

**ALABAMA ETHICS COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**April 6, 2022
9:30 a.m.**

**9th Floor, RSA Union Building
Montgomery, Alabama**

The Alabama Ethics Commission met on April 6, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. in the Public Service Commission Hearing Room on the 9th Floor of the RSA Union Building.

Commission Members Present:

Honorable John Plunk, Chair
Honorable Lyn Stuart, Ret. Chief Justice, Vice-Chair
Honorable Stanton H. McDonald, Member
Honorable BG (R) Edward Crowell (USAF), Member

Commission Members Absent:

Commission Staff Present:

Thomas B. Albritton, Executive Director
Brian Paterson, Assistant General Counsel
Cynthia Raulston, Special Assistant to the Director
Dustin Lansford, Senior Special Agent
Chris McCay, Special Agent
Brian Baker, Special Agent
Byron Butler, Senior Special Agent
April Innes, Special Investigator
Austin Gilmore, Administrative Support Assistant I

Other:

Victoria Costello, Court Reporter – Huseby

Mr. Plunk called the meeting to order at 9:47 a.m. and gave the invocation.

Old Business:

Approval of the minutes from the February 2, 2022, meeting:

General Crowell moved to adopt the minutes as written. Chief Justice Stuart seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.

New Business:

Revised Language on SEI Form

Mr. Paterson explained the revised language on the statement of economic interest form. ***Chief Justice Stuart moved to adopt the revised language on the statement of economic interest form as written. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting. Revised language on the statement of economic interest form states “Did you or your spouse receive any income***

*including salaries, fees, dividends, profits, commissions, or other compensation from any private business?**

**include all income required to be reported to the IRS”*

FCPA Appeals

Nurse Practitioner Alliance of Alabama PAC

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Hugh Evans, III, General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. ***Chief Justice Stuart moved to set aside the February 7, 2022, penalty and uphold the offense. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.***

Bill Holtzclaw

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Hugh Evans, III, General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. ***General Crowell moved to set aside the February 11, 2022, penalty and the offense. Chief Justice Stuart seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0 with Chairman Plunk and Mr. McDonald recusing.***

James Anthony Hicks

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Hugh Evans, III, General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. ***Chief Justice Stuart moved to set aside the February 11, 2022, penalty and the offense. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.***

James Clifford Borden

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. James Clifford Borden spoke on his own behalf. Hugh Evans, III, General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. ***Chief Justice Stuart moved to set aside the February 8, 2022, penalty and the offense. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.***

Coastal PAC

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Wiley C. Blankenship spoke on behalf of the Coastal PAC. Hugh Evans, III, General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. ***Chief Justice Stuart moved to reduce the December 21, 2021, penalties and uphold one of the four offenses. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.***

Thomas Brent Rhodes

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Hugh Evans, III, General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. ***General Crowell moved to set aside the February 14, 2022, penalty and the offense. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.***

Joseph Lister Hubbard, Jr.

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Hugh Evans, III, General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *Chief Justice Stuart moved to set aside the February 7, 2022, penalty and the offense. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

Shaun Golden

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Hugh Evans, III, General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *General Crowell moved to set aside the February 16, 2022, penalty and the offense. Chief Justice Stuart seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

Barrown Douglas Lankster, Sr.

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Hugh Evans, III, General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *Chief Justice Stuart moved to set aside the February 23, 2022, penalty and the offense. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

Joseph M. Willoughby

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Joseph M. Willoughby spoke on his own behalf. Hugh Evans, III, General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *General Crowell moved to set aside the February 9, 2022, penalty and the offense. Chief Justice Stuart seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

Frank Dillman

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Frank Dillman spoke on his own behalf. Hugh Evans, III, General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *Chief Justice Stuart moved to set aside the February 22, 2022, penalty and the offense. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

Korey Wilson

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Korey Wilson spoke on his own behalf. Hugh Evans, III, General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *General Crowell moved to set aside the February 9, 2022, penalty and the offense. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

Kimberly Rucker

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Hugh Evans, III, General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *Chief Justice Stuart moved to set aside the February 23, 2022, penalty and the offense. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

Kandice Pickett

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Kandice Pickett spoke on his own behalf. Hugh Evans, III, General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *General Crowell moved to set aside the February 14, 2022, penalty and the offense. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

At 10:37 a.m. General Crowell moved that the Commission go into Executive Session. Chief Justice Stuart seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.

