

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS
MINUTES
February 5, 2021

The Board of Ethics met on February 5, 2021 at 9:03 a.m. in the LaBelle Room on the 1st floor of the LaSalle Building located at 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana with Board Members Bruneau, Couvillon, Dittmer, Ellis, Grand, Lavastida, McAnelly, Meinert, Roberts and Smith present. Board Member Colomb arrived at 9:16 a.m. Also present were the Ethics Administrator, Kathleen Allen; the Executive Secretary, Carolyn Abadie Landry; and Counsel David Bordelon, LaToya Jordan, Sue Mooney, Charles Reeves and Greg Thibodeaux. Deputy General Counsel Tracy Barker participated remotely.

Shelby Carnahan Andrews, CPA, Report Preparer for Randall “Randy” Delatte, appeared before the Board requesting a waiver in Docket No. 20-548 regarding a \$1,000 late fee assessed against Mr. Delatte, for filing his 10- G campaign finance disclosure report was filed 103 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board suspended all but \$100 based on future compliance with the reporting requirements under the Code of Governmental Ethics.

Lt. John Stelly, Louisiana State Police - Troop B, appeared before the Board to request an advisory opinion in Docket No. 21-027 as to whether he can accept outside employment from Northwestern University Center for Public Safety. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics would not prohibit Lt. Stelly from becoming employed by NUCPS while employed with the Louisiana State Police since the job duties as the Executive Officer of Troop B does not include teaching nor would it draw substantially upon official data or ideas from the agency. There would be no violation of Sections 111C(1)(a) or (b) of the Code of Governmental Ethics. Further, while NUCPS does

transact business with the Louisiana State Police, it does not transact business with Troop B, and so is not considered to be a prohibited source to Lt. Stelly and thus not a violation of Section 1111C(2)(d) of the Code of Governmental Ethics.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board agreed to take action on items G4-G16 en globo subject to any items being removed from the en globo listing for further discussion.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff recommendations on items G4-G16, excluding Items G6, G8, G11, G12, G14 and G15 taking the following action:

The Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 20-550 as to potential conflict of interest issues surrounding Todd Wackerman's potential candidacy for Orleans Parish School Board. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the proposed advisory opinion concluding that the Code of Governmental Ethics would not permit Mr. Wackerman to serve as a member of the School Board while simultaneously serving as the salaried Director of STEM since STEM solicits business from schools that he would be overseeing as a member of the School Board. Service on the School Board while receiving a salary from STEM would be a violation of Section 1111C(2)(d) of the Code of Governmental Ethics.

The Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 20-705 submitted by Alton McGee, a teacher in East Baton Rouge Parish, who would like to create a Parent Teacher Organization and a Booster Club at Glen Oaks High School. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the proposed advisory opinion concluding that the Code of Governmental Ethics does not prohibit Mr. McGee from forming two non-profit

corporations to assist Glen Oaks High School, provided he does not represent the corporation in contracts or other transactions with Glen Oaks High School. The Board wanted to further caution that Section 1115 of the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits a public servant from soliciting or accepting gifts and that Mr. McGee may want to request a further advisory opinion providing the specifics of any fund raising activities.

The Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 20-811 from Shelta J. Richardson, a member of the St. Tammany Parish School Board, as to whether she can accept a grant from the Louisiana Department of Education on behalf of her licensed child care center, but processed through the St. Tammany Parish School Board. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the proposed advisory opinion concluding there would be a Code of Ethics violation because St. Tammany Parish would rank the participating childcare centers in order to receive funding and Ms. Richardson's agency is participating in the process to determine which childcare center might receive funding from BESE or LDE. Ms. Richardson is prohibited from receiving compensation from The Academy of Early Learning since The Academy of Early Learning is entering into a financial relationship with the St. Tammany Parish School Board, by way of their ranking the Academy of Early Learning enabling it to receive funding. Further, The Academy of Early Learning would violate Section 1117 of the Code of Governmental Ethics if it were to give something of economic value to Ms. Richardson in violation of Section 1111C(2)(d) of the Code of Governmental Ethics.

The Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 20-901 from Mark I. Baum, AIA, regarding whether the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit him or his business from making a charitable contribution to a not-for-profit entity in the name a public servant who is employed by an agency with which he has a business or contractual

relationship. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics would not prohibit Mr. Baum and/or his business from making a charitable contribution in this manner.

The Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 20-912 submitted by Francis Abbott, Executive Director of the Louisiana Board of Pardons and Committee on Parole, regarding whether the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit former employees of the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Correction Division of Probation and Parole (“P&P”) from entering into a contract with the Louisiana Board of Pardons & Committee on Parole (“LBPCP”). On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics does not prohibit former P&P employees from entering into a contract with the LBPCP to provide VAC services.

The Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 20-915 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit Juliette Villaronga, a Probation and Parole Specialist, from accepting an honorarium from the North American Center for Continuing Medical Education. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that Ms. Villaronga would be prohibited by Section 1111C(1)(a) of the Code of Governmental Ethics from receiving any thing of economic value from the North American Center for Continuing Medical Education in connection with her participation in the webinar.

The Board considered a disqualification plan in Docket No. 21-043 submitted by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development regarding the promotion of Allen Myles, a Mobile Equipment Operator in the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development District 03, Gang 530. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board approved the disqualification plan since the plan satisfies the requirements of Section

1112C of the Code of Governmental Ethics by virtue of removing Allen Myles from all supervision of his brother Eddie Myles.

The Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 20-807 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit Tangipahoa Parish Government employee Jill DeSouge's son, Brody DeSouge, independently or as an employee of KA-JI Construction, from being employed with RAWL or a similarly situated contractor with Tangipahoa Parish while she is employed with the Parish. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board deferred making a decision until next month in order to seek additional information.

The Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 20-869 regarding whether the post-employment restrictions in the Code of Governmental Ethics and found in La. R.S. 27:13 would prohibit Ronnie Jones, a former Chairperson of the Louisiana Gaming Control Board from serving on an advisory board of Entain, a foreign gaming corporation. Ronnie Jones appeared before the Board to answer any questions. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that Mr. Jones would not be prohibited under Section 1121A of the Code of Governmental Ethics from accepting a position as an advisory board member of Entain. However, Section 1121A would prohibit Mr. Jones for two years from assisting Entain for compensation, in a transaction, or appearance in a connection with a transaction, involving his former agency, the Louisiana Gaming Control Board. Additionally, the Board advised that the interpretation of La. R. S. 27:13 should be sought by the opinion of the Louisiana Attorney General's office.

The Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 20-913 from Dr. Emily Nichols, employed by the City of New Orleans as the Director of New Orleans EMS,

relative to her joining the medical advisory board for ImageTrend. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics would not prohibit Dr. Nichols from serving on the medical advisory board for ImageTrend and allow ImageTrend to make donations to charities of Dr. Nichols's choice, provided that she receive no compensation or reimbursement for her service to ImageTrend. The Board also informed Dr. Nichols that reimbursement for travel expenses would be prohibited unless she complies with the provisions of Sections 1115.2A and B of the Code of Governmental Ethics. Finally, the Board informed Dr. Nichols that she would be prohibited from participating in any transaction by New Orleans EMS involving ImageTrend while serving on the advisory board.

The Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 20-914 from Megan Marino, MD, the Deputy Medical Director of the New Orleans Emergency Medical Services (EMS), as to whether she may be appointed to the board of ImageTrend, Inc., a vendor of EMS. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics would permit Dr. Marino to serve as a member of the ImageTrend advisory board while simultaneously serving as the Deputy Director of EMS and to allow ImageTrend to make donations to charities of her choice, provided that she receive no compensation for her service to ImageTrend. The Board also informed Dr. Marino that reimbursement for travel expenses would be prohibited unless she complies with the provisions of Sections 1115.2A and B of the Code of Governmental Ethics. Finally, the Board informed Dr. Marino that she would be prohibited from participating in any transaction by New Orleans EMS involving ImageTrend while serving on the advisory board.

The Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 21-004 regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit Joe Magee from serving as the

Administrator of the Desoto Parish Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and being appointed to serve on the Desoto Parish Fire District 2 Board. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board instructed the staff to defer.

The Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 21-005 from Paul P. Price, Jr., a member of the Franklin Parish Hospital Service District #1, d/b/a Franklin Medical Center Board of Directors ("FMC"), regarding his employment with a vendor of the District. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit Mr. Price from being compensated by NLPC while serving as a member of the Board for FMC, for as long as NPLC and FMC have an existing business relationship.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board reconsidered Docket No. 20-912.

The Board reconsidered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 20-912 submitted by Francis Abbott, Executive Director of the Louisiana Board of Pardons and Committee on Parole, regarding whether the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit former employees of the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Correction Division of Probation and Parole ("P&P") from entering into a contract with the Louisiana Board of Pardons & Committee on Parole ("LBPCP"). On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff recommendation as previously but with a word change.

The Board considered a personal financial disclosure answer in Docket No. 20-889 submitted by Gordon Propst, member of the Imperial Calcasieu Human Services Authority, regarding a NOD-Amend received requesting he disclose income from the Robinswood School. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board advised that the income from

Robinswood School is not required to be disclosed since the school is not a state entity, a political subdivision, or a gaming interest.

The Board considered the following general business agenda items:

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board approved the minutes of the January 7th and 8th Board meetings.

The Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 20-737 from Ellen Engemann, Chairman of the Housing Authority for New Roads Board of Commissioners, relative to the authority of the Mayor of New Roads making appointments to the Board of Commissioners. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded the following: Issue No. 1: The Code of Governmental Ethics does not determine who is responsible for appointing board members to HANR, but would suggest to seek an opinion from the Louisiana Attorney General's Office; Issue No. 2: The Code of Governmental Ethics would not prohibit the Mayor of New Roads from appointing board members to HANR, unless the person is employed by the mayor to work on or at property that houses tenants that participate in the Section 8 Housing Program under the jurisdiction of HANR; Issue No. 3: The Code of Governmental Ethics would not prohibit the Mayor of New Roads from appointing an employee of his personal business to serve as a board member of HANR, unless the person so appointed would be an immediate family member, a person with whom he is negotiating or has an arrangement concerning prospective employment, or a person who has an existing contract with him, and by reason thereof is in a position to affect directly the economic interests of the mayor; and Issue No. 4: The Code of Governmental Ethics would not prohibit the Mayor of New Roads from appointing a former campaign manager to serve as a board member of HANR, unless the person so appointed would be an immediate family member, a person with whom he is negotiating or has an arrangement

concerning prospective employment, or a person who has an existing contract with him, and by reason thereof is in a position to directly affect the economic interests of the mayor.

The Board considered a purchasing plan in Docket No. 20-909 submitted by the Town of Arcadia for Joseph Pruitt, a member of the town council, to lease office space from the town, pursuant to Section 1123(22) of the Code of Governmental Ethics. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board approved a plan with the inclusion of additional language allowing Joseph Pruitt, Jr. to enter into a lease with the Town and to recuse himself from any matters relating to the Arcadia Outlet Mall or his lease and providing that Mr. Pruitt continues to comply with the requirement to submit affidavits.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 21-006 from Vermilion Parish Sheriff Michael Couvillon regarding the use of campaign funds to pay legal fees. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded that Sheriff Couvillon is not prohibited from using surplus campaign contributions to pay the legal fees incurred in connection with his defense of the Ethics charges in Docket No. 14-762.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board moved to discuss G22 and G23 at the end of the meeting.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board unanimously agreed to take action on the requests for “good cause” waivers of late fees assessed against candidates and committees included in the Campaign Finance Waiver Chart en globo subject to any items being removed from the en globo listing for further discussion.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff recommendations on the items in the Campaign Finance Waiver Chart, excluding Docket Nos 20-644, and 20-855 taking the following action:

The Board unanimously reduced to \$987.12 based on Rule 1205C; declined to waive the late fees assessed against the following:

Docket 20-859 from E. Anthony “Scott” Glamon, 10-G of a \$2,000 late fee.

