

**TEACHERS' AND STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**July 26, 2018 Meeting**

**AGENDA ITEM**

2a. Ethics Awareness and Identification of Conflicts or Potential Conflicts of Interest

2b. Statement of Economic Interest evaluations of members pursuant to the Ethics Act § 163A-159(c)

In the following packet is a copy of each Board members' most recent Statement of Economic Interest (SEI) evaluation issued by the State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement. These are being provided for Board members' review and for recording in the meeting minutes pursuant to the requirements of the State Government Ethics Act. Members are encouraged to review the evaluations to inform and remind them of the identified actual or potential conflicts of interest.



## STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

1324 MAIL SERVICE CENTER  
RALEIGH, NC 27699-1324  
WWW.ETHICSCOMMISSION.NC.GOV

April 25, 2017

The Honorable Dale R. Folwell  
Department of State Treasurer  
325 N. Salisbury Street  
Raleigh, NC 27603

*Via Email*

**Re: Evaluation of Your Statement of Economic Interest**  
North Carolina State Treasurer

Dear Treasurer Folwell:

Our office is in receipt of your 2017 Statement of Economic Interest as North Carolina State Treasurer. We have reviewed it for actual and potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Chapter 138A of the North Carolina General Statutes ("N.C.G.S."), also known as the State Government Ethics Act.

**We did not find an actual conflict of interest, but did find the potential for a conflict of interest. The potential conflict identified does not prohibit your service.**

The State Government Ethics Act establishes ethical standards for certain public servants, including conflict of interest standards. N.C.G.S. §138A-31 prohibits public servants from using their positions for their financial benefit or for the benefit of a member of their extended family or a business with which they are associated. N.C.G.S. §138A-36(a) prohibits public servants from participating in certain official actions from which the public servant, his or her client(s), a member of the public servant's extended family, or a business or non-profit with which the public servant or a member of the public servant's immediate family is associated may receive a reasonably foreseeable financial benefit.

You disclosed that you and your spouse own threshold amounts of stock in publicly traded stocks including Apple, Inc., and Valeant. Therefore, you have the potential for a conflict of interest and should exercise appropriate caution in the performance of your public duties, should these entities, or any entity in which you and/or your spouse have a financial interest come before you for official action.

In addition to the conflicts standards noted above, N.C.G.S. §138A-32 prohibits public servants from accepting gifts, directly or indirectly (1) from anyone in return for being influenced in the discharge of their official responsibilities, (2) from a lobbyist or lobbyist principal, or (3) from a person or entity which is doing or seeking to do business with the public servant's agency, is regulated or controlled by the public servant's agency, or has particular financial interests that may be affected by the public servant's official actions. Exceptions to the gifts restrictions are set out in N.C.G.S. §138A-32(e).

The Honorable Dale R. Folwell  
April 25, 2017  
Page 2 of 2

Finally, the State Government Ethics Act mandates that all public servants attend an ethics and lobbying education presentation. Please review the attached document for additional information concerning this requirement.

Please contact our office if you have any questions concerning our evaluation or the ethical standards governing public servants under the State Government Ethics Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gretchen D. Aycock". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gretchen" being more prominent and the last name "Aycock" following in a similar style. The initials "D." are written between the first and last names.

Gretchen D. Aycock  
SEI Attorney

cc: Laura Rowe, Ethics Liaison

Attachment: Ethics Education Flyer



# NORTH CAROLINA

## State Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement

Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 27255  
Raleigh, NC 27611-7255

Phone: (919) 814-0700  
Fax: (919) 715-0135

July 17, 2018

The Honorable Mark Johnson  
Superintendent of Public Instruction  
6301 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-6301

*Via Email*

**Re: Evaluation of Statement of Economic Interest filed by Claire Miller  
Board of Trustees of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System**

Dear Superintendent Johnson:

Our office has received **Claire Miller's** 2018 Statement of Economic Interest as a Public Instruction Designee member to the **Board of Trustees of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System (the "Board")**. We have reviewed it for actual and potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Chapter 163A of the North Carolina General Statutes ("N.C.G.S."), also known as the Elections and Ethics Enforcement Act (the "Act").

