

**STATE OF LOUISIANA
DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW
ETHICS ADJUDICATORY BOARD**

BOARD OF ETHICS

*** DOCKET NO. 2024-16949-ETHICS-B**

IN THE MATTER OF

CHRISTOPHER GEORGE, SR.

*** AGENCY TRACKING NO. 5123-020**

DECISION AND ORDER

The Louisiana Board of Ethics, in its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, requested an adjudicatory hearing to have the Ethics Adjudicatory Board determine whether Christopher George, Sr. knowingly failed to file his 10-G campaign finance disclosure report by the eleventh day after it was due in connection with his 2022 candidacy for the office of Alderman, Ward 3, Division A, City of Crowley, Acadia Parish. The Louisiana Board of Ethics proved by clear and convincing evidence that Christopher George, Sr. knowingly failed to file the report as alleged. The Louisiana Board of Ethics is authorized to impose an additional civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 against Christopher George, Sr. for the report pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statutes (La. R.S.) 18:1505.4(A)(4)(b).

APPEARANCES

An adjudicatory hearing was conducted March 12, 2026, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, before Panel B of the Ethics Adjudicatory Board (EAB).¹ Jessica Meiners appeared as counsel on behalf of the Louisiana Board of Ethics (BOE). Although duly noticed, Christopher George, Sr. (Respondent) did not appear for the hearing.²

¹ Panel B of the Ethics Adjudicatory Board consists of administrative law judges Anthony J. Russo (presiding), Monique D. Baham, and Leighann Guilbeau. Judge Guilbeau stood in as the alternate judge for the other sitting member of Panel B, Lynette Roberson.

² On July 14, 2025, an *Amended Notice of Hearing* was mailed by the Administrative Hearings Clerk for the Division of Administrative Law (DAL) to Respondent at 1502 Southport Boulevard, Unit B, New Iberia, Louisiana, 70560. This is the most recent address that was provided by Respondent to the BOE on December 19, 2024. Respondent was provided an additional 15 minutes past the scheduled hearing start time but failed to appear.

JURISDICTIONAL AUTHORITY

The EAB is a legislatively created board, as contemplated by Article X, Section 21, of the Louisiana Constitution. The EAB has original jurisdiction under La. R.S. 42:1141.5 to determine whether violations of the Code of Governmental Ethics, La. R.S. 42:1101 *et seq.*, have occurred and to conduct hearings under La. R.S. 18:1505.4 for specific violations of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act (CFDA), La. R.S. 18:1481 *et seq.*

This adjudication is conducted in accordance with the CFDA, the Code of Governmental Ethics, the Administrative Procedure Act, La. R.S. 49:950 *et seq.*, and the enabling legislation for the Division of Administrative Law, La. R.S. 49:991 *et seq.*

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

The BOE, in its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, alleged that Respondent failed to file a campaign finance disclosure report by its deadline in connection with his 2022 candidacy for the office of Alderman, Ward 3, Division A, City of Crowley, Acadia Parish.³

The BOE requested that the EAB conduct an adjudicatory hearing to determine whether Respondent knowingly failed to file his 10-G campaign finance disclosure report by the eleventh day after it was due, which could subject Respondent to an additional civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 for the report, pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4)(b).

At the hearing, the BOE offered its exhibits, numbered BOE-1 through BOE-13, which were admitted into evidence. Counsel presented the case on behalf of the BOE, the record was closed, and the matter was taken under advisement for a determination of whether Respondent

³ BOE-9, *Request for Hearing*; Respondent was served with the *Request for Hearing*, with attached discovery requests, on December 12, 2024, via domiciliary service at his place of employment located at 508 Second Street, Franklin, Louisiana, 70538, by the St. Mary Parish Sheriff's Office, *see* BOE-10.

failed to file his 10-G campaign finance disclosure report in violation of La. R.S. 1495.4(B)(5) and would therefore be subject to an additional civil penalty for the late report pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4)(b).

FINDINGS OF FACT

Respondent qualified as a candidate for the office of Alderman, Ward 3, Division A, City of Crowley, Acadia Parish, in a primary election held November 8, 2022.⁴ Respondent acknowledged that he was subject to the provisions of the CFDA when he signed the qualifying form.⁵ The office of Alderman, Ward 3, Division A, City of Crowley, Acadia Parish, is an “any other” level public office.⁶ Respondent received insufficient votes in the primary election and did not participate in the general election held December 10, 2022.⁷

On November 2, 2022, Respondent filed his 10-P campaign finance disclosure report, wherein he listed a single contribution of \$300 from one individual.⁸

On February 27, 2023, the BOE issued a *Late Fee Assessment Order* to Respondent because he had not yet filed his 10-G campaign finance disclosure report.⁹ In the letter accompanying the *Late Fee Assessment Order*, Respondent was notified that he was required to file his 10-G report and that he could be subject to an additional penalty of \$10,000 for the report he failed to file.¹⁰

As of February 12, 2026, Respondent had not filed his 10-G campaign finance disclosure report¹¹ and had not filed responses to the BOE’s *Requests for Admissions* that were served upon

⁴ BOE-2; BOE-3.

⁵ BOE-2, p. 3.

⁶ BOE-4, p. 2.

⁷ BOE-3, p. 2.

⁸ BOE-5, p. 4.

⁹ BOE-6, p. 2.

¹⁰ BOE-6, p. 1.