The Board unanimously reduced to \$400 based on Rule 1205C; declined to waive the late fees assessed against the following:

Docket No. 20-862 from Jordan Arceneaux, SUPP2019 of a \$600 late fee.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a request in Docket No. 20-644 for a waiver of a \$2,200 late fee assessed against Local Two Forty-Seven PAC Fund, a political action committee, its committee's chairperson, Larry George, and treasurer, Edward Jarzyna, in the October 12, 2019 election, whose 40-G campaign finance disclosure reports was filed 11 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$2,200 late fee.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board considered a request in Docket No. 20-855 for a waiver of a \$1,000 late fee assessed against Charles "Gary" Wainwright, a candidate for Judge, Criminal District Court, Section K, Orleans Parish, in the November 3, 2020 election, whose 90-P campaign finance disclosure report was filed 26 days late. On motion made, seconded and passed by a vote of 9 yeas by Board Members Bruneau, Colomb, Couvillon, Dittmer, Ellis, Grand, Lavastida, Meinert, and Roberts, and 2 nays by Board Members McAnelly and Smith, the Board declined to waive the \$1,000 late fee.

In its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, the Board instructed staff to not give any waivers when there have been prior late fees assessed.

The Board considered lobbying waiver request in Docket No. 20-873 for a waiver of the \$450 late fee assessed against Carol Smith whose September 2020 Lobbying Expenditure Report was 9 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board suspended all based on future compliance.

The Board unanimously agreed to take action on the requests for “good cause” waivers of late fees assessed against individuals contained in the Personal Financial Disclosure Waiver Chart en globo subject to any items being removed from the en globo listing for further discussion.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff recommendations on the items in the Personal Financial Disclosure waiver chart, excluding Docket No. 20-663 taking the following action:

The Board unanimously declined to waive the late fee assessed against the following:

Docket No. 20-657 from Douglas Leonard, for Tier 2.1 of a \$1,500 late fee.

The Board unanimously suspended all late fees assessed against the following based on future compliance with the reporting requirements under the Code of Governmental Ethics:

Docket No. 20-661 from Ryan Verret for Tier 2.1 of a \$1,500 late fee;
Docket No. 20-662 from Nathan Barrett for Tier 3 of a \$400 late fee;
Docket No. 20-665 from Chandra Ford for Tier 3 of a \$1,500 late fee;
Docket No. 20-666 from Lovasso Monk for Tier 2.1 of a \$1,500 late fee; and,
Docket No. 20-667 from Donna Mabry for Tier 2.1 of a \$1,500 late fee.

The Board considered a waiver request in Docket No. 20-663 regarding a \$1,500 late fee assessed against Cynthia Alexander Green, former member of the Eastover Property Owners Association, for filing her 2017 Tier 2.1 annual personal financial disclosure statement 131 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board deferred to next month’s meeting.

The Board considered a waiver request in Docket No. 20-771 regarding a \$2,500 late fee assessed against Stephen Weeks for filing his 2020 Retirement Systems Financial Disclosure Statement 186 days late. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board waived the late fee.

The Board unanimously agreed to take action on the requests for “good cause” waivers of late fees assessed against individuals contained in the Untimely-Waiver Request chart en globo subject to any items being removed from the en globo listing for further discussion.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff recommendations on the items in the Untimely Waiver Chart, excluding Docket Nos. 14-1453 and 15-759 taking the following action:

The Board unanimously considered the request and suspended all late fees assessed against the following:

Docket No. 18-1469 from Jeri Ann Pilk, for 2016 Tier 2.1 of a \$1,500 late fee; and
Docket No. 18-1469 from Jeri Ann Pilk, for 2017 Tier 2.1 of a \$1,500 late fee.