At 12:37 p.m. Chief Justice Stuart moved that the Commission go back into Open Session. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.

Case No. 2021-0162

Sean Boczar, Former Police Officer, City of Helena

General Crowell moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists cause to hold that Sean Boczar has violated the Alabama Ethics Law, and further moved that this case be referred for review and appropriate legal action to the District Attorney of the appropriate Judicial Circuit. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2021-0415 & 2022-0006

Tamara Hand, Principal, Verbena High School

Chief Justice Stuart moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists cause to hold that Tamara Hand has violated the Alabama Ethics Law, and further moved that these cases be referred for review and appropriate legal action to the District Attorney of the appropriate Judicial Circuit. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2021-0292

Mary Morris, Commissioner, Mobile County Barber Commission

Chief Justice Stuart moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists insufficient facts to hold that Mary Morris, has violated the Alabama Ethics Act. She further moved that this case be closed. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2021-0304

Patsy Bowen, Court Clerk, City of Monroeville

Chief Justice Stuart moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists cause to hold that Patsy Bowen has violated the Alabama Ethics Law, and further moved that this case be referred for review and appropriate legal action to the District Attorney of the appropriate Judicial Circuit. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2021-0318

Adam Bourne, Council Member, City of Chickasaw

Mr. McDonald moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists insufficient facts to hold that Adam Bourne, has violated the Alabama Ethics Act. He further moved that this case be closed. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2021-0186

Stephanie Braly-Beutjer, Teacher, Grissom High School

General Crowell moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists cause to hold that Stephanie Braly-Beutjer has violated the Alabama Ethics Law, and further moved that this case be referred for review and appropriate legal action to the District Attorney of the appropriate Judicial Circuit. Chief Justice Stuart seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2021-0229

Stanley Robinson, Former Assistant Football Coach, Brewer High School

Chief Justice Stuart moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists insufficient facts to hold that Stanley Robinson, has violated the Alabama Ethics Act. She further moved that this case be closed. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2021-0231

Anders Coggins, Former Assistant Football Coach, Brewer High School

Chief Justice Stuart moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists insufficient facts to hold that Anders Coggins, has violated the Alabama Ethics Act. She further moved that this case be closed. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2021-0366

Evelyn Bliss, Teacher, Gadsden Middle School

Mr. McDonald moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists cause to hold that Evelyn Bliss has violated the Alabama Ethics Law, and further moved that this case be referred for review and appropriate legal action to the District Attorney of the appropriate Judicial Circuit. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2022-0033

Denny Fant, Vehicle Repair Supervisor, Alabama Department of Corrections

Mr. McDonald moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists insufficient facts to hold that Denny Fant, has violated the Alabama Ethics Act. He further moved that this case be closed. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.

Cases Recommended for Dismissal

The following cases were presented to the Commission by Executive Director Albritton, with the recommendation that they be dismissed: **Case No. 2021-0152; Case No. 2021-0179; Case No. 2021-0180; Case No. 2021-0181; Case No. 2021-0182; Case No. 2021-0305; Case No. 2021-0319; Case No. 2021-0320; Case No. 2021-0322; Case No. 2021-0323; Case No. 2021-0344; Case No. 2021-0367; Case No. 2021-0386; and Case No. 2021-0388.** *Chief Justice Stuart moved that the Commission dismiss the cases as recommended. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.*