Compliance with the Act and avoidance of conflicts of interest in the performance of public duties are the responsibilities of every covered person, regardless of this letter's contents. This letter, meanwhile, is not meant to impugn the integrity of the covered person in any way. This letter is required by N.C.G.S. § 163A-193(a) and is designed to educate the covered person as to potential issues that could merit particular attention. Advice on compliance with the Act is available to certain public servants and legislative employees under N.C.G.S. § 163A-157.

**We did not find an actual conflict of interest, but found the potential for a conflict of interest. The potential conflict identified does not prohibit service on this entity.**

The Board of Trustees of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System ("TSERS") is responsible for administration of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System, the Consolidated Judicial Retirement System, and the Legislative Retirement System. The Board serves as trustee and the State Treasurer is custodian of and makes decisions concerning investment of System funds.

The Act establishes ethical standards for certain public servants, including conflict of interest standards. N.C.G.S. § 163A-211 prohibits public servants from using their positions for their financial benefit or for the benefit of a member of their extended family or a business with which they are associated. N.C.G.S. § 163A-216 prohibits public servants from participating in certain official actions from which the public servant, his or her client(s), a member of the public servant's extended family, or a business or non-profit with which the public servant or a member of the public servant's immediate family is associated may receive a reasonably foreseeable financial benefit.

The Honorable Mark Johnson

July 17, 2018

Page 2 of 2

Ms. Miller fills the role of a Department of Instruction Designee member on the Board. As such, she is a potential beneficiary of the Retirement System and has the potential for a conflict of interest. She should exercise caution in the performance of her public duties should issues involving her retirement come before the Board for official action.

In addition to the conflicts standards noted above, N.C.G.S. § 163A-212 prohibits public servants from accepting gifts, directly or indirectly (1) from anyone in return for being influenced in the discharge of their official responsibilities, (2) from a lobbyist or lobbyist principal, or (3) from a person or entity which is doing or seeking to do business with the public servant's agency, is regulated or controlled by the public servant's agency, or has particular financial interests that may be affected by the public servant's official actions. Exceptions to the gifts restrictions are set out in N.C.G.S. § 163A-212(e).

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 163A-159(c), when an actual or potential conflict of interest is cited by the Board under N.C.G.S. § 163A-189(e) with regard to a public servant sitting on a board, the conflict shall be recorded in the minutes of the applicable board and duly brought to the attention of the membership by the board's chair as often as necessary to remind all members of the conflict and to help ensure compliance with the Act.

Finally, the Act mandates that all public servants attend an ethics and lobbying education presentation. N.C.G.S. § 163A-158. Please review the attached document for additional information concerning this requirement.

Please contact our office if you have any questions concerning our evaluation or the ethical standards governing public servants under the Act.

Sincerely,



Lisa Johnson, SEI Unit  
NC Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement

Cc: Claire Miller  
Laura Rowe, Ethics Liaison

Attachment: Ethics Education Flyer



# NORTH CAROLINA

## State Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement

Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 27255  
Raleigh, NC 27611-7255

Phone: (919) 814-0700  
Fax: (919) 715-0135

July 17, 2018

Mrs. Barbara J. Gibson  
Office of State Human Resources  
116 West Jones Street  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

*Via Email*

**Re: Evaluation of Statement of Economic Interest  
Ex-Officio Member – Board of Trustees of the Teachers’ and State Employees’  
Retirement System**

Dear Mrs. Gibson:

Our office has received your 2018 Statement of Economic Interest as an Ex-Officio member to the **Board of Trustees of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System (the “Board”)**. We have reviewed it for actual and potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Chapter 163A of the North Carolina General Statutes (“N.C.G.S.”), also known as the Elections and Ethics Enforcement Act (the “Act”).

Compliance with the Act and avoidance of conflicts of interest in the performance of public duties are the responsibilities of every covered person, regardless of this letter’s contents. This letter, meanwhile, is not meant to impugn the integrity of the covered person in any way. This letter is required by N.C.G.S. § 163A-193(a) and is designed to educate the covered person as to potential issues that could merit particular attention. Advice on compliance with the Act is available to certain public servants and legislative employees under N.C.G.S. § 163A-157.

