

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

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS	* DOCKET NO. 2026-2918-BOE-A
	*
IN THE MATTER OF	*
	*
L. JAMEEL SHAHEER	* AGENCY ID. 5124-053

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 L. Jameel Shaheer knowingly failed to file his supplemental campaign financial disclosure reports for calendar years 2022 and 2023, by the eleventh day after each report was due, in connection with his 2019 candidacy for the office of State Representative, 99th Representative District, Orleans Parish. The Louisiana Board of Ethics proved by clear and convincing evidence that L. Jameel Shaheer knowingly failed to timely file the referenced reports as alleged. Therefore, pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statutes (La. R.S.) 18:1505.4(A)(4)(b), the Louisiana Board of Ethics is authorized to impose additional civil penalties, not to exceed \$10,000, for each failure to timely file the required reports, against L. Jameel Shaheer for the required supplemental campaign financial disclosure reports for calendar years 2022 and 2023.

APPEARANCES

An adjudicatory hearing was conducted June 11, 2026, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, before Panel A of the Ethics Adjudicatory Board (EAB).¹ Charles Reeves, Charles McKowan, Kelsey

¹ Panel A of the EAB consists of administrative law judges Stephanie E. Robin (presiding), Michele L. Staggs, and Edwin L. Hightower.

Simmons, and Kathryn Rich appeared as counsellors on behalf of the Louisiana Board of Ethics (BOE). Although duly noticed, L. Jameel Shaheer (Respondent) did not appear for the hearing.²

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 knowingly failed to file supplemental campaign financial disclosure reports for calendar years 2022 and 2023. The supplemental reports arise out of Respondent's October 12, 2019, candidacy for the public office of State Representative, 99th Representative District, Orleans Parish.

The BOE requested an adjudicatory hearing to have the EAB determine whether Respondent knowingly failed to file his 2022 and 2023 supplemental campaign financial disclosure reports by the eleventh day after each report was due, subjecting Respondent to an

² See BOE-7. The BOE had previously established that Respondent's last known address is Post Office Box 5003, Chesapeake, VA 23324, with the delivery of the *Late Fee Assessment Order* for the 2023 Supplemental Campaign Finance Disclosure Report to said address and the return of a USPS Form 3811, signed and printed by Respondent, dated 11/19/25. The Ethics Adjudicatory Board had issued notice of the June 11, 2026, hearing to the same address, which was not returned as undelivered.

additional civil penalty, not to exceed \$10,000, for each failure to timely file the required reports, as authorized by La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4)(b).

At the hearing, the BOE offered its exhibits, numbered BOE-1 through BOE-12, which were admitted into evidence and designated as marked. Charles Reeves presented the case on behalf of the BOE and rested its case. The record was closed, and the matter was taken under advisement for a determination of whether Respondent violated La. R.S. 18:1495.4(D)(3)(a) and would therefore be subject to an additional civil penalty authorized by La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4)(b) for each report.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Respondent was a candidate for the public office of State Representative, 99th Representative District, Orleans Parish, in the October 12, 2019, primary election.³ The office of State Representative, 99th Representative District, Orleans Parish, is a “District” level office. Respondent acknowledged that he was subject to the provisions of the CFDA upon qualification for candidacy.⁴

Respondent was defeated in the October 12, 2019, primary election and was not eligible to participate in the general election.⁵ On November 6, 2019, in connection with the primary election of October 12, 2019, Respondent filed a *Candidate’s Report*, Supplemental (past election), with the BOE, reporting a surplus in the amount of \$15,340.13⁶ and a deficit totaling \$20,702.06.⁷

³ BOE-2. *See also* BOE-9, p. 3. Respondent admitted, by operation of Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure article (La. C.C.P. art.) 1467(A), that he was a candidate for the office of State Representative, 99th Representative District, Orleans Parish, in the October 12, 2019, election.

⁴ BOE-2, p. 3.

⁵ *See* BOE-3, p. 2.

⁶ BOE-4, p. 8 and BOE-5, p. 2. *See also* BOE-9, p. 3. Respondent admitted, by operation of La. C.C.P. art. 1467(A), that his primary election had a surplus of \$15,340.13.

⁷ BOE-4, pp. 10-12 and BOE-5, pp. 4-6. *See also* BOE-9, p. 3. Respondent admitted, by operation of La. C.C.P. art. 1467(A), that his primary election had a deficit of \$20,702.06.

On June 15, 2023, the BOE issued a *Late Fee Assessment Order* to Respondent regarding his failure to file a 2022 supplemental campaign finance disclosure report.⁸ The BOE assessed a late fee of \$2,000 against Respondent for his failure to file a 2022 supplemental campaign finance disclosure report by February 15, 2023.⁹ Respondent was notified in a letter, which accompanied the *Late Fee Assessment Order*, that he could be subject to an additional civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000, pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4), if he failed to file the supplemental campaign financial disclosure report for calendar year 2022.¹⁰

Approximately one year later, on June 13, 2024, the BOE issued a second *Late Fee Assessment Order* to Respondent for his failure to file a 2023 supplemental campaign finance disclosure report.¹¹ The BOE assessed a late fee of \$2,000 against Respondent for his failure to file a 2023 supplemental campaign finance disclosure report by February 18, 2024.¹² Respondent was again informed in a letter accompanying the *Late Fee Assessment Order* that he could be subject to an additional civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000, pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4), if he failed to file his supplemental campaign financial disclosure report for calendar year 2023.¹³

As of May 28, 2026, Respondent had not filed a supplemental campaign financial disclosure report for calendar year 2022 or 2023.¹⁴

⁸ BOE-6.

