Good morning George,
Please see email feed below & attachment from the Clerk of Court in reference to your reappointment.

Thank you,



JESSICA WOODS
Program Associate

OFFICE OF BUILDING SERVICES
Plan Review

A 315 W. Main St. Tavares, FL 32778
P 352-343-9467 | F 352-343-9771
E jwoods@lakecountyfl.gov | W www.lakecountyfl.gov

*NOTE: Florida has a very broad public records law.
Your email communications may be subject to public disclosure.*

From: Pearson, Josh <jpearson@lakecountyclerk.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 3:54 PM
To: Woods, Jessica <JWoods@lakecountyfl.gov>
Subject: RE: Appointment Letter for George Marek

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of your organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Jessica,

It just occurred to me that Mr. Marek also did not receive the financial disclosure form that was enclosed with the appointment letter. I am attaching the form to this email. You may want to email it to Mr. Marek so he can complete it as soon as possible. I am unsure of any deadlines, but I am assuming that it should be completed in a timely manner. You can also let him know that his letter was delayed due to an issue with the address, and that a new letter is being processed.

Thank you,

Josh Pearson
Deputy Clerk, Board Support
Gary J. Cooney
Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Lake County, Florida
315 W. Main Street, Tavares, FL 32778

Phone: 352-343-9827
Jpearson@lakecountyclerk.org

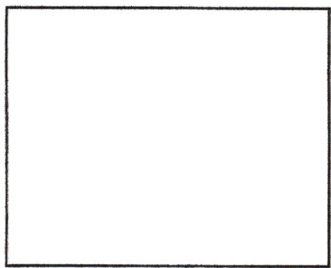
Please Note: Florida has a very broad Public Records Law. Most written communications to or from State and Local Officials regarding State or Local business are public records available to the public and media upon request. Your email communications, including your email address, may therefore be subject to public disclosure.

Confidentiality Notice: This message and any attachments are for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information that is exempt from public disclosure. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure, or distribution is prohibited. If you have received this message in error please contact the sender (by phone or reply by electronic mail) and then destroy all copies of the original message.

From: Woods, Jessica <JWoods@lakecountyfl.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 1:45 PM
To: Pearson, Josh <Jpearson@lakecountyclerk.org>
Subject: RE: Appointment Letter for George Marek

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the Lake County Clerk's Office. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe!

Okay, Thank you!



JESSICA WOODS
Program Associate

OFFICE OF BUILDING SERVICES
Plan Review

A 315 W. Main St. Tavares, FL 32778
P 352-343-9467 | F 352-343-9771
E jwoods@lakecountyfl.gov | W www.lakecountyfl.gov

NOTE: Florida has a very broad public records law.
Your email communications may be subject to public disclosure.

From: Pearson, Josh <Jpearson@lakecountyclerk.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 1:30 PM
To: Woods, Jessica <JWoods@lakecountyfl.gov>
Subject: RE: Appointment Letter for George Marek

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of your organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Jessica,

I do not believe this should interfere with anything. Mr. Marek was already formally appointed by the BCC on 1/26/21 – I do not think that his receipt of the physical appointment letter would affect his ability to serve. If you haven't already, you may wish to contact him and let him know that he was appointed by the Board on that date.

Thank you,

Josh Pearson
Deputy Clerk, Board Support
Gary J. Cooney
Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Lake County, Florida

315 W. Main Street, Tavares, FL 32778

Phone: 352-343-9827

jpearson@lakecountyclerk.org

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From: Woods, Jessica <JWoods@lakecountyfl.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 1:27 PM

To: Pearson, Josh <jpearson@lakecountyclerk.org>

Subject: RE: Appointment Letter for George Marek

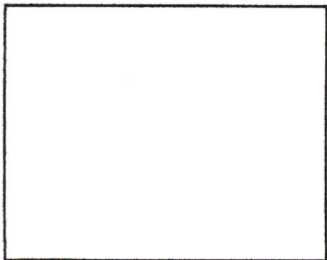
CAUTION: This email originated from outside the Lake County Clerk's Office. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe!

Good afternoon,

We have a BOE meeting next Thursday, April 1, 2021, this will not interfere with that at all correct?