**We did not find an actual conflict of interest, but found the potential for a conflict of interest. The potential conflict identified does not prohibit service on this entity.**

The Board of Trustees of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System (“TSERS”) is responsible for administration of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System, the Consolidated Judicial Retirement System, and the Legislative Retirement System. The Board serves as trustee and the State Treasurer is custodian of and makes decisions concerning investment of System funds.

The Act establishes ethical standards for certain public servants, including conflict of interest standards. N.C.G.S. § 163A-211 prohibits public servants from using their positions for their financial benefit or for the benefit of a member of their extended family or a business with which they are associated. N.C.G.S. § 163A-216 prohibits public servants from participating in certain official actions from which the public servant, his or her client(s), a member of the public servant’s extended family, or a business or non-profit with which the public servant or a member of the public servant’s immediate family is associated may receive a reasonably foreseeable financial benefit.

Mrs. Barbara J. Gibson

July 17, 2018

Page 2 of 2

Mrs. Gibson fill the role of an Ex-Officio member on the Board. Mrs. Gibson and her husband are both state employees. As such, they are potential beneficiaries of the Retirement System and she has the potential for a conflict of interest. She should exercise caution in the performance of her public duties should issues involving their retirement come before the Board for official action.

In addition to the conflicts standards noted above, N.C.G.S. § 163A-212 prohibits public servants from accepting gifts, directly or indirectly (1) from anyone in return for being influenced in the discharge of their official responsibilities, (2) from a lobbyist or lobbyist principal, or (3) from a person or entity which is doing or seeking to do business with the public servant's agency, is regulated or controlled by the public servant's agency, or has particular financial interests that may be affected by the public servant's official actions. Exceptions to the gifts restrictions are set out in N.C.G.S. § 163A-212(e).

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 163A-159(c), when an actual or potential conflict of interest is cited by the Board under N.C.G.S. § 163A-189(e) with regard to a public servant sitting on a board, the conflict shall be recorded in the minutes of the applicable board and duly brought to the attention of the membership by the board's chair as often as necessary to remind all members of the conflict and to help ensure compliance with the Act.

Finally, the Act mandates that all public servants attend an ethics and lobbying education presentation. N.C.G.S. § 163A-158. Please review the attached document for additional information concerning this requirement.

Please contact our office if you have any questions concerning our evaluation or the ethical standards governing public servants under the Act.

Sincerely,



Lisa Johnson, SEI Unit  
NC Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement

Cc: Laura Rowe, Ethics Liaison

Attachment: Ethics Education Flyer



## STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

1324 MAIL SERVICE CENTER  
RALEIGH, NC 27699-1324  
WWW.ETHICSCOMMISSION.NC.GOV

April 28, 2017

The Honorable Roy A. Cooper, III  
Governor of North Carolina  
20301 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

*Via Email*

Re: Evaluation of Statements of Economic Interest Filed By Mr. Oliver A. Holley  
**Prospective Appointee – Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System**

Dear Governor Cooper:

Our office is in receipt of **Mr. Oliver A. Holley’s** 2017 Statement of Economic Interest as a prospective appointee to the **Board of Trustees of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System (“Board”)**. We have reviewed it for actual and potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Chapter 138A of the North Carolina General Statutes (“N.C.G.S.”), also known as the State Government Ethics Act.

**We did not find an actual conflict of interest, but found the potential for a conflict of interest. The potential conflict identified does not prohibit service on this entity.**

The Board of Trustees of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System (“TSERS”) is responsible for administration of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System, the Consolidated Judicial Retirement System, and the Legislative Retirement System. The Board serves as trustee and the State Treasurer is custodian of and makes decisions concerning investment of System funds.

The State Government Ethics Act establishes ethical standards for certain public servants, including conflict of interest standards. N.C.G.S. §138A-31 prohibits public servants from using their positions for their financial benefit or for the benefit of a member of their extended family or a business with which they are associated. N.C.G.S. §138A-36(a) prohibits public servants from participating in certain official actions from which the public servant, his or her client(s), a member of the public servant’s extended family, or a business or non-profit with which the public servant or a member of the public servant’s immediate family is associated may receive a reasonably foreseeable financial benefit.

