

**ALABAMA ETHICS COMMISSION  
MINUTES**

**August 2, 2022**

**9:30 a.m.**

**1st Floor, RSA Union Building  
Montgomery, Alabama**

The Alabama Ethics Commission met on August 2, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. in the Purchasing Division Auditorium on the 1st 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, Executive Assistant to the Director  
Chris Clark, Chief Special Agent  
Byron Butler, Senior Special Agent  
Dustin Lansford, Senior Special Agent  
Chris McCay, Special Agent  
Brian Baker, Special Agent  
April Innes, Special Investigator  
Cara Stapleton, Special Investigator  
Austin Gilmore, Administrative Support Assistant I  
Jennifer Marcato, Lobbyist Principal Liaison

**Other:**

Victoria Costello, Court Reporter – Huseby

Chief Justice Stuart served as chair for the meeting, called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. and introduced Associate Pastor Kenney Hoopes, First Baptist Church, Montgomery, Alabama, who gave the invocation.

**Old Business:**

Approval of the minutes from the June 8, 2022, meeting:

*Mr. Plunk moved to adopt the minutes as written. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

Approval of the minutes from the July 13, 2022, meeting:

***General Crowell moved to adopt the minutes as written. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.***

**New Business:**

**FCPA Appeals**

**Ashley Nicole Bell**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. ***Mr. Plunk moved to uphold the March 3, 2022, penalty and offense. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.***

Mr. Paterson explained the request for reconsideration by Ashley Nicole Bell, who was not initially present and wanted to speak on her own behalf. ***Reconsideration was granted, Mr. McDonald moved to set aside the March 3, 2022, penalty. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.***

**Yolanda Flowers**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Yolanda Flowers spoke on her own behalf. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. ***Mr. Plunk moved to set aside the six penalties that were imposed May 27, 2022. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.***

**Michael J. Wright**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. ***Mr. McDonald moved to set aside the March 2, 2022, penalty. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.***

***General Crowell moved to set aside the previous Civil Penalty Appeal offenses. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.***

**Peter Anthony Kupfer**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. ***General Crowell moved to set aside the May 24, 2022, penalty and offense. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.***

**George Henry**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. ***Mr. McDonald moved to set aside the June 2, 2022, penalty and offense. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.***

**Richard Talley**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *Mr. McDonald moved to set aside the June 2, 2022, penalty and offense. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

**Brenda Cephus**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *General Crowell moved to set aside the three penalties and offenses that were imposed May 20, 2022. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

**Buddy Gunner Ford**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *Mr. Plunk moved to set aside the May 24, 2022, penalty and offense. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

**Kerri Page Parker**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for Kerri Page Parker's appeal to be continued.

**Jim Zeigler**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *Mr. Plunk moved to uphold the two penalties and offenses that were imposed May 24, 2022. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

**Alonzo Akeem Jackson**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *General Crowell moved to set aside the two penalties and offenses that were imposed April 18, 2022. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

**Wendell Warren Major**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *General Crowell moved to set aside the five penalties and offenses that were imposed June 8, 2022. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

**Matthew McKenzie**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *Mr. McDonald moved to set aside the two penalties and offenses that were imposed June 16, 2022. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

**Jonathan Craig Jett**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *Mr. McDonald moved to set aside the seven penalties and offenses that were imposed June 21, 2022. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

**Charles Ray Winston III**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *General Crowell moved to set aside the June 21, 2022, penalty and offense. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

**Jamie Weathersby Smith**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *Mr. McDonald moved to set aside the five penalties and offenses that were imposed June 10, 2022. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

**Robert Lee Stewart, Jr.**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *Mr. McDonald moved to set aside the four penalties and offenses that were imposed June 17, 2022. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

**Ricky Mitchell Herring**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *Mr. McDonald moved to set aside the three penalties and offenses that were imposed June 15, 2022. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

**ROAD PAC**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *Mr. McDonald moved to set aside the July 6, 2022, penalty and offense. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

**Donna J. Pike**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *Mr. Plunk moved to set aside the three penalties and offenses that were imposed July 5, 2022. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

**Sawanda Byrd Wilson**

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Sarah Telofski, Assistant General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *General Crowell moved to set aside the three penalties and offenses that were imposed July 8, 2022. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

*At 10:27 a.m. General Crowell moved that the Commission go into Executive Session. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

*At 12:51 p.m. Mr. Plunk moved that the Commission go back into Open Session. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

**Case No. 2021-0230**

**Geoff Walters, Former Head Football Coach, Brewer High School**

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

**Case No. 2021-0401**

**Susan Coke, Administrative Support Associate, Auburn University**

*Mr. Plunk moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists cause to hold that Susan Coke has committed one (1) minor violation of the Alabama Ethics Act, and further moved that this case be handled administratively and 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. 2022-0048**

**Chris Logan, Former Groundskeeper, Jacksonville State University**

*Mr. McDonald moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, probable cause exists that Chris Logan violated the Alabama Ethics Act, and further moved that this case be referred for review and appropriate legal action to the District Attorney of the appropriate Judicial Circuit. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.*

