

**ALABAMA ETHICS COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**October 2, 2024
9:30 a.m.**

**1st Floor, Folsom Administrative Building
Montgomery, Alabama**

The Alabama Ethics Commission met on October 2, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. in the Personnel Hearing Room on the 1st Floor of the Folsom Administrative Building.

Commission Members Present:

Honorable BG (R) Edward Crowell (USAF), Member
Honorable J. David Dodd, Member
Honorable Greg Pappas, Member

Commission Members Absent:

Commission Staff Present:

Thomas B. Albritton, Executive Director
Brian Paterson, Assistant General Counsel
Cynthia Raulston, Special Assistant to the Director
Byron Butler, Executive Assistant to the Director
Chris Clark, Chief Special Agent
Dustin Lansford, Senior Special Agent
Chris McCay, Senior Special Agent
Brian Baker, Special Agent
Dylan Baker, Special Agent
April Innes, Special Investigator
Kayla Pfeil, Lobbyist/Principal Liaison

General Crowell served as chair for the meeting, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and introduced Pastor Jamal Browder from North Star Missionary Baptist Church, Montgomery, Alabama, who gave the invocation.

Old Business:

Approval of the minutes from the August 7, 2024, meeting:

Mr. Pappas moved to adopt the minutes as written. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.

New Business:

FCPA Appeals

Brian Dicus

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Mike Jones, General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. ***Mr. Pappas moved to set aside the***

penalty and offense. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.

Chase Dunham

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Mike Jones, General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *Mr. Pappas moved to set aside the penalty and offense. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

Johnny Moses Jr.

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Mike Jones, General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *Mr. Pappas moved to set aside the penalty and offense. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

Jade Colquett

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Mike Jones, General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *Mr. Pappas moved to set aside the penalty and offense. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

Richard Anderson

Mr. Paterson explained the request for the Civil Penalty Appeal. Mike Jones, General Counsel, Alabama Secretary of State was present to speak and answer any questions. *Mr. Pappas moved to set aside the penalty and offense. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.*

At 9:36 a.m. Mr. Dodd moved that the Commission go into Executive Session. Mr. Pappas seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.

At 11:02 a.m. Mr. Dodd moved that the Commission go back into Open Session. Mr. Pappas seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with all those present voting.

Case No. 2024-0031

Jeffery Scott, Transportation Supervisor, Winston County Board of Education

Mr. Pappas moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists cause to hold that Jeffery Scott has committed a 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. Dodd seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2024-0254

Shaide McGuyer, Special Education Teacher, Lawrence County Board of Education

Mr. Dodd moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists cause to hold that Shaide McGuyer has committed a 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. Pappas seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2023-0362

Jamia Anderson, Employee, LIFE Academy

Mr. Dodd moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists cause to hold that Jamia Anderson has violated the Alabama Ethics Act, and further moved that this case be referred for review and appropriate legal action to the Attorney General of the State of Alabama. Mr. Pappas seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2024-0047

Jasmine Sawyer, Sales Manager II, Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Mr. Pappas moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists cause to hold that Jasmine Sawyer has committed a 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. Dodd seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2024-0196

Paul Dunbar, Audio-Visual Specialist III, Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services

Mr. Pappas moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists insufficient facts to hold that Paul Dunbar has violated the Alabama Ethics Act. He further moved that this case be closed. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2024-0072

James Wilson, Trustee, Board of Trustees Seven Hills Fire District

Mr. Dodd moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists insufficient facts to hold that James Wilson has violated the Alabama Ethics Act. He further moved that this case be closed. Mr. Pappas seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2024-0219

Laura McCoo-Feenstra, Personnel Assistant III, Alabama State Port Authority

Mr. Pappas moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists cause to hold that Laura McCoo-Feenstra has committed a 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. Dodd seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2023-0414

LT Scott III, Citizen

Mr. Dodd moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists cause to hold that LT Scott III has 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. Pappas seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2024-0134

Charles A. Baumhauer IV, Employee, The University of Alabama

Mr. Pappas moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists insufficient facts to hold that Charles A. Baumhauer IV has violated the Alabama Ethics Act. He further moved that this case be closed. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2024-0179