Mr. Holley will fill the role of an active member of the teaching profession in North Carolina on the Board. He is the Director of Human Resources for Perquimans County Schools. As such, he is a potential beneficiary of the Retirement System and he has the potential for a conflict of interest. In light of this interest, Mr. Holley should exercise appropriate caution in the performance of her public duties.

In addition to the conflicts standards noted above, N.C.G.S. §138A-32 prohibits public servants from accepting gifts, directly or indirectly (1) from anyone in return for being influenced in the discharge of their official responsibilities, (2) from a lobbyist or lobbyist principal, or (3) from a person or entity which is doing or seeking to do business with the public servant’s agency, is regulated or controlled by the public servant’s agency, or has particular financial interests that may be affected by the public servant’s official actions. Exceptions to the gifts restrictions are set out in N.C.G.S. §138A-32(e).



The Honorable Roy A. Cooper, III  
April 28, 2017  
Page 2 of 2

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 138A-15(c), when an actual or potential conflict of interest is cited by the Commission under N.C.G.S. 138A-24(e) with regard to a public servant sitting on a board, the conflict shall be recorded in the minutes of the applicable board and duly brought to the attention of the membership by the board's chair as often as necessary to remind all members of the conflict and to help ensure compliance with the State Government Ethics Act.

Finally, the State Government Ethics Act mandates that all public servants attend an ethics and lobbying education presentation. Please review the attached document for additional information concerning this requirement.

Please contact our office if you have any questions concerning our evaluation or the ethical standards governing public servants under the State Government Ethics Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beth Carpenter".

Beth Carpenter  
SEI Unit

cc: Mr. Oliver A. Holley

Attachment: Ethics Education Flyer



# NORTH CAROLINA

## State Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement

Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 27255  
Raleigh, NC 27611-7255

Phone: (919) 733-7173  
Fax: (919) 715-0135

KIM WESTBROOK STRACH  
Executive Director

June 24, 2017

The Honorable Roy A. Cooper, III

*Via Email*

Governor of North Carolina

20301 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

Re: Evaluation of Statements of Economic Interest Filed By Ms. Linda H. Gunter  
Prospective Appointee – Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System

Dear Governor Cooper:

Our office is in receipt of Ms. Linda H. Gunter's 2017 Statement of Economic Interest Form as a prospective appointee to the **Board of Trustees of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System ("Board")**. We have reviewed it for actual and potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Chapter 138A of the North Carolina General Statutes ("N.C.G.S."), also known as the State Government Ethics Act.

**We did not find an actual conflict of interest, but found the potential for a conflict of interest. The potential conflict identified does not prohibit service on this entity.**

The Board of Trustees of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System ("TSERS") is responsible for administration of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System, the Consolidated Judicial Retirement System, and the Legislative Retirement System. The Board serves as trustee and the State Treasurer is custodian of and makes decisions concerning investment of System funds.

The State Government Ethics Act establishes ethical standards for certain public servants, including conflict of interest standards. N.C.G.S. §138A-31 prohibits public servants from using their positions for their financial benefit or for the benefit of a member of their extended family or a business with which they are associated. N.C.G.S. §138A-36(a) prohibits public servants from participating in certain official actions from which the public servant, his or her client(s), a member of the public servant's extended family, or a business or non-profit with which the public servant or a member of the public servant's immediate family is associated may receive a reasonably foreseeable financial benefit.

Ms. Gunter will fill the role of a retired teacher on the Board. She is a retired teacher from the Wake County School System. As such, she is a beneficiary of the Retirement System and she has the potential for a conflict of interest. Ms. Gunter should exercise appropriate caution in the performance of her public duties.

In addition to the conflicts standards noted above, N.C.G.S. §138A-32 prohibits public servants from accepting gifts, directly or indirectly (1) from anyone in return for being influenced in the discharge of their official responsibilities, (2) from a lobbyist or lobbyist principal, or (3) from a person or entity which is doing or seeking to do business with the public servant's agency, is regulated or controlled by the public servant's agency, or has particular financial interests that may be affected by the public servant's official actions. Exceptions to the gifts restrictions are set out in N.C.G.S. §138A-32(e).