⁹ *Id.* at pp. 1-2.

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ BOE-7 at p. 5. After the original notice was unsuccessfully delivered, the BOE located a new address for Respondent in Chesapeake, Virginia, address, and the notice was reissued on October 29, 2025, which was mailed to Respondent at the Virginia address. The address was verified as the correct address when a USPS Form 3811, signed and printed by Respondent, dated 11/19/25, was returned.

¹² *Id.*

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ See BOE-8, BOE-9 and BOE-10. Respondent admitted, by operation of La. C.C.P. art. 1467(A), that he did not file the required supplemental campaign finance disclosure reports for calendar years 2022 and 2023. As of March 12, 2026, Respondent had not filed responses to the BOE's *Requests for Admissions*.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The BOE proved by clear and convincing evidence that Respondent knowingly failed to file his supplemental campaign financial disclosure reports for calendar years 2022 and 2023 by the eleventh day after each report was due. The BOE is authorized to impose upon Respondent additional civil penalties not to exceed \$10,000,¹⁵ for each failure to timely file the required supplemental campaign financial disclosure reports for calendar years 2022 and 2023.

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 financial disclosure report.¹⁶ Failure to timely submit the required reports constitutes a violation of the CFDA.¹⁷

Every candidate for a “District” level office is required to file certain campaign financial disclosure reports by the statutory deadlines.¹⁸

During the relevant period, La. R.S. 18:1495.4(D)(3)(a) provided that if a candidate showed a deficit or surplus equal to or greater than \$2,500 on the final report, the candidate shall file annual supplemental reports with the BOE no later than February 15th of each year, with each report complete through the preceding December 31st.¹⁹ Said reports shall be filed each year for up to five years or until a report has been filed which shows no deficit or surplus.²⁰

In this case, Respondent was an unsuccessful candidate in the October 12, 2019, election for the “District” level office of State Representative, 99th Representative District, Orleans

¹⁵ As authorized by La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4)(b).

¹⁶ See 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).

¹⁷ La. R.S. 18:1505.1(A).

¹⁸ La. R.S. 18:1495.4.

¹⁹ In 2025, after the relevant period at issue in this matter, La. R.S. 18:1495.4(D)(3)(a) was amended to raise the threshold amount for filing to \$5,000 and the filing date to February 28th for each reporting year.

²⁰ La. R.S. 18:1495.4(D)(3)(a).

Parish. On November 6, 2019, in connection with the October 12, 2019, election, Respondent filed a *Candidate's Report*, Supplemental (past election), reporting a surplus in the amount of \$15,340.13 and a deficit totaling \$20,702.06. Therefore, in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1495.4(D)(3)(a), Respondent was required to file annual supplemental campaign financial disclosure reports for up to five years or until a filed report showed no deficit or surplus.²¹

During the relevant period at issue, supplemental reports were due no later than February 15th of each year and complete through the preceding December 31st.²² As of May 28, 2026, Respondent had not filed the supplemental campaign financial disclosure reports for calendar years 2022 or 2023. Accordingly, Respondent failed to file his supplemental campaign financial disclosure reports for calendar years 2022 and 2023, by each year's annual deadline of February 15th.

Respondent knew that he was required to file certain campaign financial disclosure reports at the time that he acknowledged he was subject to CFDA upon qualification for candidacy. Respondent knew he was obligated to meet the CFDA filing requirements as evidenced by his filing of the *Candidate's Report*, dated November 6, 2019. Respondent was subsequently reminded of his obligation to file his supplemental campaign financial disclosure report for the calendar years 2022 and 2023 by receipt of the BOE's letters accompanying each of the *Late Fee Assessment Order*, which notified Respondent that he could be subject to additional civil penalties if he did not file his supplemental campaign financial disclosure reports for calendar years 2022 and 2023.

Respondent's failure to file his supplemental campaign financial disclosure reports for calendar years 2022 and 2023 within three days after the final filing date, creates a rebuttable

²¹ *Id.*

²² La. R.S. 18:1495.4(D)(3)(a).

presumption that he does not intend to file the report.²³ Nothing in evidence rebuts this statutory presumption.

The BOE proved by clear and convincing evidence that Respondent, a candidate for the “District” level office of State Representative, 99th Representative District, Orleans Parish, knowingly violated the CFDA by failing to file his supplemental campaign financial disclosure reports for calendar years 2022 and 2023 by the statutory deadlines. Accordingly, the BOE, in its capacity as the Supervisory Committee for Campaign Finance Disclosure, is authorized to impose against Respondent an additional civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 for each late report, as authorized by La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4)(b).

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²³ La. R.S. 18:1505.1(A).

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 L. Jameel Shaheer for his failure to file his supplemental campaign financial disclosure report for calendar year 2022 by the eleventh day after it was due.

IT IS FURTHER 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 L. Jameel Shaheer for his failure to file his supplemental campaign financial disclosure report for calendar year 2023 by the eleventh day after it was due.

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

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER

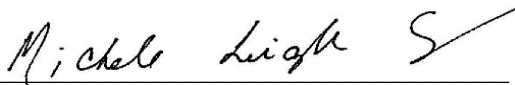
I certify that on Monday, July 20, 2026, I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law



Stephanie E. Robin
Presiding Administrative Law Judge
Ethics Adjudicatory Board, Panel A
Division of Administrative Law



Michele L. Staggs
Administrative Law Judge
Ethics Adjudicatory Board, Panel A
Division of Administrative Law



Edwin L. Hightower
Administrative Law Judge
Ethics Adjudicatory Board, Panel A
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.