STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF RICHLAND	)	BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
IN THE MATTER OF: COMPLAINT C2012-056	)	
Timothy E. Meacham, Complainant;	)	**DECISION AND ORDER**
vs.	)	
Wilson Beaver, Respondent.	)	

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STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

This matter comes before the State Ethics Commission by virtue of a complaint filed by the Complainant, Timothy E. Meacham, on January 5, 2012. On November 20, 2013, pursuant to Section 8-13-320(10)(i), Code of Laws for South Carolina, 1976, as amended, the State Ethics Commission reviewed the above-captioned complaint alleging the Respondent, Wilson Beaver, embezzled Coastal Carolina University funds. Present at the Meeting were Commission Members Phillip Florence, Chair, E. Kay Biermann Brohl, George Carlton Manley, Jonathan H. Burnett and Richard H. Fitzgerald. Also present were the Commission's Executive Director, Herbert R. Hayden, Jr., and his immediate staff.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Respondent, Wilson Beaver, was a public employee during the period of the alleged violations. He was employed in the Athletic Department of Coastal Carolina University.

2. Coastal Carolina Public Safety Officer Charles Sessions advised that a criminal investigation was conducted into allegations that Respondent forged numerous official

requests for payments of per diem by signing the names of other Athletic Department employees on the requests without their knowledge. Respondent received payments from said requests and converted the payments to his own use. The investigation disclosed that from September 14, 2011 to November 8, 2011 the Respondent received $991.00 by using the herein described device.

3. On December 9, 2011 warrants charging Respondent with five counts of embezzlement of public funds and eleven counts of forgery were obtained and executed on Respondent.

4. On November 8, 2013 Solicitor Jimmy Richardson, 15th Circuit Solicitor's Office, reported that Respondent completed the Pre-Trial Intervention Program and Respondent paid restitution.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based upon the Findings of Fact, the Commission concludes, as a matter of law:

1. During all times relevant, the Respondent, Wilson Beaver, was a public employee as defined in Section 8-13-100(25) .

2. The State Ethics Commission has personal and subject matter jurisdiction.

3. Section 8-13-700(A) provides as follows:

> No public official, public member, or public employee may knowingly use his official office, membership, or employment to obtain an economic interest for himself, a member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated. This prohibition does not extend to the incidental use of public materials, personnel, or equipment, subject to or available for a public official's, public member's, or public employee's use which does not result in additional public expense.

4. Section 8-13-320(10)(i) provides that if the Commission finds probable cause to believe that a violation of this chapter has occurred, the Commission may waive further proceedings if the respondent takes action to remedy or correct the alleged violation.

DECISION

Based upon the evidence presented, the State Ethics Commission has determined that there is probable cause to believe that the Respondent, Wilson Beaver, violated Section 8-13-700(A). In view of Wilson Beaver's completion of the Horry County Pre-Trial Intervention Program and the payment of restitution to Coastal Carolina University, further proceedings by the State Ethics Commission are hereby waived in accordance with Section 8-13-320(10)(i), and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 9th DAY OF Dec., 2013.

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

PHILLIP FLORENCE, Jr., Chair

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA