

Board of Ethics

May 15, 2025

RE: Complaint Recommending Removal of Members of City of Milwaukee Boards, Committees, and Commissions.

Members of the Common Council,

Every year, City of Milwaukee "Officials," as that term is defined in MCO § 303-3-9, are required to file a Statement of Economic Interests with the Ethics Board. For most Officials, Statements of Economic Interests are due on February 28th. Prior to that date, the Ethics Board sends out emails to all Officials reminding them when their Statements are due. For the 2024 cycle, the Ethics Board sent out reminder mass emails on January 6, February 3, February 27 and March 10, 2025.

On March 27, 2025, all individuals who had not yet filed were sent individual e-mails noting that no Statement had yet been filed.

On March 31, 2025, the appointing authorities for any individuals who still had not filed were emailed and informed that their appointees had failed to file a Statement.

On April 9, 2025, individuals who *still* has not filed their Statements were sent a letter, via regular first-class mail, to their home addresses. These letters informed them of the requirement to file, notified them of the late-filing fees, as required by the Code of Ordinances, and provided the contact information for the Staff Assistant for the Board. The letter also informed those individuals that if they still fail to file their Statements after 45 days had lapsed, and after six separate notifications were sent, this complaint shall be filed with the Common Council recommending their removal from their respective boards as well as potential legal action.

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After 45 days, the Ethics Board was informed at their May 6, 2025, meeting that the following Officials, who are members of City of Milwaukee boards, committees, or commissions, had still failed to file their Statements of Economic Interests for the year 2025:

Bronzeville Advisory Committee Theresa Garrison

Bronzeville Advisory Committee Rayhainio Boynes

Charter School Review Committee Catina Harwell-Young

Equal Rights Commission Jacqueline Cook

Fire and Police Commission Dana World-Patterson

Historic Preservation Commission Nicholas Hans Robinson

Housing Trust Fund Advisory Board Dorothy York

Safety and Civic Commission Byron Marshall

Safety and Civic Commission Solana Patterson-Ramos

Accordingly, pursuant to section 303-11-2(e), Milw. Code of Ordinances, please accept this correspondence as a Complaint from the Ethics Board, recommending that the Common Council remove the above individuals from their respective boards, committees, and commissions.

Please note that if the Council does not believe removal is appropriate, the Council also has the ability to direct the City Attorney to file citations against the above individuals in Municipal Court, with a required forfeiture amount of not less than \$250 or greater than \$1,000. This forfeiture would be in addition to any previously accrued late fees.

If there are any questions regarding the above, please contact Peter Block, Assistant City Attorney.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Kruse, Chair

Ethics Board