

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)

BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF:)
COMPLAINT C2014-095)

Amanda Brown,)
Respondent.)

State Ethics Commission,)
Complainant.)

CONSENT ORDER

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STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

This matter comes before the State Ethics Commission by virtue of a complaint filed by the Commission on February 27, 2014. The complaint against the Respondent, Amanda Brown, was considered by the Commission on June 17, 2014, and probable cause was found to warrant an evidentiary hearing. Prior to the call of the case, Respondent agreed to entry of the following statements of fact, conclusions of law, admission, and disposition in this matter.

STATEMENTS OF FACT

1. The Respondent, Amanda Brown, is an elected member of Charleston County School Constituent Board #3 and she is required to file an annual Statement of Economic Interests form (SEI) while serving. She was elected as a write-in candidate in 2012.

2. On March 4, 2014 and March 11, 2014 a Commission investigator left a voice mail message at Respondent's telephone advising her of the late SEI and accruing penalties. On March 25, 2014 the investigator contacted the Charleston County School District #3 office and confirmed that Respondent was still serving and requested that Respondent be advised concerning the late SEI and contact the investigator.

3. Respondent complied and filed her 2013 SEI on April 15, 2014; however, the late filing penalty of \$5000.00 was not paid.

4. Respondent filed a 2012 SEI on April 12, 2013. She had been a write-in candidate and the District #3 office informed her of her 2013 filing requirements. She knew she filed in 2013 and believed she had filed the correct form. Respondent was hospitalized for two months at the end of 2013 with the pregnancy and pre-mature delivery of twin daughters. They were hospitalized for several weeks. It was during this time that Commission correspondence was sent to Respondent to file a 2013 SEI and avoid further penalties. Respondent resigned her position in September.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based upon the Statement of Facts, the Commission concludes, as a matter of law:

1. During all times relevant, the Respondent, Amanda Brown, was a public official, as defined by S.C. Code Ann. § 8-13-100(27)(Supp. 2013).
2. The State Ethics Commission has personal and subject matter jurisdiction.
3. Section 8-13-1140 provides that public officials must file a Statement of Economic Interests annually prior to April 15.

ADMISSIONS

The Respondent, Amanda Brown, admits that she inadvertently violated Section 8-13-1140.

DISPOSITION

The State Ethics Commission hereby finds Respondent Amanda Brown in violation of Section 8-13-1140, albeit inadvertent, of the Ethics Reform Act and hereby adopts the Statements of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Admissions, and Disposition as agreed upon by the Respondent.

Quint

THEREFORE, the State Ethics Commission hereby issues this written warning to
Amanda Brown for violation of Section 8-13-1140 of the Ethics Reform Act,

AND, orders Respondent to pay an administrative fee of \$100.00 within 30 days
of receipt of the signed order,

AND IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 19th DAY OF November 2014.

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION



JAMES H. BURNS, CHAIR

~~Shirley J. Burns~~





Amanda Brown