

# STATE OF ALABAMA ETHICS COMMISSION



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**FISCAL YEAR**  
**2008-2009**

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# **Annual Report**

**Fiscal Year  
2008-2009**

*for the*

**Alabama Ethics Commission**

*is presented to the*

**Governor**

*and the*

**Alabama Legislature**

*in compliance with*

**Section 36-25-3(c), Code of Alabama, 1975**

**Alabama Ethics Commission**

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**James L. Sumner, Jr., Director**



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ETHICS COMMISSION



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COMMISSIONERS

Michael K. K. Choy, Esq., Chair  
Linda L. Green, Vice-Chair  
Braxton L. Kittrell, Jr., Esq.  
Josephine M. Venable  
Anthony Humphries

James L. Sumner, Jr.  
Director

February 1, 2010

TELEPHONE (334) 242-2997  
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WEB SITE: [www.ethics.alabama.gov](http://www.ethics.alabama.gov)

The Honorable Bob Riley, Governor  
State of Alabama  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Dear Governor Riley:

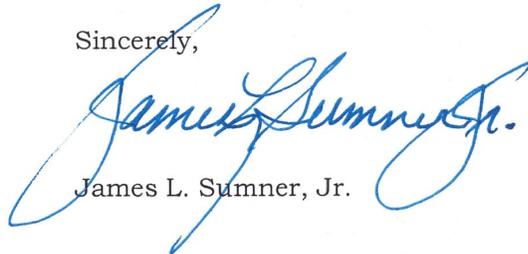
On behalf of the Alabama Ethics Commission, I respectfully present to you and the Alabama Legislature our Annual Report for fiscal year 2008-2009, in compliance with Section 36-25-3(c), Code of Alabama, 1975. Included are details of our actions during the year as we strive to fulfill the responsibilities with which we are charged.

Our Commissioners and Staff are very proud of our accomplishments during this fiscal year, and following are some of the highlights:

- **263** Complaints were filed with the Commission
- **25** Cases were presented to the Commission
- **5** Formal and **65** Informal Opinions were rendered by the Commission
- **\$38,874.25** collected in Fines and Restitution
- **49,381** Statement of Economic Interests forms filed with **62.2%** filed electronically
- **692** Lobbyists registered with **874** Principals represented; **63.73%** filed on-line
- **44** Ethics Seminars presented and **11** DVDs provided for In-House Ethics Training
- **\$59,135.64** deposited into the General Fund

Our Commissioners and Staff are committed to fulfilling our responsibilities to the citizens of the state of Alabama to the fullest extent possible and greatly appreciate your support of the Alabama Ethics Commission.

Sincerely,



James L. Sumner, Jr.



**Cameron McDonald Vowell, Ph.D.**  
**Chair**  
**Term Expires 2009**

Cameron McDonald Vowell, Ph.D., was confirmed by the Alabama Senate on April 6, 2004 for a term which began September 1, 2004 and expires August 31, 2009. Dr. Vowell was elected Vice Chair at the August 1, 2007, Commission Meeting. She has been active in community affairs since graduation from Hollins College in 1968. She has her Ph.D. in biochemistry from UAB and an MA in environmental sciences from the University of Texas at Dallas. She served for 14 years on the Alabama Air Pollution Control Commission and its successor agency, the Alabama Environmental Commission. She served for nine years on the national Board of Governors of The Nature Conservancy and she currently serves on the Board of her *alma*

*mater*, Hollins University. Dr. Vowell has worked with a number of groups which encourage philanthropy for causes affecting women and girls, including the Women's Fund, an endowment for projects benefitting women and girls. She has served for 11 years on the board of the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham and on the boards of the Alabama Symphony, Gateway/Family and Child Services, and the Black Warrior/Cahaba Land Trust. Dr. Vowell has accepted appointments for boards, commissions and committees from city, state and county governments. Her most recent activity is in the field of geriatrics. She serves on the Board of Counselors of the Center for Aging at UAB, and is active in promoting attention to geriatric issues across the community. Dr. Vowell and her husband Scott, Presiding Circuit Judge of Jefferson County, have one son.