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 138A-15(c), when an actual or potential conflict of interest is cited by the Commission under N.C.G.S. 138A-24(e) with regard to a public servant sitting on a board, the conflict shall be recorded in the minutes of the applicable board and duly brought to the attention of the membership by the board's chair as often as necessary to remind all members of the conflict and to help ensure compliance with the State Government Ethics Act.

Finally, the State Government Ethics Act mandates that all public servants attend an ethics and lobbying education presentation. Please review the attached document for additional information concerning this requirement.

Please contact our office if you have any questions concerning our evaluation or the ethical standards governing public servants under the State Government Ethics Act. My telephone number is 919-814-3600.

Sincerely,



Gretchen D. Aycock

SEI Attorney

cc: Ms. Linda H. Gunter, Filer

Attachment: Ethics Education Flyer



# NORTH CAROLINA

## State Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement

mailing address:  
P.O. Box 27255  
Raleigh, NC 27611-7255

Phone: (919) 733-7173  
Fax: (919) 715-0135

KIM WESTBROOK STRACH  
Executive Director

June 27, 2017

The Honorable Roy A. Cooper, III  
Governor of North Carolina  
20301 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

*Via Email*

Re: Evaluation of Statements of Economic Interest Filed By Mr. Jeffrey S. Winstead  
Prospective Appointee – Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System

Dear Governor Cooper:

Our office is in receipt of Mr. Jeffrey S. Winstead's 2017 Statement of Economic Interest as a prospective appointee to the **Board of Trustees of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System** ("Board"). We have reviewed it for actual and potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Chapter 138A of the North Carolina General Statutes ("N.C.G.S."), also known as the State Government Ethics Act.

**We did not find an actual conflict of interest, but found the potential for a conflict of interest. The potential conflict identified does not prohibit service on this entity.**

The Board of Trustees of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System ("TSERS") is responsible for administration of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System, the Consolidated Judicial Retirement System, and the Legislative Retirement System. The Board serves as trustee and the State Treasurer is custodian of and makes decisions concerning investment of System funds.

The State Government Ethics Act establishes ethical standards for certain public servants, including conflict of interest standards. N.C.G.S. §138A-31 prohibits public servants from using their positions for their financial benefit or for the benefit of a member of their extended family or a business with which they are associated. N.C.G.S. §138A-36(a) prohibits public servants from participating in certain official actions from which the public servant, his or her client(s), a member of the public servant's extended family, or a business or non-profit with which the public servant or a member of the public servant's immediate family is associated may receive a reasonably foreseeable financial benefit.

Mr. Winstead will fill the role of a retired State employee on the Board. As such, he is a potential beneficiary of the Retirement System and has the potential for a conflict of interest. In light of this interest, Mr. Winstead should exercise appropriate caution in the performance of his public duties.

In addition to the conflicts standards noted above, N.C.G.S. §138A-32 prohibits public servants from accepting gifts, directly or indirectly (1) from anyone in return for being influenced in the discharge of their official responsibilities, (2) from a lobbyist or lobbyist principal, or (3) from a person or entity which is doing or seeking to do business with the public servant's agency, is regulated or controlled by the public servant's agency, or has particular financial interests that may be affected by the public servant's official actions. Exceptions to the gifts restrictions are set out in N.C.G.S. §138A-32(e).

The Honorable Roy A. Cooper, III  
June 27, 2017  
Page 2 of 2

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 138A-15(c), when an actual or potential conflict of interest is cited by the Commission under N.C.G.S. 138A-24(e) with regard to a public servant sitting on a board, the conflict shall be recorded in the minutes of the applicable board and duly brought to the attention of the membership by the board's chair as often as necessary to remind all members of the conflict and to help ensure compliance with the State Government Ethics Act.

Finally, the State Government Ethics Act mandates that all public servants attend an ethics and lobbying education presentation. Please review the attached document for additional information concerning this requirement.

Please contact our office if you have any questions concerning our evaluation or the ethical standards governing public servants under the State Government Ethics Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beth Carpenter".