Please let me know.

Thank you,



JESSICA WOODS

Program Associate

OFFICE OF BUILDING SERVICES

Plan Review

A 315 W. Main St. Tavares, FL 32778

P 352-343-9467 | **F** 352-343-9771

E jwoods@lakecountyfl.gov | **W** www.lakecountyfl.gov

NOTE: Florida has a very broad public records law.

Your email communications may be subject to public disclosure.

From: Pearson, Josh <jpearson@lakecountyclerk.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 1:23 PM

To: Porter, Ashley <aporter@lakecountyfl.gov>

Cc: Woods, Jessica <JWoods@lakecountyfl.gov>

Subject: Appointment Letter for George Marek

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of your organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

The Board of Building Examiners appointment letter for Mr. George Marek from the 1/26/21 BCC meeting was returned to our office due to the mailing address being incorrect. This letter is being recreated with the correct information and should be mailed out on Friday. Just letting you all know in case any information needs to be provided to Mr. Marek.

Thank you,

Josh Pearson

Deputy Clerk, Board Support

Gary J. Cooney

Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Lake County, Florida

315 W. Main Street, Tavares, FL 32778

Phone: 352-343-9827

jpearson@lakecountyclerk.org

Please Note: Florida has a very broad Public Records Law. Most written communications to or from State and Local Officials regarding State or Local business are public records available to the public and media upon request. Your email communications, including your email address, may therefore be subject to public disclosure.

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FORM 1

STATEMENT OF
FINANCIAL INTERESTS

2019

Please print or type your name, mailing
address, agency name, and position below:

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

LAST NAME -- FIRST NAME -- MIDDLE NAME :

MAREK GEORGE W

MAILING ADDRESS :

P.O. Box 913

SORRENTO

32776

LAKE

CITY :

ZIP :

COUNTY :

BOARD OF BUILDING EXAMINERS

NAME OF AGENCY :

BOARD MEMBER

NAME OF OFFICE OR POSITION HELD OR SOUGHT :

FLORIDA
COMMISSION ON ETHICS

MAY 20 2025

RECEIVED

252208

PROCESSED

CHECK ONLY IF ☐ CANDIDATE OR ☐ NEW EMPLOYEE OR APPOINTEE**** THIS SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED ****

DISCLOSURE PERIOD:

THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS YOUR FINANCIAL INTERESTS FOR CALENDAR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019.

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 OF INCOME	SOURCE'S ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION OF THE SOURCE'S PRINCIPAL BUSINESS ACTIVITY
CITY OF MOUNT DORA	510 N. BAKER ST. MOUNT DORA FL 32757	MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

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 BUSINESS ENTITY	NAME OF MAJOR SOURCES OF BUSINESS' INCOME	ADDRESS OF SOURCE	PRINCIPAL BUSINESS ACTIVITY OF SOURCE
N/A			

PART C -- REAL PROPERTY [Land, buildings owned by the reporting person - See instructions]

(If you have nothing to report, write "none" or "n/a")

N/A

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

PART D — INTANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY [Stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, etc. - See instructions]
(If you have nothing to report, write "none" or "n/a")

TYPE OF INTANGIBLE	BUSINESS ENTITY TO WHICH THE PROPERTY RELATES
N/A	

PART E — LIABILITIES [Major debts - See instructions]
(If you have nothing to report, write "none" or "n/a")

NAME OF CREDITOR	ADDRESS OF CREDITOR
BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.	P.O. Box 26249, TAMPA, FL 33623-6249

PART F — INTERESTS IN SPECIFIED BUSINESSES [Ownership or positions in certain types of businesses - See instructions]
(If you have nothing to report, write "none" or "n/a")

	BUSINESS ENTITY # 1	BUSINESS ENTITY # 2
NAME OF BUSINESS ENTITY	N/A	N/A
ADDRESS OF BUSINESS ENTITY		
PRINCIPAL BUSINESS ACTIVITY		
POSITION HELD WITH ENTITY		
I OWN MORE THAN A 5% INTEREST IN THE BUSINESS		
NATURE OF MY OWNERSHIP INTEREST		

PART G — TRAINING

For **elected municipal officers** required to complete annual ethics training pursuant to section 112.3142, F.S.