**Michael K. K. Choy, Esq.  
Vice-Chair**

**Term Expires 2010**

Michael K. K. Choy, Esq. was confirmed by the Alabama Senate on May 3, 2005, to serve a term on the Alabama Ethics Commission that began on September 1, 2005, and ends on August 31, 2010. Mr. Choy was born in Queens, New York on July 29, 1958. He graduated from Holy Family Catholic High School in Birmingham in 1976. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 1980, and received his Juris Doctorate from the Cumberland School of Law at Samford

University in Birmingham in 1984. He was a law clerk to the Honorable U. W. Clemon, Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama. After seven years as In-House Counsel with BellSouth Corporation, Mr. Choy entered private practice. He is presently managing member of the law firm CHOY LICHENSTEIN LLC where he practices civil litigation. He is a former Alabama State Bar Examiner, and a current member of the State Bar's Character and Fitness Committee. Mr. Choy is a Trustee for the J. Craig and Page T. Smith Scholarship Foundation, which benefits Alabama high school seniors who are first in their family to attend college. He has two daughters.



**Linda Lloyd Green**  
**Term Expired 2006**

Linda L. Green was confirmed by the Alabama Senate on January 17, 2002 to serve a term which expired August 31, 2006. Mrs. Green has continued to serve until her successor is confirmed. She was elected Chairman at the August 3, 2005 Commission meeting. Mrs. Green was born in 1951 in Huntsville, Alabama and graduated from Huntsville High School in 1969. She has a B.S. degree from the University of Alabama and an M.S. degree from Auburn University. She also holds FINRA licenses — Series 7, Series 24 and Series 63. Beginning in 1976 to 1993, Mrs. Green worked for Parisian, Inc. where she served in a number of roles before managing each of the two stores in Huntsville. From 1993 to 2004 she worked for Colonial Bank where she served as CEO and President of the Northern Region and from

2004 to 2007 as EVP for Colonial Banc-Group as Wealth Management Director. She currently works with Renasant Bank as the President for Madison County. Her professional and civic activities include serving on the UAH Foundation as Treasurer and a member of the Executive Committee, past Chair for Volunteers of America, Madison County Veterans Memorial Board member, and Crestwood Hospital Women's Advisory Group. Her past involvement is varied, including serving as a board member for Intergraph Corporation, Vice-Chair and Chair of the Alabama Space Science Exhibit Commission, the Von Braun Center Board of Control, the Alabama State Banking Board, 1998 Chair for the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Directors of United Way, and numerous other civic and charitable organizations. Mrs. Green is married to Randy Green, and they have one son, daughter-in-law, and grandson.



**Braxton L. Kittrell, Jr.**  
**Term Expires 2012**

Braxton L. Kittrell, Jr., was confirmed by the Alabama Senate May 8, 2008, to serve a term on the State of Alabama Ethics Commission ending August 31, 2012. Kittrell received a J.D. degree from the University of Alabama in 1967 and began practicing law in Mobile in 1969. He was elected Circuit Judge for the 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit (Mobile County) in 1976, and served in that office from January, 1977 until he retired in April of 1999. He served as Presiding Circuit Judge from January 18, 1989 until his retirement. Kittrell was a member of the Judicial Inquiry Commission of the State of Alabama from 1987-99, and served as its Chairman from 1995-99. He was president of the International Academy of State Trial Judges (1982-83); he served as Chairman of the Regional Planning and Advisory Board for Region 6, Alabama Law Enforce-

ment Planning Agency (1980-83) and as a member of the Executive Committee of the State Supervisory Board of the Alabama Law Enforcement Planning Agency (1980-83). He served as Chairman of the Sentencing and Corrections Committee of the American Bar Association, Judicial Administration Division from 1993-97, and as a member of the Executive Committee of the National Conference of State Trial Judges of the American Bar Association from 1995 through 1998. He also served as President of the Alabama Association of Circuit Judges (1996-97), and as a member of the Alabama Supreme Court Court Advisory Committee on Criminal Procedure (1997-99). He presently holds membership in the American, Alabama and Mobile Bar Associations, the Alabama Association of Circuit Judges, the International Academy of State Trial Judges, the American Judicature Society and serves on the board of directors of the Alabama Forest Resources Center.



