

Minutes

D.C. OFFICE OF EMPLOYEE APPEALS (OEA) BOARD MEETING

Thursday, August 25, 2022

Location: Virtual Meeting Via Webex

Persons Present: Lasheka Brown (OEA General Counsel), Sheila Barfield (OEA Executive Director), Sommer Murphy (OEA Deputy General Counsel), Patricia Hobson Wilson (OEA Board Member), Jelani Freeman (OEA Board Member), Dionna Maria Lewis (OEA Board Member), Wynter Clarke (OEA Paralegal), Gina Walton (Member of the Public), and Employee 2 (Member of the Public).

- I. Call to Order** – Dionna Maria Lewis called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.
- II. Ascertainment of Quorum** – There was a quorum of Board members present for the office to conduct business.
- III. Adoption of Agenda**–Patricia Hobson Wilson moved to adopt the agenda. Jelani Freeman seconded the motion. The agenda was adopted by the Board.
- IV. Minutes from Previous Meeting** – The June 30, 2022, meeting minutes were reviewed. There were no corrections. The minutes were accepted.
- V. New Business**
 - A. Summary**— Dionna Maria Lewis provided that a summary of the matters to be decided were provided in the agenda for this meeting. The summaries were posted to the OEA website, the Board of Ethics and Government Accountability’s website, and printed and posted in OEA’s front office. The matters to be decided are as follows:
 1. Employee v. Department of Youth and Rehabilitation Services, OEA Matter No. 1601-0036-19
 2. Employee v. Department of For-Hire Vehicles, OEA Matter No. 1601-0010-21
 - B. Public Comments on Petitions for Review** – There were no public comments offered.
 - C. Deliberations** – Dionna Maria Lewis moved that the meeting be closed for deliberations in accordance with D.C. Code § 2-575(b)(13). Jelani Freeman seconded the motion. All Board members voted in favor of closing the meeting. Dionna Maria Lewis stated that the meeting was closed for deliberations.
 - D. Open Portion of Meeting Resumed**
 - E. Final Votes** – Dionna Maria Lewis provided that the Board considered all of the matters. The following represents the final votes for each case:
 1. **Employee v. Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services, OEA Matter No. 1601-0036-19**

MEMBER	GRANTED	REVERSED	DENIED	REMANDED	DISMISSED
Patricia Hobson Wilson	X	X	X	X	
Jelani Freeman	X	X	X	X	
Dionna Lewis	X	X	X	X	

Three Board Members voted in favor of denying Agency’s Petition for Review, in part and granting Agency’s Petition for Review, in part. Employee’s AWOL charge was reversed, and the matter was remanded to Agency to propose a penalty, if any, based on the remaining charge of Inability to Carry Out Assigned Duties. However, OEA lacks authority to award Employee interim relief in the form of restoration of her Leave without Pay status.

2. Employee v. Department of For-Higher Vehicles OEA Matter No. 1601-0055-19

MEMBER	GRANTED	REVERSED	DENIED	REMANDED	DISMISSED
Patricia Hobson Wilson			X		
Jelani Freeman			X		
Dionna Lewis			X		

Three Board Members voted in favor of denying Agency’s Petition for Review. Therefore, the petition was denied.

F. Public Comments

1. Gina Walton thanked the Board for its wisdom and guidance in rendering their affirmative decision for her client.

- VI. Adjournment** – Jelani Freeman moved that the meeting be adjourned; Patricia Hobson Wilson seconded the motion. All members voted affirmatively to adjourn the meeting. Dionna Maria Lewis adjourned the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Wynter Clarke
Paralegal Specialist**