The Board declined to waive the late fees assessed against the following:

Docket No. 19-1025 from Gregory M. Jordan, for 2016 Tier 2.1 of a \$1,500 late fee.

Board Member Smith recused himself from consideration of Docket Nos. 14-1453 and 15-759.

The Board unanimously considered Docket No. 14-1453 regarding an untimely reconsideration request by Michael Pitman, candidate for District Judge, 1st Judicial District, Caddo Parish, in the November 4, 2014 election, relating to the reassessment of a previously suspended \$280 fine for a late filing of his 30-P. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board declined to waive the \$280 late fee.

The Board unanimously declined to consider an untimely reconsideration waiver request in Docket No. 15-759 regarding Michael Pitman, candidate for District Judge, 1st Judicial District, Caddo Parish, in the November 4, 2014 election, relating to the reassessment of a previously suspended \$540 fine for SUPP2014.

The Board unanimously agreed to take action on the requests for reconsideration waivers of late fees assessed against individuals en globo subject to any items being removed from the en globo listing for further discussion.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the staff recommendations on the items in the reconsideration waiver request, excluding Docket Nos. 20-019 and 20-204 taking the following action:

The Board unanimously considered the reconsideration waiver request and affirmed the Board's prior decision to decline to waive all late fees assessed against the following:

Docket No. 19-726 from Jonathan Owen Davis, Sr., for 2016 Tier 2.1 of a \$1,050 late fee;
Docket No. 19-726 from Jonathan Owen Davis, Sr., for 2018 Tier 2.1 of a \$1,500 late fee;
Docket No. 19-1023 from Louis Johnson, for 2017 Tier 2 of a \$2,500 late fee; and
Docket No. 19-1026 from Damon Quenton Hardesty, for 2016 Tier 2 of a \$2,500 late fee.

The Board unanimously considered the reconsideration waiver request and affirmed the Board's prior decision to suspend all but \$400 based on future compliance against the following:

Docket No. 20-205 from Lealon Johnson, for 2018 Tier 3 of a \$1,500 late fee.

The Board unanimously considered the reconsideration waiver request and declined to waive all late fees assessed and offer a payment plan for the following:

Docket No. 20-377 from Darwin "Brad" Adams, for 2019 30-P of a \$1,000 late fee;
Docket No. 20-377 from Darwin "Brad" Adams, for 2019 10-P of a \$400 late fee;
Docket No. 20-377 from Darwin "Brad" Adams, for 2019 10-G of a \$400 late fee; and
Docket No. 20-377 from Darwin "Brad" Adams, for 2019 40-G of a \$704 late fee.

The Board unanimously considered the reconsideration waiver request and affirmed the Board's prior decision to suspend all but \$650 late fee assessed against the following:

Docket No. 20-602 from Gerrin John Narcisse, for 2018 Tier 2.1 of a \$1,500 late fee.

The Board unanimously considered the reconsideration waiver request and based on new guidelines, suspended all late fees against the following:

Docket No. 20-658 from Robert Van Westmoreland, for 2017 Tier 2.1 of a \$250 late fee.

The Board took a recess from 11:31 a.m. to 11:43 a.m.

The Board began to look at two items in the General Supplemental agenda.

The Board considered a request for an advisory opinion in Docket No. 21-058 concerning the Commissioner of the Office of Financial Institutions' prior affiliation with regulated entities and his son's employment with a regulated entity. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board concluded the following based on the facts provided: 1. Since Mr. Dameron does not provide compensated services to or for regulated entities and he no longer has an ownership interest in regulated entities, his prior affiliation with the regulated entities does not raise any Ethics Code issues if he is appointed as OFI Commissioner. 2. Since the annual annuities are not being paid to Mr. Dameron for services he is or will provide, the receipt of such payments would not present an Ethics Code issue if Mr. Dameron is appointed OFI Commissioner. 3. & 4. As long as his son does not represent the bank in matters before the OFI, his son's employment with a regulated entity does not present an Ethics Code issue if Mr. Dameron is appointed OFI Commissioner. However, the son would be required to file annual disclosures pursuant to Section 1114A of the Code of Governmental Ethics. Also, if Mr. Dameron, as OFI Commissioner, or an OFI employee were to participate in a transaction in which his son has a substantial economic interest, Mr. Dameron should submit a disqualification plan for the Board of Ethics' approval that removes him from any involvement in those transactions. That plan can rely on the provisions of R.S. 6:102C; however, it should also comply with Chapter 14 of the Rules for the Board of Ethics.