**Josephine M. Venable**  
**Term Expires 2013**

Josephine M. Venable was confirmed by the Alabama Senate on May 28, 2008 for a term which began September 1, 2008 and will expire August 31, 2013. Mrs. Venable is a native of Clio, Alabama where she graduated from Barbour County High School. She received a Bachelor of Science degree with Education Certification in Physics, Chemistry and Biology from the University of Alabama in 1961. She taught advanced science and biology in Montgomery before moving with her husband, the late Honorable Jack B. Venable, to Washington, D. C. In 1970 they purchased *The Tallassee Tribune* in Tallassee, Alabama at which time Mrs. Venable became Co-Owner and Associate Publisher. After the death of her husband, she continued the newspaper as Publisher and Editor. She sold *The Tribune* in 2007 and remains as Editor Emeritus. She has

been an active member of the Alabama Press Association for many years, being named to various committees. Mrs. Venable has served her community as President of the Tallassee Chamber of Commerce and Secretary/Treasurer of the Tallassee Industrial Development Board. She has also served as Chairman of the Community Hospital Board of Directors as well as Chairman of the Alabama Council of Hospital Trustees. She continues her service with the board of Community Hospital as a member of the Executive and Finance Committees. She is a member of the Advisory Board, Elmore Division, BankTrust. Mrs. Venable is a member of First United Methodist Church of Tallassee having served in many areas including Board of Trustees and Lay Leader. She has been named to numerous other community boards and committees. Mrs. Venable and her late husband have two children, daughter Cameron, son-in-law Steve and son Ben.



**Anthony Humphries**  
**Term Expires 2014**

Mr. Humphries graduated from Good Hope High School in Cullman County in 1973. He received a B.A. degree in Political Science from Auburn University in 1977 and graduated from the Graduate School of Banking at LSU in 1988. He, along with a group of business leaders in Calhoun County, organized a new community bank in 2005. Mr. Humphries has served as the Bank's President & CEO and as a member of the Bank's Board of Directors since September 2005. He has over 30 years of banking experience in the Calhoun County market. He also served on Governor Riley's cabinet as Superintendent of the Alabama Banking Department from 2003 to 2005. Mr. Humphries began his banking career with SouthTrust Bank, gaining experience as he progressed from management trainee to Assistant Vice President, Vice President and Senior Vice President/Senior Lending Officer. After 6 years with SouthTrust, he was hired by AmSouth Bank where he served as the Senior Vice President/Commercial Bank-

ing Sales Manager for 13 years. In 1997, he returned to SouthTrust Bank as the market CEO.

Mr. Humphries volunteers his time with several organizations throughout Calhoun County and the surrounding areas. He is on the Board of Directors of the First National Bankers Bank-Alabama, the Community Bankers Association of Alabama, the Northeast Alabama Regional Medical Center, the Anniston Museum of Natural History Foundation, the Knox Concert Series and the Anniston Country Club. He is a former Chairman of the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce and serves now as Chairman of its Transportation Task Force. Mr. Humphries is the Vice Chairman of the McClellan Development Authority, the entity charged with the redevelopment of the former Fort McClellan. He is a member of the Anniston Rotary Club and the Oxford Quarterback Club and serves as a Trustee for the Women's Missionary Union (WMU). He is an active member of the First Baptist Church of Oxford where he serves as a Deacon. He is married to the former Cristy Chase and has two sons and one granddaughter.

# Director

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## **James L. (Jim) Sumner, Jr.**

Currently, Mr. Sumner is the Director of the Alabama Ethics Commission. He was appointed to the position by the Commission in April, 1997. Mr. Sumner holds an additional appointment as a Deputy Attorney General.

From October, 1987 to April, 1997, Mr. Sumner served as Assistant to the Vice Chancellor for External Affairs of the University of Alabama System. The UA System is comprised of campuses in Tuscaloosa, Birmingham and Huntsville. At that time, the System had over 43,000 students, 18,500 employees and an annual budget exceeding \$1.35 billion.

From January to October, 1987, Mr. Sumner served as Vice President/Legislative Affairs for the Alabama Hospital Association.

Mr. Sumner was the Executive Assistant to the Lieutenant Governor and served as Chief of Staff in the Lieutenant Governor's Office from January, 1983 to January, 1987.

From January, 1979 to May, 1982, Mr. Sumner served as Corporate Secretary and in-house counsel of Royal Cup, Inc. of Birmingham, the largest coffee roaster in the South.