Case No. 2019-0049

Horace Medley, Jr., Former Director, Sewer Operations, City of Calera

Mr. Plunk moved that on December 4, 2019, the Alabama Ethics Commission unanimously found Horace Medley, Jr., Former Director, Sewer Operations, City of Calera, had committed one (1) minor violation of the Alabama Ethics Act and approved an administrative resolution at the request of the Respondent. The Commission forwarded the case to the District Attorney of the 19th Judicial Circuit who approved the administrative resolution on February 25, 2022. Accordingly, I hereby move as follows: 1) An administrative penalty in the amount of \$1,000.00 be ordered by the Commission to be paid to the Ethics Commission by cashier's check, money order, or online payment on or before May 9, 2022; 2) There is no restitution owing for this minor violation. Chief Justice seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2021-0178

Timothy "Tim" Guffey, Former Chairman, Jackson County Commission

Chief Justice Stuart moved that on October 6, 2021, the Alabama Ethics Commission unanimously found Timothy Guffey, Former Chairman, Jackson County Commission, had committed one (1) minor violation of the Alabama Ethics Act and approved an administrative resolution at the request of the Respondent. The Commission forwarded the case to the Attorney General, State of Alabama, who approved the administrative resolution on January 26, 2022. Accordingly, I hereby move as follows: 1) An administrative penalty in the amount of \$250.00 be ordered by the Commission to be paid to the Ethics Commission by cashier's check, money order, or online payment on or before May 9, 2022; 2) There is no restitution owing for this minor violation. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2021-0254

Teresa Lindsay, Councilmember, Town of Snead

Chief Justice Stuart moved that on October 6, 2021, the Alabama Ethics Commission unanimously found Teresa Lindsay, Councilmember, Town of Snead, had committed one (1) minor violation of the Alabama Ethics Act and approved an administrative resolution at the request of the Respondent. The Commission forwarded the case to the Attorney General, State of Alabama, who approved the administrative resolution on January 26, 2022. Accordingly, I hereby move as follows: 1) An administrative penalty in the amount of \$200.00 be ordered by the Commission to be paid to the Ethics Commission by cashier's check, money order, or online payment on or before May 9, 2022; 2) There is no restitution owing for this minor violation. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2020-0406

Sharon Beech, Early Intervention State Monitor, AL Dept. of Rehabilitation Services

Chief Justice Stuart moved that on August 4, 2021, the Alabama Ethics Commission unanimously found Sharon Beech, Early Intervention State Monitor, AL Dept. of Rehabilitation Services, had committed one (1) minor violation of the Alabama Ethics Act and approved an administrative resolution at the request of the Respondent. The Commission forwarded the case to the Attorney General, State of Alabama, who approved the administrative resolution on February 11, 2022. Accordingly, I hereby move as follows: 1) An administrative penalty in the amount of \$500.00 be ordered by the Commission to be paid to the Ethics Commission by cashier's check, money order, or online payment on or before May 9, 2022; 2) On June 6, 2021, Sharon Beech paid restitution in the amount of \$144.72 to the Ethics Commission, to be disbursed to the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.

Other

Case No. 2018-0546

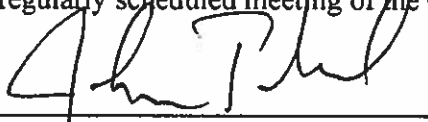
Teresa "Michelle" Croskey, Former Accountant, Office of Program Integrity, Alabama Department of Public Health

General Crowell moved that on December 4, 2019, the Alabama Ethics Commission unanimously found Teresa "Michelle" Croskey, had committed one (1) minor violation of the Alabama Ethics Act and approved an administrative resolution at the request of the Respondent. The Commission forwarded the case to the District Attorney of the 9th Judicial Circuit who approved the administrative resolution on December 12, 2019. Accordingly, I hereby move as follows: 1) An administrative penalty in the amount of \$250.00 was ordered by the Commission on February 5, 2020, the Commission hereby approves the request to remit the fine. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.

Adjournment

There being no further business at 12:58 p.m., General Crowell moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission for June 2022 is to be determined.



John Plunk, Chair



Thomas B. Albritton, Executive Director



Byron Butler, Recording Secretary