**Case No. 2022-0082**

**Koye Adedokun, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Mental Health**

*Mr. Plunk moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists cause to hold that Koye Adedokun has committed one (1) minor violation of the Alabama Ethics Act, and further moved that this case be handled administratively and 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. 2022-0164**

**Tyler Murphy, Police Officer, City of Roanoke / Former Police Chief, Town of Wadley Officer General Crowell moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists cause to hold that Tyler Murphy has committed one (1) minor violation of the Alabama Ethics Act, and further moved that this case be handled administratively and referred for review and appropriate legal action to the District Attorney of the appropriate Judicial Circuit. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.**

**Case No. 2022-0173**

**Rodrecus Johnson, Warehouse Lead Worker, Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Mr. McDonald moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, probable cause exists that Rodrecus Johnson violated the Alabama Ethics Act, and further moved that this case be referred for review and appropriate legal action to the District Attorney of the appropriate Judicial Circuit. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.**

**Case No. 2022-0174**

**Wallace Salery, Warehouse Lead Worker, Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Mr. McDonald moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, probable cause exists that Wallace Salery violated the Alabama Ethics Act, and further moved that this case be referred for review and appropriate legal action to the District Attorney of the appropriate Judicial Circuit. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.**

**Case No. 2021-0301**

**Derek Lawrence, Police Officer, City of Foley**

**Mr. Plunk moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists cause to hold that Derek Lawrence has committed one (1) minor violation of the Alabama Ethics Act, and further moved that this case be handled administratively and 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. 2021-0302**

**Nicole Phillips, Chief Corrections Officer, City of Foley**

**Mr. Plunk moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists cause to hold that Nicole Phillips has committed one (1) minor violation of the Alabama Ethics Act, and further moved that this case be handled administratively and 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. 2022-0161**

**Nealy Roper, Board Member, Foley Housing Authority**

**Mr. Plunk moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists insufficient facts to hold that Nealy Roper, 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. 2021-0355; Case No. 2021-0390; Case No. 2021-0409; Case No. 2021-0410; Case No. 2021-0411; Case No. 2021-0413; and Case No. 2021-0414.** *General Crowell moved that the Commission dismiss the cases as recommended. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.*

#### **Case No. 2021-0262**

**Marlos Walker, Police Chief, City of Ozark**

*Chief Justice Stuart moved that on June 8, 2022, the Alabama Ethics Commission unanimously found Marlos Walker, Police Chief, City of Ozark, 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 33<sup>rd</sup> Judicial Circuit who approved the administrative resolution on or before July 14, 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 September 28, 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. 2021-0334**

**Donnis Leeth, Former Mayor, Town of Colony**

*General Crowell moved that on June 8, 2022, the Alabama Ethics Commission unanimously found Donnis Leeth, Former Mayor, Town of Colony, 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 32<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit who approved the administrative resolution on or before July 5, 2022. Accordingly, I hereby move as follows: 1) An administrative penalty in the amount of \$300.00 be ordered by the Commission to be paid to the Ethics Commission by cashier's check, money order, or online payment on or before September 28, 2022; 2) There is no restitution owing for this minor violation. Chief Justice Stuart seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.*

#### **Case No. 2022-0064**

**Robert Kulick, Coordinator, Student Services, Aerospace Engineering – Auburn University**

*Chief Justice Stuart moved that on June 8, 2022, the Alabama Ethics Commission unanimously found Robert Kulick, Coordinator, Student Services, Aerospace Engineering – Auburn University, 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 37<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit who approved the administrative resolution on or before June 28, 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 September 28, 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. 2022-0065**

**David Cline, Associate Professor, Auburn University**

*Chief Justice Stuart moved that on June 8, 2022, the Alabama Ethics Commission unanimously found David Cline, Associate Professor, Auburn University, 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 37<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit who approved the administrative resolution on or before June 28, 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 September 28, 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.*

**Other**

**Case No. 2017-0091**

**William Avery, Former Police Chief, Wadley Police Department**

*Mr. McDonald moved that on February 7, 2018, the Alabama Ethics Commission unanimously found William Avery, Former Police Chief, Wadley Police Department, 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 5th Judicial Circuit who approved the administrative resolution on or about March 7, 2018. Accordingly, I hereby move as follows: 1) On April 4, 2018, an administrative penalty in the amount of \$ 1,000.00 was ordered by the Commission. 2) The Commission hereby approves the request to remit the fine. General Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.*

*At 1:11 p.m. Director Albritton presented the Commission with the proposed 2023 Commission dates. General Crowell moved the dates be adopted. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.*

**Adjournment**

*There being no further business at 1:12 p.m., Mr. Plunk moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Mr. Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 with all those present voting.*

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission is October 5, 2022.



John Plunk, Chair



Thomas B. Albritton, Executive Director



Byron Butler, Recording Secretary