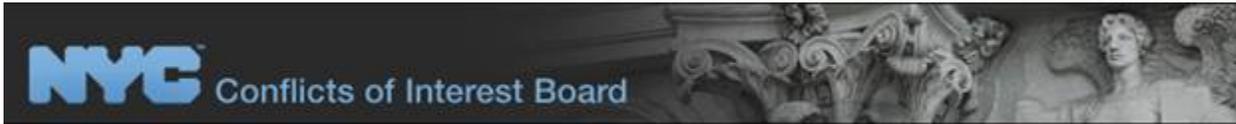


Roy Koshy

From: Michele Weinstat
Sent: Tuesday, April 04, 2017 11:13 AM
To: Michele Weinstat
Subject: COIB Settlements Announced
Attachments: COIB Disposition (DOT).pdf; COIB Disposition (HRA).pdf; COIB Disposition (ACS).pdf



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 4, 2017

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The New York City Conflicts of Interest Board (the “Board”) announces three settlements:

Subordinate-Superior Financial Relationship. Over the course of three years, a Construction Project Manager with the New York City Department of Transportation (“DOT”) engaged in a series of financial transactions with his direct supervisor: they lent and repaid each other more than \$40,000. The City’s conflicts of interest law prohibits public servants from entering into any financial relationship with a superior or subordinate. In a joint settlement with the Board and DOT, the Construction Project Manager was fined \$2,500 – \$1,500 paid to DOT and \$1,000 to the Board – for these violations. The disposition is attached as “COIB Disposition (DOT).”

Misuse of City Position; Misuse of City Resources. After parking his agency car illegally in a “No Standing” zone, an Associate Fraud Investigator for the New York City Human Resources Administration (“HRA”) received a ticket which he was personally responsible for paying. Instead of paying the ticket, he misused HRA letterhead and his HRA position by submitting a bogus letter to the New York City Parking Violations Bureau (“PVB”). In the letter, the Associate Fraud Investigator misrepresented that HRA was appealing a PVB ruling and invoked his HRA position in an attempt to have the ticket dismissed. He was fined \$1,500 by the Board for these violations. In determining the fine amount, the Board considered prior cases with similar facts. The disposition is attached as “COIB Disposition (HRA).”

Misuse of City Position. In a three-way disposition with the Board and the New York City Administration for Children’s Services (“ACS”), a Child Protective Specialist admitted that she misused her ACS position to intercede on behalf of her relative in an ACS-related matter. Specifically, the Child Protective Specialist contacted the ACS employee assigned to her relative’s case, invoked her ACS title, inquired about the case, and stated that her relative would not speak to the ACS employee unless the Child Protective Specialist was also present. The City’s conflicts of interest law prohibits public servants from using or attempting use their City positions to obtain any special advantage for their “associated” relatives. An “associated” relative includes a spouse, domestic partner, child, parent, or sibling. For this misconduct ACS fined the Child Protective Specialist \$1,250. The Board determined this ACS-imposed fine to be sufficient for the Chapter 68 violations committed and imposed no additional penalty. The disposition is attached as “COIB Disposition (ACS).”

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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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