Bonnie Spellman, Secretary/Bookkeeper, Pike County Board of Education

Mr. Dodd moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists cause to hold that Bonnie Spellman has committed a 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. Pappas seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2024-0213

Lee Smith, Employee, City of Calera

Mr. Pappas moved that based on the evidence as presented to this Commission, there exists insufficient facts to hold that Lee Smith has violated the Alabama Ethics Act. He further moved that this case be closed. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 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. 2023-0398; Case No. 2024-0032; Case No. 2024-0052, Case No. 2024-0063, Case No. 2024-0180, Case No. 2024-0181, Case No. 2024-0240 and Case No. 2024-0251.** *Mr. Dodd moved that the Commission dismiss the cases as recommended. Mr. Pappas seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with all those present voting.*

Case No. 2023-0274

Crystal May, Assistant Director of the Bessemer Office, Jefferson County DHR

Mr. Pappas moved that on August 7, 2024, the Alabama Ethics Commission unanimously found Crystal May, Assistant Director of the Bessemer Office, Jefferson County DHR, 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 10th Judicial Circuit / Bessemer Division who approved the administrative resolution on or before September 4, 2024. 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 December 4, 2024; 2) There is no restitution owing for this minor violation. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2023-0409

Sean Ayers, Sales Associate I, Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

General Crowell moved that on August 7, 2024, the Alabama Ethics Commission unanimously found Sean Ayers, Sales Associate I, Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, 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 8th Judicial Circuit who approved the administrative resolution on or before September 13, 2024. Accordingly, I hereby move as follows: 1) An administrative penalty in the amount of \$100.00 be ordered by the Commission to be paid to the Ethics Commission by cashier's check, money order, or online payment on or before December 4, 2024; 2) Restitution in the amount of \$302.25 be ordered to be paid to the Ethics Commission by cashier's check, money order, or online payment on or before December 4, 2024 and disbursed to Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control Board thereafter. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2024-0010

Robert Gardner, Council Member, Town of Ragland

General Crowell moved that on August 7, 2024, the Alabama Ethics Commission unanimously found Robert Gardner, Council Member, Town of Ragland, 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 30th Judicial Circuit who approved the administrative resolution on or before September 16, 2024. 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 December 4, 2024; 2) There is no restitution owing for this minor violation. Mr. Pappas seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with all those present voting.

Case No. 2024-0193

Tab Bowling, Mayor, City of Decatur

Mr. Pappas moved that on August 7, 2024, the Alabama Ethics Commission unanimously found Tab Bowling, Mayor, City of Decatur, 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 8th Judicial Circuit who approved the administrative resolution on or before September 13, 2024. Accordingly, I hereby move as follows: 1) An administrative penalty in the amount of \$100.00 be ordered by the Commission to be paid to the Ethics Commission by cashier's check, money order, or online payment on or before December 4, 2024; 2) There is no restitution owing for this minor violation. Mr. Dodd seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with all those present voting.

Other Matters

Case No. 2022-0381

Ganus Parker, Truck Driver Training Specialist, Shelton State Community College

General Crowell moved that on August 2, 2023, the Alabama Ethics Commission unanimously found Ganus Parker, Truck Driver Training Specialist, Shelton State Community College, 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 6th Judicial Circuit who approved the administrative resolution on or before May 6, 2024. Accordingly, I hereby move as follows: 1) On June 5, 2024, an administrative penalty in the amount of \$500.00 and restitution in the amount of \$2,100.00 was ordered by the Commission. The Commission hereby approves a payment plan with monthly installments in the amount of \$100.00 on the remaining balance of \$2,400.00, to be paid to the Ethics Commission by cashier's check, money order, or online payment on or before October 7, 2026. Mr. Pappas seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with all those present voting.

Adjournment

There being no further business at 11:20 a.m., Mr. Pappas moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Mr. Dodd seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 with all those present voting.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission is December 4, 2024.


Edward F. Crowell, Chair


Thomas B. Albritton, Executive Director


Byron Butler, Recording Secretary