

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

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS	*	DOCKET NO. 2024-50842-BOE
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PATRICK D. WALKER	*	AGENCY TRACKING NO. 5124-018

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 Patrick D. Walker knowingly failed to file his 30-P and 10-P campaign financial disclosure reports by the sixth day after they were due, and his 10-G campaign finance disclosure report by the eleventh day after it was due, in connection with his 2023 candidacy for the office of Coroner, Parish of Terrebonne.

The Louisiana Board of Ethics proved by clear and convincing evidence that Patrick D. Walker knowingly failed to file the reports as alleged. The Louisiana Board of Ethics is authorized to impose an additional civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 against Patrick D. Walker for each report pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statutes (La. R.S.) 18:1505.4(A)(4)(a) and (b).

APPEARANCES

An adjudicatory hearing was conducted October 31, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, before Panel A of the Ethics Adjudicatory Board (EAB).¹ Jessica Meiners and Charles Reeves appeared as counsel on behalf of the Louisiana Board of Ethics (BOE). Although duly noticed, Patrick D. Walker (Respondent) did not appear for the hearing.²

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

² On July 23, 2025, an *Amended Notice of Hearing* was mailed and emailed by the Administrative Hearings Clerk for the EAB to Respondent at the last known mailing and email address provided by the BOE: 138 Derusso Street,

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 three campaign financial disclosure reports by their deadlines in connection with his 2023 candidacy for the office of Coroner, Parish of Terrebonne.

The BOE requested that the EAB conduct an adjudicatory hearing to determine whether Respondent knowingly failed to file his 30-P and 10-P campaign financial disclosure reports by the sixth day after they were due, and 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 each report, pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4)(a) and (b).

At the hearing, the BOE offered its exhibits, numbered BOE-1 through BOE-14, 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 failed to file his 30-P,

Houma, Louisiana 70364 and packwalker@yahoo.com. Appellant's email address is the same address he provided on his *Notice of Candidacy (Qualifying Form)* – BOE-2. Respondent was provided an additional 15 minutes past the scheduled hearing start time but failed to appear.

10-P, and 10-G campaign financial disclosure reports in violation of La. R.S. 18:1495.4(B)(4), La. R.S. 1495.4(B)(5), and La. R.S. 1495.4(B)(6) and would therefore be subject to additional civil penalties pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4)(a) and (b) for each late report.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Respondent qualified as a candidate for the office of Coroner, Parish of Terrebonne, in a primary election held October 14, 2023.³ Respondent acknowledged that he was subject to the provisions of the CFDA when he signed the qualifying form.⁴ The office of Coroner, Parish of Terrebonne, is a “district” level public office.⁵ Respondent received sufficient votes in the primary election to be elected Coroner, Parish of Terrebonne.⁶

On December 7, 2023, the BOE issued two *Late Fee Assessment Orders* to Respondent because he had not yet filed his 30-P or his 10-P campaign finance disclosure reports.⁷ On March 6, 2024, the BOE issued a *Late Fee Assessment Order* to Respondent because he had not yet filed his 10-G campaign finance disclosure report.⁸ In the letters accompanying the *Late Fee Assessment Orders*, Respondent was notified that he was required to file his 30-P, 10-P, and 10-G reports and that he could be subject to an additional penalty of \$10,000 for each report he failed to file.⁹

On May 6, 2025, Respondent was served with the BOE’s *Request for Hearing* alleging that Respondent knowingly failed to file his 30-P, 10-P, and 10-G campaign finance disclosure reports.¹⁰ Also included with the BOE’s *Request for Hearing* were discovery requests that

³ BOE-2 and BOE-3.

⁴ BOE-2.

⁵ BOE-4, p. 2.

⁶ BOE-3, p. 2.

⁷ BOE-8 and BOE-9.

⁸ BOE-10.

⁹ BOE-8, BOE-9, and BOE-10.

¹⁰ BOE-12.

included *Requests for Admissions* to Respondent.¹¹

As of September 5, 2025, Respondent had not filed his 30-P, 10-P, or 10-G campaign finance disclosure reports.¹² As of October 31, 2025, he had not filed responses to the BOE's *Requests for Admissions*.¹³

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The BOE proved by clear and convincing evidence that Respondent knowingly failed to file his 30-P and 10-P campaign finance disclosure reports by the sixth day after they were due, and 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 each report, as allowed by La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4)(a) and (b).¹⁴

In hearings under the CFDA brought 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.¹⁵ Failure to timely submit the requisite reports constitutes a violation of the CFDA.¹⁶

The office of Coroner, Parish of Terrebonne, is a “district” level public office.¹⁷ Every candidate for a “district” level public office (or their campaign treasurer) is required to file

¹¹ *Id.* at pp. 8-10.

¹² BOE-11.

¹³ BOE-12. Respondent admitted, by operation of Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure article 1467(A), that he did not file his 30-P, 10-P, or 10-G campaign finance disclosure reports.

¹⁴ La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4)(a) and (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-P and 30-P reports, or filed the 10-P and 30-P reports more than six days late, and knowingly failed to file the required 10-G campaign finance disclosure report, or filed the 10-G 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 \$10,000.00 for each report.

¹⁵ 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).

¹⁶ La. R.S. 18:1505.1(B).

¹⁷ La. R.S. 18:1483(9).

certain campaign finance disclosure reports by the statutory deadlines.¹⁸

As a candidate for Coroner, Parish of Terrebonne, a “district” level public office, Respondent was required to file a 30-P report by September 14, 2023, which was the 30th day prior to the primary election on October 14, 2023.¹⁹ Respondent was also required to file a 10-P report by October 4, 2023, which was the 10th day prior to the primary election on October 14, 2023.²⁰ Lastly, Respondent was required to file a 10-G report by November 8, 2023, which was the 10th day prior to the general election on November 18, 2023.²¹ As of September 5, 2025, Respondent had not filed the 30-P, 10-P, or 10-G campaign finance disclosure reports.

In connection with his 2023 candidacy for the office of Coroner, Parish of Terrebonne, 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 30-P, 10-P, or 10-G campaign finance disclosure reports. The BOE proved by clear and convincing evidence that Respondent knowingly failed to file the 30-P, 10-P, and 10-G campaign finance disclosure reports by the statutory deadlines.

Additionally, Respondent’s failure to file the 30-P, 10-P, and 10-G campaign finance disclosure reports within three days after the final date for filing creates a rebuttable presumption of intent to not file the reports.²² No evidence was offered to rebut this statutory presumption.

If, after conducting an adjudicatory hearing, the EAB determines that Respondent knowingly failed to file the requisite campaign finance disclosure reports by the sixth and the eleventh day after the reports were due, respectively, then the BOE may impose an additional

¹⁸ La. R.S. 18:1484(1) and La. R.S. 18:1495.4(A).

¹⁹ La. R.S. 18:1495.4(B)(3).

²⁰ La. R.S. 18:1495.4(B)(4).

²¹ La. R.S. 18:1495.4(B)(5).

²² La. R.S. 18:1505.1(A).

civil penalty, not to exceed \$10,000, against Respondent for each report that he failed to timely file.²³

The BOE proved by clear and convincing evidence that Respondent, a candidate for a “district” level office, knowingly violated the CFDA by failing to file his 30-P, 10-P, and 10-G campaign finance disclosure reports by the statutory deadlines and by the sixth day and eleventh day after the reports were due, respectively.

In connection with his 2023 candidacy for the office of Coroner, Parish of Terrebonne, the BOE, in its capacity as the Supervisory Committee for Campaign Finance Disclosure, is authorized to impose against Respondent an additional civil penalty under authority of La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4)(a) and (b), not to exceed \$10,000 for each report.

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 Patrick D. Walker, in connection with his 2023 candidacy for the office of Coroner, Parish of Terrebonne, for failing to file his 30-P campaign finance disclosure report by the sixth 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 Patrick D. Walker, in connection with his 2023 candidacy for the office of Coroner, Parish of Terrebonne, for failing to file his 10-P campaign finance disclosure report by the sixth day after it was due.

²³ La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4)(a) and (b).

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 Patrick D. Walker, in connection with his 2023 candidacy for the office of Coroner, Parish of Terrebonne, for failing to file his 10-G campaign finance disclosure report by the eleventh day after it was due.

Rendered and signed on November 18, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

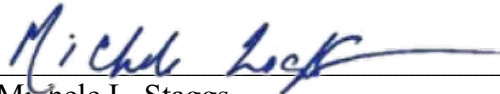
NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER

I certify that on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

Clerk of Court
Division of Administrative Law



Cazeline G. Hebert
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



Stephanie E. Robin
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.