

# STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

**FOR COMMISSION USE ONLY:**  
**CASE NUMBER**  
C 2024-064

## COMPLAINT FORM

**COMPLAINANT:** State Ethics Commission  
**ADDRESS:** 201 Executive Center Drive  
Suite 150  
Columbia, SC 29210  
**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** (803) 253-4192

**RESPONDENT:** Elizabeth A. Green  
**ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]  
**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** (843) 599-5505  
**TITLE:** Council - City of Cottageville

Section 8-13-1120, SC Code Ann., 1976, as amended, requires disclosure of the source, type, and amount of income from a governmental entity and a listing of the private source and type of any income received by the filer or a member of the filer's immediate family during the reporting period. Respondent failed to properly report the source of private and government income on her 2021 Statement of Economic Interests and failed to properly report the source of private income on the 2022, 2023, and 2024 Statements of Economic Interests.

Respondent was reminded of the filing requirements by letters dated January 3, 2023 and March 9, 2023 as described in the attached. In addition, an email reminder was sent thirty days prior to the deadline. To date, a properly amended 2021, 2022, 2023, or 2024 Statement of Economic Interests have not been received. All in violation of Section 8-13-1120, SC Code Ann., 1976, as amended.

**If there is a finding of probable cause, the following documents become public record: the complaint, the response (if any) by respondent, and the notice of hearing. If a hearing is to be held, the final order and all exhibits become public record. If no hearing is held following a finding of probable cause, the final disposition of the matter becomes public record.**

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF Richland

Personally appeared before me Meghan Walker Dayson who, first being duly sworn, says that she has read and knows the contents of the above complaint and that the allegations contained therein, are true and correct to the best of her own knowledge, except for those matters therein based upon information and belief, and as to those she believes them to be true.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 30th day of August, 2024

[REDACTED]  
Meghan Walker Dayson, Executive Director

[REDACTED]  
Notary Public for South Carolina  
My Commission expires 01/22/26

SEC-7 (Revised 3/2022)

**REPLY TO: 201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina 29210 (803)253-4192**  
**ELECTRONIC COPIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
 COUNTY OF RICHLAND ) BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION  
 )  
 IN THE MATTER OF: )  
 COMPLAINT C2024-064 )  
 )  
 State Ethics Commission, ) **DECISION AND ORDER**  
 Complainant. )  
 )  
 Elizabeth A. Green, )  
 Respondent. )  
 \_\_\_\_\_ )

This matter came before the South Carolina Ethics Commission (Commission) by way of a Complaint filed on August 30, 2024. The Commission’s Executive Director reviewed the Complaint, determined it contained facts sufficient to warrant an investigation, and ordered an investigation. On July 17, 2025, the Commission reviewed the Complaint and investigative findings to determine whether probable cause existed to charge Elizabeth A. Green (Respondent) with violating the South Carolina Ethics, Government Accountability, and Campaign Reform Act (Ethics Act). For the reasons stated herein, the Commission finds probable cause exists but waives further proceedings.

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

1. Respondent was elected to the Cottageville Town Council in a November 2, 2021 election.
2. At all times relevant, Respondent was employed by the Colleton County School District (District).
3. Respondent timely filed a Statement of Economic Interests (SEI) in 2023 and 2024. However, instead of disclosing the source and amount of income received from the District, Respondent disclosed “Employment” and “Private Employment” as the source of income with no amounts specified.
4. Following the filing of the Complaint, Respondent amended her 2023 and 2024 SEIs to properly disclose the income received from the District.

*JFK #1*

**LAW**

Pursuant to Section 8-13-320, the Commission is empowered to receive complaints and conduct investigations related to violations of the Ethics Act. Following the receipt of a Complaint and completion of a corresponding investigation, the Commission must determine whether there is probable cause to believe a violation of the Ethics Act occurred. S.C. Code Ann. § 8-13-320(10)(i). If the Commission determines probable cause exists, it may order a hearing on the merits or, if the Respondent has acted to remedy or correct the alleged violation, it may waive further proceedings. S.C. Code Ann. § 8-13-320(10)(i). The decision to waive further proceedings lies within the sound discretion of the Commission.

Section 8-13-1120(A)(10) of the Ethics Act requires public officials to disclose the sources and amount of governmental income on their SEIs.

**DECISION**

Based on evidence presented, the Commission hereby determines there is probable cause to believe Respondent violated Section 8-13-1120(A)(2) of the Ethics Act by failing to properly disclose the source and amount of government income on her 2023 and 2024 SEIs. However, given that Respondent has amended her SEIs to properly disclose this information, the Commission hereby waives further proceedings regarding this Complaint.

THEREFORE, pursuant to Section 8-13-320(10)(i), and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, the Commission finds probable cause but waives further proceedings.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 31<sup>st</sup> DAY OF July, 2025.

SOUTH CAROLINA ETHICS COMMISSION

  
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F. XAVIER STARKES, CHAIR