Mr. Sumner served as an Assistant Attorney General from October, 1974 to January, 1979.

Mr. Sumner is a native of Jasper, Alabama and attended Jasper public schools and Walker County High School.

He was graduated from the University of Alabama in 1970 with a Bachelor of Science Degree.

In 1974, Mr. Sumner received his Doctor of Jurisprudence Degree from Cumberland School of Law at Samford University.

Before joining the Attorney General's staff, Mr. Sumner served for three years as Administrative Assistant to the Chairman of the Democratic Party in Alabama, Robert S. Vance. Vance was later appointed by President Carter to the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

Mr. Sumner holds membership in the American Bar Association and the Alabama State Bar Association.

He is married to Deanna Benefield Sumner of Huntsville and they have three adult children: Matthew, Amelia and Aaron.

# Commission Staff

## Legal Division

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**Hugh R. Evans, III, General Counsel**

Julie Davis  
Executive Secretary  
Recording Secretary

Theresa Davis  
Legal Research Assistant

## Investigative Division

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**Charles A. Aldridge, Chief Special Agent**

David Green, Special Agent  
Vicki Wilson, Special Agent

## Finance & Personnel Division

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**Barbi Lee, Fiscal Officer**

Vicky Manning, Accounting Technician  
Josh Roper, Laborer

## Administrative Division

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**Marie P. Malinowski, Chief, Administrative Division**

Julie Kerce, ASA I  
Cathy Taylor, Clerk  
Joan Ward, ASA II  
Loretta Webb, Clerk  
Janice Wolfe, ASA I/Receptionist

## COMMISSION STAFF



*Pictured left to right: Cathy Taylor, Vicki Wilson, Julie Davis, Julie Kerce, Vicky Manning, Marie Malinowski, Joan Ward, Barbi Lee and Theresa Davis. Not pictured: Loretta Webb and Janice Wolfe.*



*Pictured left to right: Jim Sumner, Josh Roper, David Green, Marie Malinowski, Charles Aldridge and Hugh Evans.*

## PURPOSE, POWERS AND DUTIES

The Alabama Ethics Commission was established in 1973 by Act No. 1056 of the Alabama Legislature which has subsequently been amended by Acts 75-130, 79-460, 79-698, 82-429, 86-321, 92-342, 95-194, 96-261, 97-651, 2000-797 and Act. No. 2001-474.

*The Mission of this law is to ensure that public officials are independent and impartial; that decisions and policies are made in the proper governmental channels; that public office is not used for private gain; and, most importantly, that there is public confidence in the integrity of government.*

With confirmation from the Alabama Senate, members of the Alabama Ethics Commission are appointed by the:

**Governor  
Lieutenant Governor  
Speaker of the Alabama House of Representatives**

### Duties and Responsibilities of the Commission

<b>Furnish Disclosure Forms</b>	<b>Publish Procedures</b>	<b>Make Statement of Economic Interests Forms Available to Public</b>
<b>Investigate Alleged Violations</b>		<b>Issue And Publish Advisory Opinions</b>
<b>Present Educational Programs</b>	<b>Preserve Statement of Economic Interests Forms</b>	<b>Promulgate Rules And Regulations</b>