¹¹ BOE-7.

him on December 12, 2024, with the *Request for Hearing*.¹²

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The BOE proved by clear and convincing evidence that Respondent knowingly failed to file his 10-G campaign finance disclosure report by the eleventh day after it was due. The BOE is authorized to impose upon Respondent an additional civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 for the report as allowed by La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4)(b).¹³

In hearings under the CFDA before the EAB, the BOE must prove by clear and convincing evidence that the candidate knowingly failed to timely file a required campaign finance disclosure report.¹⁴ Failure to timely submit required reports constitutes a violation of the CFDA.¹⁵

The office of Alderman, Ward 3, Division A, City of Crowley, Acadia Parish, is an “any other” level public office. Every candidate for “any other” level public office (or their campaign treasurer) is required to file certain campaign finance disclosure reports by the statutory deadlines.¹⁶ Failure to timely submit required reports constitutes violation(s) of the CFDA.¹⁷ An “any other” level office candidate who receives a single campaign contribution of over \$200 is required to file the required campaign financial disclosure reports.¹⁸

As a candidate for Alderman, Ward 3, Division A, City of Crowley, Acadia Parish, an “any other” level public office,¹⁹ Respondent was required to file a 10-G report by November 30, 2022,

¹² Ms. Meiners represented to the EAB at the hearing that the BOE had not received either the 10-G report or responses to BOE’s discovery responses as of the morning of March 12, 2026.

¹³ La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4)(b) of the CFDA provides that, if after conducting an adjudicatory hearing, the EAB determines that a candidate knowingly failed to file the required 10-G campaign finance disclosure report, or filed the report more than eleven days late, then the BOE, functioning as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, may impose upon the candidate additional civil penalties not to exceed \$10,000 for the late report.

¹⁴ La. R.S. 42:1141.5(C). “‘Clear and convincing evidence,’ in general, means that the fact of guilt must be proven to a greater degree than by ‘a mere preponderance of the evidence’ but less than by ‘beyond a reasonable doubt.’” *Louisiana State Bar Ass’n v. Edwins*, 329 So. 2d 437, 442 (La. 1976).

¹⁵ La. R.S. 18:1505.1(B).

¹⁶ La. R.S. 18:1484.

¹⁷ La. R.S. 18:1505.1(B) and La. R.S. 18:1481(1).

¹⁸ La. R.S. 18:1484(2)(b).

¹⁹ See BOE-4.

which was the 10th day prior to the general election. As of February 12, 2026, Respondent had not filed his 10-G campaign finance disclosure report.²⁰

Respondent knew he was obligated to meet the CFDA filing requirements by the statutory deadlines and that additional civil penalties, not to exceed \$10,000 per report, could be imposed if he did not file the 10-G campaign finance disclosure report. The BOE proved by clear and convincing evidence that Respondent knowingly failed to file his 10-G campaign finance disclosure report by the statutory deadline.

Additionally, Respondent's failure to file his 10-G campaign finance disclosure report within three days after the final date for filing creates a rebuttable presumption of intent to not file the report.²¹ Nothing in evidence rebuts this statutory presumption.

If, after conducting an adjudicatory hearing, the EAB determines that Respondent knowingly failed to file required campaign finance disclosure report by the eleventh day after the report was due, then the BOE may impose an additional civil penalty, not to exceed \$10,000, against Respondent for the report that he failed to timely file.²²

The BOE proved by clear and convincing evidence that Respondent, a candidate for an "any other" level office, knowingly violated the CFDA by failing to file his 10-G campaign finance disclosure report by the statutory deadlines and by the eleventh day after the report was due.

The BOE, in its capacity as the Supervisory Committee for Campaign Finance Disclosure, is authorized to impose against Respondent an additional civil penalty, by authority of La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4)(b), not to exceed \$10,000, for his failure to file the 10-G campaign finance disclosure report.

²⁰ BOE-7.

²¹ La. R.S. 18:1505.1(A).

²² La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4)(b).

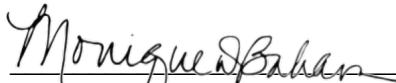
ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that the Louisiana Board of Ethics, in its capacity as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, is authorized to impose an additional civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 against Christopher George, Sr. for failing to file his 10-G campaign finance disclosure report by the eleventh day after it was due in connection with his 2022 candidacy for the office of Alderman, Ward 3, Division A, City of Crowley, Acadia Parish.

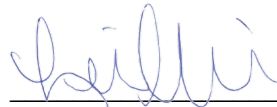
Rendered and signed on April 20, 2026, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.



Anthony J. Russo
Presiding Administrative Law Judge
Ethics Adjudicatory Board, Panel B
Division of Administrative Law



Monique D. Baham
Administrative Law Judge
Ethics Adjudicatory Board, Panel B
Division of Administrative Law



Leighann Guilbeau
Administrative Law Judge
Ethics Adjudicatory Board, Panel B
Division of Administrative Law

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER

I certify that on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, I have sent a copy of
this decision/order to all parties of this matter.



Division of Administrative Law

REVIEW RIGHTS

This is the final decision of the Ethics Adjudicatory Board. You may seek rehearing or reconsideration of this decision, subject to the grounds for and time limitations provided in Louisiana Revised Statutes 49:977.1. A request for rehearing must be sent to one of the addresses listed below.

EMAIL: EABprocessing@adminlaw.la.gov

FAX: (225) 342-1812

HAND DELIVERY TO:

1020 Florida Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

MAIL:

Division of Administrative Law

ATTN: Ethics Adjudicatory Board

P.O. Box 44033

Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4033

You have the right to appeal this decision to the Court of Appeal, First Circuit, in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statutes 42:1142. You must file a written motion for appeal with the Ethics Adjudicatory Board within thirty (30) days after the transmittal of notice of this decision.