☐ I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE COMPLETED THE REQUIRED TRAINING.

IF ANY OF PARTS A THROUGH G ARE CONTINUED ON A SEPARATE SHEET, PLEASE CHECK HERE ☐

SIGNATURE OF FILER:

Signature:



Date Signed:

5/17/2025

CPA or ATTORNEY SIGNATURE ONLY

If a certified public accountant licensed under Chapter 473, or attorney in good standing with the Florida Bar prepared this form for you, he or she must complete the following statement:

I, _____, prepared the CE Form 1 in accordance with Section 112.3145, Florida Statutes, and the instructions to the form. Upon my reasonable knowledge and belief, the disclosure herein is true and correct.

CPA/Attorney Signature: _____

Date Signed: _____

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

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), send it to CEForm1@leg.state.fl.us and retain a copy for your records. 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 not relieve the filer of filing a CE Form 1 if the filer was in his or her position on December 31, 2019.

Lake County Supervisor of Elections Financial Disclosure System 2020

 You will be logged out after
29:10 minutes of inactivity.

[Log Out](#)

[Print List](#)

FLORIDA
COMMISSION ON ETHICS

NOV 16 2020

RECEIVED

Lake County

Florida Commission on Ethics
Financial Disclosure Notification System
2020 Delinquency Certification
Reported 11/05/2020

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	Filer Flags	Filing County	County
✓ 7		252208	George Marek	Lake County			45	Lake



I, D. ALAN HAYS, 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:

1. was sent a notice of the July 1, 2020 financial disclosure deadline and a blank Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests, not later than June 1, 2020;
2. was determined to be delinquent in filing a Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests, by July 1, 2020;
3. was sent a delinquency notice by certified mail not later than July 31, 2020 advising him or her of the grace period in effect until September 1, 2020; and of the penalties that could be imposed as provided in Section 112.3145(8)(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 October 31, 2020; 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 D. Alan Hays
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Confirm

Cancel





CERTIFIED MAIL®



7017 0660 0000 1690 8036



Hasler

07/30/2020

US POSTAGE \$006 902



011511P/1002

RECEIVED

AUG 20 2020

**SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

George Marek
Po Box 11
Mount Dora FL 32756-0011

NIXTE 333 01 1 0000 18/20

NOT DELIVERABLE AS ADDRESSED
UNABLE TO FORWARD

= WD

32756-0011-001

32778045757 *2374-03310-18-01

32778>0457

7017 0660 0000 1690 8036

U.S. Postal Service™	
CERTIFIED MAIL® RECEIPT	
Domestic Mail Only	
For delivery information, visit our website at www.usps.com ®.	
Certified Mail Fee	\$ 3.55
Extra Services & Fees (check box, add fee as appropriate)	
☒ Return Receipt (hardcopy)	\$ 2.85
☐ Return Receipt (electronic)	\$
☐ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery	\$
☐ Adult Signature Required	\$
☐ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery	\$
Postage	\$ 6.04
Total Postage and Fees	\$ 6.90
Sent To	
Street and Apt. No.	
City, State, ZIP+4®	
George Marek Po Box 11 Mount Dora FL 32756-0011	
PS Form 3800, April 2015 PSN 7530-02-000-9047 See Reverse for Instructions	

**BEFORE THE
STATE OF FLORIDA
COMMISSION ON ETHICS**

In re **George W Marek
Board Of Building Examiners
Lake County**

PID#: 252208

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)(f), Florida Statutes, due to your failure to timely file your 2019 CE Form 1, Statement Of Financial Interests. Under the law, your 2019 CE Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests, was due by July 1, 2020. The law provided for a penalty-free grace period extending the due date to September 1, 2020. 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)(f), Florida Statutes.