## Expenditures for Fiscal Year 2009 October 1, 2008 - September 30, 2009

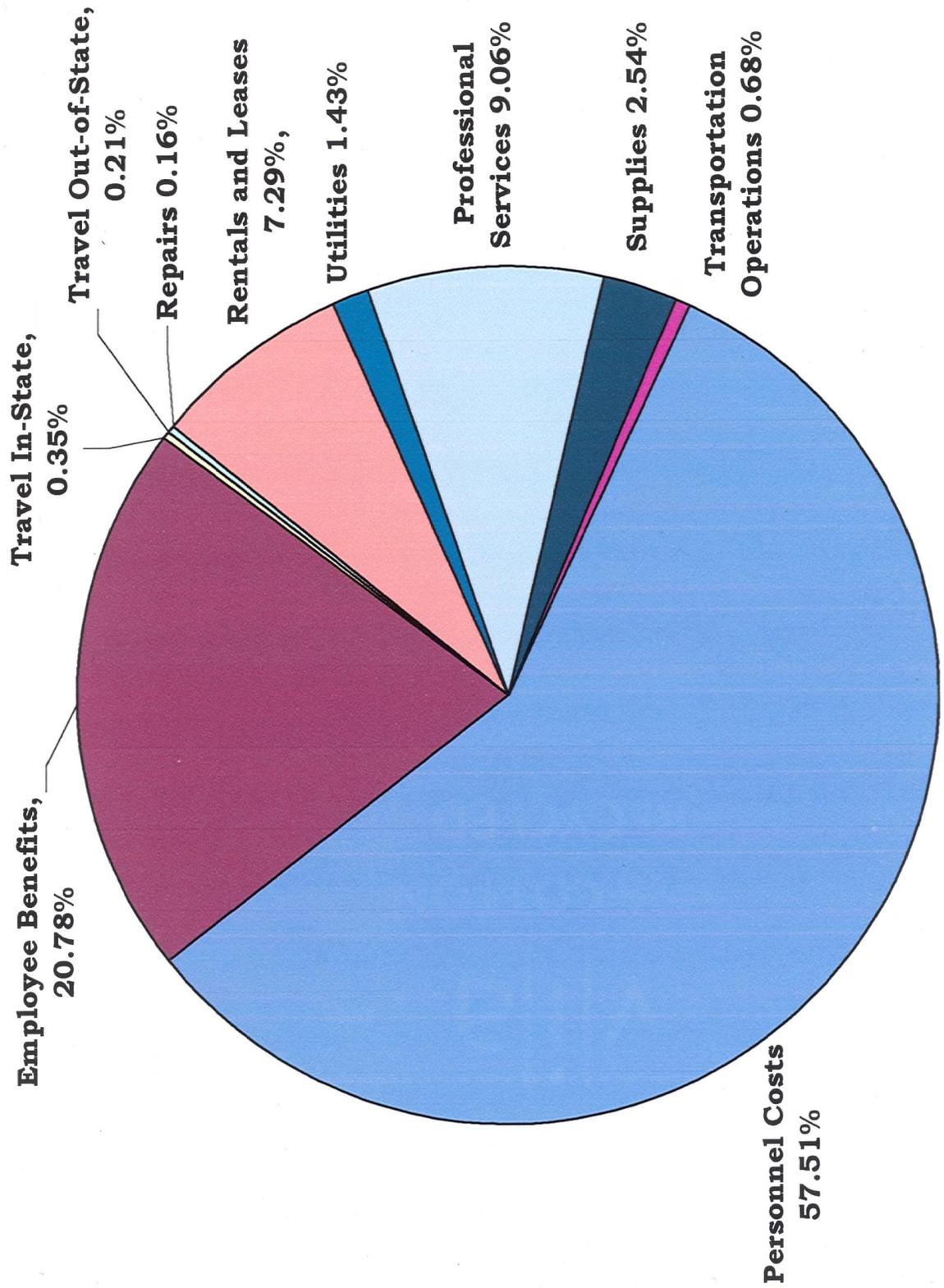
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>FY 08-09</b>	<b>13th Accounting Period</b>	<b>Outstanding Purchase Orders</b>	<b>Rollover to FY 10</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Personnel Costs	869,214.03	0.00	0.00	11,434.97	880,649.00
Employee Benefits	314,073.49	0.00	0.00	13,302.51	327,376.00
Travel In-State	5,074.34	150.00	0.00	2,275.66	7,500.00
Travel Out-of-State	3,226.40	0.00	0.00	1,773.60	5,000.00
Repairs and Maintenance	1,472.38	930.00	0.00	6,097.62	8,500.00
Rentals and Leases	102,834.28	6,237.93	1,047.79	0.00	110,120.00
Utilities and Communication	12,514.90	9,018.69	18.92	7.49	21,560.00
Professional Services	81,431.66	55,007.38	520.50	35,764.46	172,724.00
Supplies, Materials, and Operating Exp	33,744.97	4,000.00	633.26	14,153.77	52,532.00
Transportation Equipment Operations	7,830.63	1,425.00	977.24	11,704.13	21,937.00
Transportation Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<b>1,431,417.08</b>	<b>76,769.00</b>	<b>3,197.71</b>	<b>96,514.21</b>	<b>1,607,898.00</b>

<b>Total FY 09 Budget Appropriation</b>	<b>1,607,898.00</b>
<b>Total FY 09 Expenditures</b>	<b>(1,511,383.79)</b>
<b>Rollover to FY 10</b>	<b>(96,514.21)</b>
<b>13th Acct Period Overage</b>	<b>6,473.23</b>
<b>Reversion to General Fund</b>	<b>6,473.23</b>

The annual cost of the Alabama Ethics Commission (based on state population of 4.7 million) is 32.1 cents per person.

