

COPY

ARKANSAS ETHICS COMMISSION

Post Office Box 1917
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1917
(501) 324-9600 Fax (501) 324-9606
Toll Free (800) 422-7773

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Jennifer Mooney
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Directors of Compliance



May 26, 2023

Mr. Frank Scott, Jr.
500 W. Markham St.
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Re: Case No. 2022-CO-095

Dear Mr. Scott:

On November 8, 2022, the Ethics Commission sent you a letter via certified mail enclosing a copy of a citizen complaint received on November 1, 2022. The complaint was brought against you in your capacity as Mayor of the City of Little Rock. In that letter, you were notified that the focus of the investigation would be whether or not you, in your capacity as Mayor of the City of Little Rock, violated (1) Ark. Code Ann. § 7-1-103(a)(3) by using a city-owned vehicle to travel to and from campaign events and using city equipment to receive and relay a request for a campaign sign; and (2) Ark. Code Ann. § 21-8-304(a) by using City of Little Rock police officers to provide security at campaign events. On November 18, 2023, the Commission directed staff to complete the investigation.

On April 11, 2023, the Ethics Commission mailed you a letter notifying you that this case had been placed on the agenda for the regular monthly meeting scheduled for April 21, 2023. At that meeting, the results of staff's investigation were presented to the Commission for a determination concerning probable cause. At that time, the Commission decided, by a vote of 4-1 (with Chairman Irby voting no), that probable cause exists for finding that you violated Ark. Code Ann. § 7-1-103(a)(3) in your capacity as Mayor of the City of Little Rock by using a city-owned vehicle to travel to and from campaign events without your campaign reimbursing the city for your mileage (currently \$.52 per mile).

Please be advised that the Ethics Commission is in receipt of the written Offer of Settlement which you signed and returned to us on April 8, 2023, along with a check from you in the amount of \$250. Pursuant to the terms of that offer, you have been issued a public Letter of Caution. A copy of the public letter is enclosed.

In accordance with Ark. Code Ann. § 7-6-218(b)(1)(C), the Commission is sending you this letter to notify you of the Commission's final action together with the reasons for such action. In that regard, we note that the final action concerning this matter was the issuance of a public Letter of

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Caution, which is the lowest level of public letter, and the imposition of a fine in the amount of \$250.

The foregoing action was taken as a result of your signing a written Offer of Settlement, pursuant to which you acknowledged that the Commission would make a finding that you violated Ark. Code Ann. § 7-1-103(a)(3) in your capacity as Mayor of the City of Little Rock by using a city-owned vehicle to travel to and from campaign events without your campaign reimbursing the city for your mileage (currently \$.52 per mile).

This letter is a public document. A copy is being sent to your attorney, Derrick Smith, and the complainant, Matthew Campbell, to notify them of the outcome of the proceedings.

If you should have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Graham F. Sloan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping tail.

Graham F. Sloan
Director

Enclosure

cc(w/encl.): Matthew Campbell
Derrick Smith

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Re: Case No. 2022-CO-095

Dear Mr. Scott:

On November 8, 2022, the Ethics Commission sent you a letter via certified mail, with a return receipt requested, enclosing a copy of a citizen complaint received on November 1, 2022. The complaint was brought against you in your capacity as Mayor of the City of Little Rock. In that letter, you were notified that the focus of the investigation would be whether or not you violated (1) Ark. Code Ann. § 7-1-103(a)(3) in your capacity as Mayor of the City of Little Rock by using a city-owned vehicle to travel to and from campaign events and using city equipment to receive and relay a request for a campaign sign; and (2) Ark. Code Ann. § 21-8-304(a) in your capacity as Mayor of the City of Little Rock by using City of Little Rock police officers to provide security at campaign events. On November 18, 2023, the Commission directed staff to complete the investigation.

You subsequently signed on May 8, 2023, a written Offer of Settlement pursuant to which you acknowledged that the Commission would make a finding that you violated Ark. Code Ann. § 7-1-103(a)(3) in your capacity as Mayor of the City of Little Rock by using a city-owned vehicle to travel to and from campaign events without your campaign reimbursing the city for your mileage (currently \$.52 per mile).

As part of its disposition of this matter, the Commission is hereby issuing you this **Public Letter of Caution**, which is advisory in nature and serves to give clear notice that your actions violated the law. You are advised not to engage in the same activity again.

This disciplinary action is taken pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 7-6-218(b)(4).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Irby".

Scott Irby
Chairman

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