The Board reconsidered the Board’s denial of a waiver request in Docket No. 19-1129, submitted by Aundra Harris, with the Lake Bullard Neighborhood Improvement Assoc., regarding a \$1,500 late fee assessed for failing to file her amended 2018 Tier 2.1 annual personal financial disclosure. On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board rescinded all late fees since it appears that pursuant to Section 1124.2.1D(1)(b)(vii) of the Code of Governmental Ethics, the Lake Bullard Neighborhood Improvement District is not required to file annual personal financial disclosure statements. It was created under Title 33 and expends, disburse, or invests less than \$500,000 a year.

The Board unanimously resolved into executive session at 11:50 a.m. to consider complaints and reports deemed confidential pursuant to Section 1141 of the Code of Governmental Ethics.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

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The Board unanimously resolved into general business session at 11:53 a.m.

Board Members Colomb and Roberts left the meeting at 12:00 p.m. and were not present for voting on G22 and G23.

Ms. Allen provided an overview of suggestions to propose legislation for consideration during the 2021 Regular Legislative Session. Following discussion of the suggested proposals, on motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board instructed staff to send a letter to the

governor and legislators noting the unanimously adopted recommendations and suggestions:

1. Consider amending the definition of “political committee” to account for other types of legal entities, such as single member-owned limited liability companies that may be organized for the primary purpose of supporting or opposing candidates, propositions, recalls of a public officer, or political parties.
2. Consider amending the Election Code to allow the Secretary of State’s Office to provide email addresses of candidates to the Board of Ethics, in a similar manner in the way the Board of Ethics receives dates of birth and last four of social security numbers of candidates.
3. With respect to the laws regarding personal financial disclosure statement, consider amending the law to remove the “from receipt” requirement before late fees can be assessed. A suggestion would be that no late fee can be assessed unless the filer has not filed within a certain time frame from the Board’s mailing of the letter to the last known address of the filer.
4. With respect to the lobbying laws, considering amending the law to provide that a lobbyist cannot renew their registration until the one-year training requirement is satisfied.

Furthermore, the Board instructed the staff to reiterate the legislative suggestions made in 2020, which were the following:

1. Special Reports –the Board recommended the increase of the threshold in the following amounts:
 - Contributions in excess of:
 - \$750 for a district candidate or a political committee participating in an election thereof;
 - \$500 for any other office candidate or a political committee participating in an election thereof;
 - Expenditure in excess of \$500 made to a candidate, committee, or person required to file reports, who makes endorsements.
2. Special Reports - The Board suggested that the 48-hour filing requirement be changed to “within 2 business days after the occurrence” of the above transactions.
3. The Board discussed whether there was a utility to these reports as these expenditures are also reported on the comprehensive report that covers the time period in which the expenditure was made. Based on this fact, the Board recommends to the Legislature that consideration be given to deleting the requirement to file Election Day Expenditure Reports pursuant to R.S. 18:1532.

4. The Board suggested that the amount of the penalty with respect to Tier 3 filers be lowered to \$25 a day, with a maximum of \$500 per report.
5. The Board suggests that the mandatory language of “shall” used in these sections with respect to the assessment of penalties for all PFD filers be changed to “may.”
6. The Board suggests that the burden of proof in R.S. 42:1130.4 include “know, or should be reasonably expected to know,” rather than only the standard of having to provide actual knowledge.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board unanimously adjourned at 12:42 p.m.

APPROVED:

Secretary

Chairman