The annual cost of the Alabama Ethics Commission (based on 307,000 public officials and public employees covered by the Ethics Law) is 4.92 per person.

# Expenditures by Percentage



# SIGNIFICANT EVENTS FOR FY 2009

## **ADVISORY OPINIONS:**

- 5 Formal Advisory opinions were drafted by the General Counsel and rendered by the Commission
- 65 Informal Advisory opinions were provided by the General Counsel. These opinions are issued only when the question asked deals with a matter of black letter law or where the Commission has previously addressed the matter with a formal opinion.
- All formal opinions may be read in their entirety at our website [www.ethics.alabama.gov](http://www.ethics.alabama.gov).

## **DIGEST OF ADVISORY OPINIONS**

### **AO NO. 2008-26**

A member of the Board of Directors of the Industrial Development Board of the City of Birmingham may serve as a real estate broker on a land purchase by the Industrial Development Board; provided, that the Board itself approached the member about his representation; that all activities related to the transaction are done on his own time; that he does not use Industrial Development Board resources to assist him in performing his services; and, that he does not vote, attempt to influence or otherwise participate in any aspect of the contract/transaction as a member of the Industrial Development Board.

### **AO NO. 2008-27**

The daughters of the Mayor of the Town of Geiger, Alabama, may not receive CDBG grants from ADECA administered through the Town of Geiger, when the Mayor voted for the Town to make an application to ADECA for the grant, and also voted for the selection of the grant administrator, unless all eligible applicants receive the benefits of the grant prior to the Mayor's daughters receiving the grant, and where the Mayor plays no further role in the administration of the grants.

### **WITHDRAWN**

### **AO NO. 2009-01(B)**

**Legal Division**

## **SIGNIFICANT EVENTS FOR FY 2009**

### **AO NO. 2009-02**

The Wilcox County Commission may rent storage space at one of its buildings to the Gees Bend Water Company, while a Commission member is an owner/partner in the Water Company; provided, it is an arms-length transaction; that the rental price is based on the fair market value; and, that the Commission member does not vote, attempt to influence or in any manner participate in the discussions or any aspect of the transaction between the County Commission and the Gees Bend Water Company.

### **AO NO. 2009-03**

A retired Circuit Court Judge may use documents that were at one time confidential that have become public records to assist him in writing a book about a case he presided over without violating the confidentiality provisions of the Alabama Ethics Law, once the information loses its confidential status.

An individual against whom a complaint is filed with the Ethics Commission is not prohibited from using that information in any way he or she so desires; provided that the information and its use are not subject to the Grand Jury Secrecy Act, codified at Sections 12-16-214 through 12-16-216.

The requestor of this opinion is advised to contact the Judicial Inquiry Commission (JIC) regarding any confidentiality provisions relating to complaints before that body. The statute of limitations for the disclosure of confidential information begins to run at the time the confidential information is used or disclosed in a manner that could result in financial gain.

Receiving permission to disclose what is considered confidential information under the Ethics Law, does not negate the confidentiality provision.

**WITHDRAWN**  
**AO NO. 2009-04**

**WITHDRAWN**  
**AO NO. 2009-05**

**Legal Division**

## **SIGNIFICANT EVENTS FOR FY 2009**

### **AO NO. 2009-06**

A former employee of the Alabama Oil and Gas Board may have informal contact with his former employer, the Alabama oil and Gas Board, within two years of his retirement; provided, the contact does not involve lobbying, or representing the interests of clients and/or his current employer.

A former employee of the Alabama Oil and Gas Board may not participate in informal meetings between the Board's staff and clients or potential clients, when the meeting involves furthering the interests of that client, regardless of whether or not the matter will be heard by the Board at some future date.