Inasmuch as your 2019 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 1, 2020), 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)(f)2., Florida Statutes, and Commission Rule 34-8.215, Florida Administrative Code.
3. **FORMAT:** Your appeal must be in writing and mailed to Florida Commission on Ethics, P. O. Drawer 15709, Tallahassee, FL 32317-5709, or delivered to Florida Commission on Ethics, 325 John Knox Road, Building E, Suite 200, Tallahassee, FL 32303. 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 received by the Commission on Ethics on or before **May 23, 2025**. **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 1, 2020, 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, 2019:** confirmation of your last date of office or employment by your former agency, showing the last date to be before December 31, 2019; or
 - f. **UNCLAIMED CERTIFIED MAIL:** if delinquency 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 your 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:

**Mr George W Marek
Po Box 913
Sorrento, FL 32776 -0913**

by Certified Mail on this Wednesday, April 23, 2025.



KIMBERLY R. HOLMES
Program Administrator

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

-or-

Florida Commission on Ethics
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****2019**Please print or type your name, mailing
address, agency name, and position below:**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**

LAST NAME -- FIRST NAME -- MIDDLE NAME :

MAILING ADDRESS :

CITY :

ZIP :

COUNTY :

NAME OF AGENCY :

NAME OF OFFICE OR POSITION HELD OR SOUGHT :

CHECK ONLY IF ☐ CANDIDATE OR ☐ NEW EMPLOYEE OR APPOINTEE****** THIS SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED ********DISCLOSURE PERIOD:**

THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS YOUR FINANCIAL INTERESTS FOR CALENDAR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019.

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 OF INCOME	SOURCE'S ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION OF THE SOURCE'S PRINCIPAL BUSINESS ACTIVITY

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")

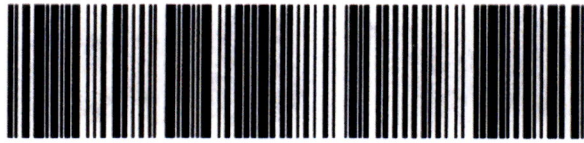
NAME OF BUSINESS ENTITY	NAME OF MAJOR SOURCES OF BUSINESS' INCOME	ADDRESS OF SOURCE	PRINCIPAL BUSINESS ACTIVITY OF SOURCE

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

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



STATE OF FLORIDA
COMMISSION ON ETHICS
PO DRAWER 15709
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32317-5709



9214 8901 0661 5400 0206 6690 14

RETURN RECEIPT (ELECTRONIC)

252208

GEORGE W MAREK
PO BOX 913
SORRENTO, FL 32776-0913

49

URGENT - Open Immediately!

CUT / FOLD HERE

Zone 3

6"x9" ENVELOPE
CUT / FOLD HERE

CUT / FOLD HERE

Form Year 2019 Filed Forms

FORM TYPE	DATE SUBMITTED	FORM SIGNED	FILED BY EMAIL?	UPDATED BY	COMMENTS
Form 1	05/20/2025	No	No	Kimberly Holmes	Received by COE on behalf of Lake Supervisor of Elections

Fine Year 2020 Fine Information

FINE BALANCE	STATUS	FINE DATE	ORIGINAL FINE AMOUNT	ADJUSTED FINE AMOUNT	LAST PAYMENT DATE	PAYMENT PLAN START DATE	PAYMENT PLAN AMOUNT	TOTAL PAYMENT PLAN AMOUNT DUE
\$1,500.00	Appeal	10/27/2023	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00				
Fine Address: Po Box 913, Sorrento, FL 32776-0913 Email: scotsman@mydigs.net Org/Suborg: Lake County - Board Of Building Examiners								

Fine Year 2020 Appeal Information

2020 FINE APPEAL - FD 20-071		No Hearing Scheduled
APPEAL STATUS		Active
APPEAL RECEIPT DATE		05/20/2025
APPEAL TIMELY FILED		Yes
PRINT APPEAL LETTER		
HEARING REQUESTED		No
APPEAL REASON		Lack of Notification
APPEAL NOTES		
APPEAL NUMBER		FD 20-071
APPEAL ANALYST ASSIGNED		
FINAL ORDER NUMBER		
FINAL ORDER DATE		

Fine Year 2020 Payment Information

DATE POSTED	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	METHOD	PAYMENT ID	COMMENT
10/27/2023	Fine Levied	+\$1,500.00			Fined \$1500.00
Current Balance: \$1,500.00					

