

TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION
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Randall H. Erben, Chair
Chris Flood, Vice Chair
Chad M. Craycraft
Mary K. “Katie” Kennedy

Patrick W. Mizell
Richard S. Schmidt
Joseph O. Slovacek
Steven D. Wolens

MEETING AGENDA

Date and Time: 9:00 a.m., Monday, December 18, 2023
Location: Room E1.014, Capitol Extension, Austin, Texas

**INFORMATION ON HOW TO VIEW AND/OR PARTICIPATE IN THE ONLINE
BROADCAST OF THIS MEETING WILL BE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE ON THE
DAY OF THE MEETING HERE:**

https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/meetings/meetings_2020-2024.php#2022

1. Call to order; roll call.
2. **Executive session pursuant to Section 551.071, Government Code, Consultation with Attorneys; Section 551.074, Government Code, Personnel Matters, Closed Meeting.**
 - A. Discussion of pending litigation to seek legal advice relating to the following:
 - i. Cause No. D-1-GN-17-001878: *Texas Ethics Commission v. Michael Quinn Sullivan*, in the 250th Judicial District Court in Travis County, Texas; Cause No. 03-17-00392-CV: *Michael Quinn Sullivan v. Texas Ethics Commission*, in the Third Court of Appeals at Austin, Texas; Cause No. 03-21-00033, *Michael Quinn Sullivan v. Texas Ethics Commission*, in the Third Court of Appeals at Austin, Texas; and Cause No. 18-0580: *Michael Quinn Sullivan v. Texas Ethics Commission*, in the Supreme Court of Texas.
 - ii. Cause No. D-1-GN-15-004455: *Texas Ethics Commission v. Empower Texans, Inc. and Michael Quinn Sullivan*, in the 345th Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas; and related cases, Cause No. 03-16-00872-CV: *Empower Texans, Inc., and Michael Quinn Sullivan v. Texas Ethics Commission*, in the Third Court of Appeals, Austin, Texas, and Cause No. 22-1064, *Empower Texans, Inc. and Michael Quinn Sullivan v. Texas Ethics Commission*, in the Texas Supreme Court.
 - iii. Cause No. D-1-GN-21-003269: *Michael Quinn Sullivan v. Texas Ethics Commission*, in the 459th Judicial District Court in Travis County, Texas;

For more information, contact J.R. Johnson, Executive Director, at (512) 463-5800.

and related case, Cause No. 03-22-00133-CV: *Michael Quinn Sullivan v. Texas Ethics Commission*, in the Third Court of Appeals, Austin, Texas.

- iv. Case No. 4:23-cv-00808-P, *Institute for Free Speech, a nonprofit corporation and public interest law firm, vs. J.R. Johnson in his official and individual capacities as Executive Director of the Texas Ethics Commission; Mary Kennedy, Chris Flood, and Richard Schmidt in their official capacities as commissioners of the Texas Ethics Commission; and Randall Erben, Chad Craycraft, Patrick Mizell, Joseph Slovacek, and Steven Wolens, in their individual and official capacities as commissioners of the Texas Ethics Commission* in the U.S District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Fort Worth Division.
- v. Cause No. PD-0310-23, *Ex Parte John Morgan Stafford*, in the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.
- vi. Cause No. D-1-GN-23-008068, *In re Christopher Paddie*, in the District Court for the 419th Judicial District, Travis County, Texas.
- vii. Cause No. 22-CV-1130, *Matt Wiggins v. Texas Ethics Commission*, in the 122nd Judicial District of Galveston County, Texas.
- viii. Cause No. 2023-DCL-01478, *Valleywide Pharmacy and DMI, Inc., vs. Texas Ethics Commission, by and through its Executive Director, J.R. Johnson, in his official capacity*, in the 445 Judicial District of Cameron County, Texas.

- B. Discussion of contemplated litigation and to seek legal advice regarding the collection of imposed penalties.
- C. Discussion of contemplated litigation and to seek legal advice involving Chapter 552 of the Government Code and Sections 571.139, 571.140 of the Government Code.
- D. Legal advice regarding software licensing agreements related to the campaign finance filing application.
- E. Discussion and possible action related to personnel matters.
- F. Reconvene in open session.

3. Recess or continue to “Agenda 2” noticed for the same time and place as this agenda.

CERTIFICATION: I certify that I have reviewed this document and that it conforms to all applicable Texas Register filing requirements. Certifying Official & Agency Liaison: J.R. Johnson, Executive Director.

For more information, contact J.R. Johnson, Executive Director, at (512) 463-5800.

NOTICE: Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, an individual with a disability must have an equal opportunity for effective communication and participation in public meetings. Upon request, the Texas Ethics Commission will provide auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the deaf and hearing impaired, readers, and large print or Braille documents. In determining the type of auxiliary aid or service, the Commission will give primary consideration to the individual's request. Those requesting auxiliary aids or services should notify Margie Castellanos at (512) 463-5800 or RELAY Texas at (800) 735-2989 two days before this meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Please also contact Ms. Castellanos if you need assistance in having English translated into Spanish.