### **WITHDRAWN AO NO. 2009-07**

### **WITHDRAWN AO NO. 2009-08**

# **SIGNIFICANT EVENTS FOR FY 2009**

## **COMPLAINTS:**

- 263 Complaints were filed with the Ethics Commission
- 264 Complaints were closed by staff after Preliminary Inquiry. This number includes complaints received prior to October 1, 2008, but closed during the current Fiscal Year.

## **CASE PRESENTATIONS:**

- 25 Cases were presented to the Commission
  - 2 Cases were Closed with No Probable Cause
  - 16 Cases were handled Administratively
  - 6 Cases were forwarded to the Attorney General of Alabama or the appropriate District Attorney for further action
  - 1 Case was continued for further investigation

## **FINES AND RESTITUTION:**

- \$6,435 levied and collected by Commission from Investigations
- \$32,439.25 collected in Restitution recovered for State Entities from Investigations

# SIGNIFICANT EVENTS FOR FY 2009

## **STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS:**

The Alabama Ethics Law requires a Statement of Economic Interests Form to be filed no later than April 30th of each year covering the preceding calendar year for individuals who fall into one of 24 categories.

In Fiscal Year 2009:

- 49,381 forms filed with the Ethics Commission
- First Year for Electronic Filing of Form Through Website
- 30,716 forms or 62.2% were filed on-line

## **LOBBYIST REGISTRATIONS:**

The Alabama Ethics Law requires all lobbyists to register with the Commission by January 31 of each year or within 10 days after the first undertaking requiring such registration.

In Fiscal Year 2009:

- 692 Lobbyists registered with the Ethics Commission
- 874 Principals were represented
- First Year for On-Line Registration Through Website
- 441 people or 63.73% registered electronically

### **Top 10 Lobbying Subjects**

- |                         |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Education            | 6. Insurance        |
| 2. Health Care          | 7. Utilities        |
| 3. Environmental        | 8. General Business |
| 4. Business Issues      | 9. Tax Issues       |
| 5. Economic Development | 10. Health          |

**Administrative Division**

# SIGNIFICANT EVENTS FOR FY 2009

## **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS:**

- 44 Ethics Seminars and Educational Programs Presented
- 3,217 Individuals Trained on Ethics Law
- 2 Job Fairs Attended to Promote Law Enforcement Careers
- 11 DVDs provided to Entities to conduct In-House Ethics Training



*Special Agent Vicki Wilson participates at Careerfest 2009 at Auggaville School.*



*Special Agent Vicki Wilson discusses careers in Law Enforcement with Careerfest 2009 seniors.*

## **ACCESS TO COMMISSION RECORDS:**

- 857 Requests Received to Review Statement of Economic Interests Forms
- 143 Requests Received to Review Lobbyists Registrations

**Administrative Division**

## SIGNIFICANT EVENTS FOR FY 2009

# HAPPY RETIREMENT

On June 1, 2009, Marie Malinowski retired from the Alabama Ethics Commission after 10 years of dedicated service to the agency. According to Mr. Sumner, *“Marie served the Ethics Commission, and more importantly, the public, for ten wonderful years. She was dedicated in her service and always loyal to the mission of the Commission.”* Congratulations, Marie!!!



*Jim Sumner presents Proclamation from Governor Riley to Marie during her retirement reception.*



*Marie and her son, Chip, as she is saying ‘Goodbye’ to the Ethics Commission.*

**Administrative Division**

## ANNUAL COMPARISONS FISCAL YEARS 2008 AND 2009

	Fiscal Year 2008	Fiscal Year 2009
Commission Meetings Held	6	6
Educational Programs Presented	40	44
Statements of Economic Interests Forms Received	52,120	49,381
Forms Viewed by the Public	962	1,000
Formal Advisory Opinions	33	5
Informal Advisory Opinions	58	65
Registered Lobbyists	663	692
Principals Represented by Lobbyists	775	874
Complaints Filed with Ethics Commission	223	263
Complaints Closed After Preliminary Inquiry	196*	264*
Cases Presented to Commissioners	13	25
Cases Closed by Ruling of Commissioners	1	2
Cases Forwarded to District Attorney or Attorney General	4	6
Administrative Penalties Assessed by Ethics Commission	5	16
Fines Collected by Ethics Commission	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 6,435.64
Restitution Collected	\$ 280.00	\$32,439.25
Lobbyists' Fees Collected	\$51,300.00	\$52,700.00
Copies of Forms & Lobbyists' Lists Fees Collected	\$ 2,257.00	\$ 1,681.50
General Fund Deposits	\$56,259.81	\$59,135.64
Staff Members	16	16

(\*Includes complaints/cases that were received prior to October 1, but closed during the current fiscal year.)

# COMMISSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

## **October 1, 2008, Montgomery, Alabama**

The Commission, chaired by Cameron M. Vowell, Ph.D., rendered two Advisory opinions and heard four cases. Three were handled administratively and one case was continued for further investigation.

## **December 3, 2008, Montgomery, Alabama**

The Commission heard three cases. Two were handled administratively, and one case was closed with no Probable Cause. No Advisory opinions were rendered.

## **February 4, 2009, Montgomery, Alabama**

The Commission rendered two Advisory opinions, carried over one opinion, and heard five cases. Three cases were referred to the Attorney General's office and two cases were handled administratively. Subsequently, the opinion carried over was withdrawn on May 12, 2009.

## **April 1, 2009, Montgomery, Alabama**

The Commission rendered two Advisory opinions and heard five cases. Two cases were referred to the District Attorney, and three were handled administratively.

## **June 3, 2009, Montgomery, Alabama**

The Commission heard three cases. Two cases were handled administratively and one case was referred to the District Attorney. No Advisory opinions were rendered.

## **August 5, 2009, Montgomery, Alabama**

At the August Commission meeting, two cases were heard and both were continued. No Advisory opinions were rendered. The Commission elected Michael K. K. Choy as Chair and Linda Green as Vice-Chair. The Commissioners then presented Cameron Vowell with a "Plaque of Appreciation" for her service on the Commission. Meeting dates for 2010 were approved.

# ALABAMA ETHICS COMMISSION COMMISSIONERS

## Years Served

## Commissioner

1973-1976	Donald Comer, III
1973-1977	Dr. George E. Bagley
1973-1978	Alto Lee, III
1973-1979	Dr. Leslie S. Wright
1973-1975	Connie Entrekin
1977-1980	Maynard Layman
1977-1981	Bester Bonner
1978-1982	Dr. George E. Bagley
1979-1982	Reverend John Vickers
1979-1983	Adolph Weil, Jr.
1979-1984	Neil O. Davis
1981-1985	William H. Lovin
1981-1986	Edward C. Sherling, Jr.
1983-1988	Jack W. Boykin
1983-1989	Dr. James J. Hicks
1984-1991	Dr. Cordell Wynn
1985-1992	Dr. Sandra K. Martin McLeod
1986-1992	James H. Anderson, Esq.
1987-1992	J. Ray Warren
1989-1993	Lee McGriff
1991-1994	Whit Armstrong
1992-1995	Frank L. Mason
1992-1996	H. Dean Buttram, Jr.
1992-1997	James T. Pursell
1993-1998	Henry B. Gray, III
1994-1999	Camille S. Butrus
1995-2000	Helen Shores Lee, Esq.
1998-2002	John H. Watson
1998-2002	Lewis G. Odom, Jr., Esq.
1998-2003	Russell Jackson Drake, Esq.
1999-2004	J. Harold Sorrells
2000-2000	Dr. Cordell Wynn
2000-2005	Raymond L. Bell, Jr., Esq.
2001-2009**	Linda L. Green
2002-2008	Nancy Edwards Eldridge
2003-2008	John H. Cooper, Esq.
2004-2009	Cameron McDonald Vowell, Ph.D.
2005-2010	Michael K. K. Choy, Esq.
2007-2012	Braxton L. Kittrell, Jr.
2008-2013	Josephine M. Venable
2009-2014	Anthony Humphries

*\*\*Mrs. Green continues to serve until a replacement is confirmed by the Alabama Senate*

**ALABAMA ETHICS COMMISSION DIRECTORS**

**1997 – Present**  
**James L. Sumner, Jr.,**  
***Director***

**February – April 1997**  
**Hugh R. Evans, III,**  
***Acting Director***

**1994 – 1997**  
**E. J. “Mac” McArthur,**  
***Director***

**April – September 1994**  
**Howard McKenzie,**  
***Acting Director***

**1974 – 1994**  
**Melvin Cooper,**  
***Director***