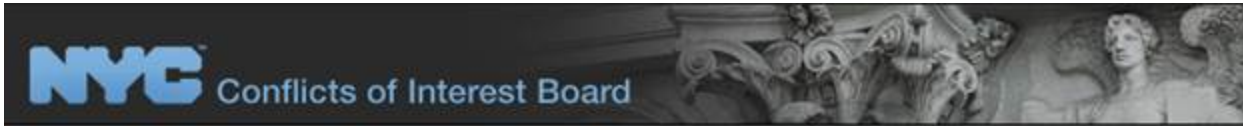


Roy Koshy

From: Michele Weinstat
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2017 10:51 AM
To: Michele Weinstat
Subject: COIB Settlements Announced
Attachments: COIB Disposition (DPR-1).pdf; COIB Disposition (DPR-2).pdf; COIB Disposition (DPR-3).pdf



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 20, 2017

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The New York City Conflicts of Interest Board (the “Board”) and the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation (“DPR”) enter into three joint settlements with DPR employees.

Misuse of City Position & Misuse of City Resources. A DPR Park Supervisor made known to his subordinates that a pipe in his home had frozen and he was unable to fix it. Later that workday, two of his DPR subordinates arrived at his home in a DPR vehicle. One of the subordinates then attempted to fix the pipe for twenty minutes while the Supervisor was present. The Supervisor now admits that, by having his subordinates use a DPR vehicle to come work on his home, even though his home was near their workplace, he misused both the vehicle and DPR personnel. *See* City Charter Section 2604(b)(2) and Board Rules 1-13(b). Further, the Supervisor admits that, by accepting household repair work from his subordinates, he misused his City position to benefit himself. *See* Charter Section 2604(b)(3). For these violations of the conflicts of interest law and the DPR Standards of Conduct, the Supervisor agreed to forfeit six days of annual leave, valued at approximately \$1,625, and serve a one-year probationary period. In determining the appropriate penalty, DPR and the Board considered the isolated nature of the violation as well as the relatively small amount of time and resources misused. The disposition is attached as “COIB Disposition (DPR-1).”

Misuse of City Position & Misuse of City Resources. For a period of two months, the now former DPR Director of Central Communications permitted her spouse, a DPR Urban Park Ranger, to park the spouse’s personal vehicle in a DPR parking space without proper authorization. In addition, the former Director made a DPR vehicle available to her spouse so she could continue her commute to her assigned DPR location. This was also done without proper authorization. The former Director of Communications acknowledged that she violated the conflicts of interest law by using her City position to benefit her spouse. *See* Charter Section 2604(b)(3). Both acknowledged that they violated the conflicts of interest law by misusing a DPR parking space and a DPR vehicle for a personal non-City purpose. *See* City Charter Section 2604 (b)(2) and Board Rules 1-13(b). In three-way settlements with the Board and DPR, the former Director of Central Communications (now an Associate Urban Park Ranger) agreed to pay a \$750 fine and the Urban Park Ranger agreed to pay a \$500 fine. Both fines were split evenly between the Board and DPR. The dispositions are attached as “COIB Disposition (DPR-2)” and “COIB Disposition (DPR-3).”

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COIB is the independent, non-mayoral City agency charged with interpreting, administering, and enforcing the City's Conflicts of Interest Law, Annual Disclosure Law, and Lobbyist Gift Law. The agency's jurisdiction extends to all City

agencies and current and former officers, elected officials, and employees of the City, as well as lobbyists. Learn more about COIB and the law at nyc.gov/ethics.

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