Fine Year 2020 Event Chronology

DATE	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	ADDRESS/EMAIL	REFERENCE
09/09/2020	Filer Correspondence Letter	Courtesy Notice of Fines Accruing - Courtesy Notice of Fines Accruing	Po Box 11, Mount Dora, FL 32756-0011 george.marek@intercrop.org	KimberlyHolmes
10/27/2023	Fine Levied	Fined \$1500.00		Journal: Fine Lake 2023-10-27-05:19

03/22/2024	Notice of Assessed Fine	Initial Fine Notice		Journal: Fine1st 2024-03-22-11:15
04/23/2025	Filer Correspondence: Letter	Notice of Assessed Fine - Filer 1st Fine Letter	Po Box 913, Sorrento, FL 32776-0913 scotsman@mydigs.net	Correspondence Queue: 2025-04-23 00:00:00 Correspondence Sent: 2025-04-23 00:00:00.0000000
06/06/2025	Fine Appeal	FD 20-071	Po Box 913, Sorrento, FL 32776-0913 scotsman@mydigs.net	Journal: Appeal 2025-06
06/06/2025	Filer Correspondence: System Email	Fine Appeal Received	scotsman@mydigs.net	Correspondence Queue: 2025-06-06 16:30:06 Correspondence Sent: 2025-06-06 16:30:06.1727318
09/27/2025	Filer Correspondence: Envelope	Envelope Template	Po Box 913, Sorrento, FL 32776-0913 scotsman@mydigs.net	KimberlyHolmes

Created Date: 9/27/2025**Type:** Envelope**Created By:** System**Description:**

George W Marek

Po Box 913
Sorrento, FL, 32776, 0913**From:** EthicsFDMSInfo@mail.disclosure.floridaethics.gov**Sent:** 6/6/2025 4:30:06 PM**To:** scotsman@mydigs.net**Subject:** Fine Appeal Received

Luis M. FustØ
Chair
Tina Descovich
Vice Chair
Paul D. Bain
Dr. James Bush, III
Freddie Figgers
Laird A. Lile
Ashley Lukis
Linda Stewart



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

325 John Knox Road
Building E, Suite 200
Tallahassee, Florida 323 03

Kerrie J. Stillman
Executive Director

Steven J. Zuilkowski
*Deputy Executive Director /
General Counsel*

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

"A Public Office is a Public Trust "

June 06, 2025

RE: In re George W Marek 252208, Financial Disclosure Appeal No.: FD 20-071

The Commission has received your appeal. We will send all subsequent correspondence in this matter to you at the email address on record and/or mailing address unless you notify us of a change in your address.

The following information is to help you understand the process your appeal will follow. Please note: If you are currently being investigated for willfully failing to file financial disclosure, your appeal may not be heard until that process is complete. If we received your appeal more than 30 days after we sent you the notice of your right to appeal, it may be denied on that basis. Otherwise, the following will apply:

Initially, Commission staff will review your appeal and any documentation you submitted. We may contact you for more information. A draft order will then be prepared and agendaed for a Commission meeting. The Commission meets approximately every six weeks. How soon your appeal will be heard depends on a number of things, including when it was received and the Commission's workload. If you requested a hearing before the Commission when you filed your appeal, you will be provided with a copy of the draft order and will be notified of the date and time at which your appeal will be heard. At this meeting, the Commission will rule on your appeal. A final order will be entered and provided to you, usually within a week of the Commission meeting. If the fine is not waived, we will consider flexible payment options.

If you have any questions about this appeal or the appeal process, please feel free to contact Kimberly R Holmes, Program Administrator, at (850) 488-7864.

Do not reply to this email as it is generated automatically and electronically and cannot accept electronic replies.

Florida Commission on Ethics
325 John Knox Road Building E, Suite 200 Tallahassee, FL 32303

Created Date: 4/23/2025
Type: Letter
Created By: System
Description: Notice of Assessed Fine - Filer 1st Fine Letter

Created Date: 9/9/2020
Type: Letter

Created By: System

Description: Courtesy Notice of Fines Accruing - Courtesy Notice of Fines Accruing

Created Date: 8/20/2020

Type: Postcard

Created By: System

Description: Courtesy Postcard Reminder - Courtesy Postcard Reminder