Beth Carpenter  
SEI Unit

cc: Mr. Jeffrey S. Winstead

Attachment: Ethics Education Flyer



## STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

1324 MAIL SERVICE CENTER  
RALEIGH, NC 27699-1324  
WWW.ETHICSCOMMISSION.NC.GOV

April 13, 2017

The Honorable Roy A. Cooper, III  
Governor of North Carolina  
20301 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

*Via Email*

Re: Evaluation of Statements of Economic Interest Filed By Ms. Margaret C. Reader  
**Prospective Appointee – Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System**

Dear Governor Cooper:

Our office is in receipt of **Ms. Margaret C. Reader’s** 2017 Statement of Economic Interest as a prospective appointee to the **Board of Trustees of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System (“Board”)**. We have reviewed it for actual and potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Chapter 138A of the North Carolina General Statutes (“N.C.G.S.”), also known as the State Government Ethics Act.

**We did not find an actual conflict of interest, but found the potential for a conflict of interest. The potential conflict identified does not prohibit service on this entity.**

The Board of Trustees of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System (“TSERS”) is responsible for administration of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System, the Consolidated Judicial Retirement System, and the Legislative Retirement System. The Board serves as trustee and the State Treasurer is custodian of and makes decisions concerning investment of System funds.

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Ms. Reader will fill the role of a State employee on the Board. She is a Personnel Officer with the Office of Administrative Hearings. As such, she is a potential beneficiary of the Retirement System and she has the potential for a conflict of interest. In light of this interest, Ms. Reader should exercise appropriate caution in the performance of her public duties.

In addition to the conflicts standards noted above, N.C.G.S. §138A-32 prohibits public servants from accepting gifts, directly or indirectly (1) from anyone in return for being influenced in the discharge of their official responsibilities, (2) from a lobbyist or lobbyist principal, or (3) from a person or entity which is doing or seeking to do business with the public servant’s agency, is regulated or controlled by the public servant’s agency, or has particular financial interests that may be affected by the public servant’s official actions. Exceptions to the gifts restrictions are set out in N.C.G.S. §138A-32(e).

The Honorable Roy A. Cooper, III  
April 13, 2017  
Page 2 of 2

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 138A-15(c), when an actual or potential conflict of interest is cited by the Commission under N.C.G.S. 138A-24(e) with regard to a public servant sitting on a board, the conflict shall be recorded in the minutes of the applicable board and duly brought to the attention of the membership by the board's chair as often as necessary to remind all members of the conflict and to help ensure compliance with the State Government Ethics Act.

Finally, the State Government Ethics Act mandates that all public servants attend an ethics and lobbying education presentation. Please review the attached document for additional information concerning this requirement.

Please contact our office if you have any questions concerning our evaluation or the ethical standards governing public servants under the State Government Ethics Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beth Carpenter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Beth Carpenter  
SEI Unit

cc: Ms. Margaret C. Reader

Attachment: Ethics Education Flyer



## STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

1324 MAIL SERVICE CENTER  
RALEIGH, NC 27699-1324  
WWW.ETHICSCOMMISSION.NC.GOV

April 13, 2017

The Honorable Roy A. Cooper, III  
Governor of North Carolina  
20301 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

*Via Email*

Re: Evaluation of Statements of Economic Interest Filed By Mr. Cecil Vernon Gammon  
**Prospective Appointee – Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System**

Dear Governor Cooper:

Our office is in receipt of **Mr. Cecil Vernon Gammon's** 2017 Statement of Economic Interest as a prospective appointee to the **Board of Trustees of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System ("Board")**. We have reviewed it for actual and potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Chapter 138A of the North Carolina General Statutes ("N.C.G.S."), also known as the State Government Ethics Act.

**We did not find an actual conflict of interest or the potential for a conflict of interest.**

The Board of Trustees of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System ("TSERS") is responsible for administration of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System, the Consolidated Judicial Retirement System, and the Legislative Retirement System. The Board serves as trustee and the State Treasurer is custodian of and makes decisions concerning investment of System funds.

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Mr. Gammon will fill the role of an individual who is not a member of the teaching profession or a State employee. He is the Secretary/Treasurer of Teamsters Local Union 391.

In addition to the conflicts standards noted above, N.C.G.S. §138A-32 prohibits public servants from accepting gifts, directly or indirectly (1) from anyone in return for being influenced in the discharge of their official responsibilities, (2) from a lobbyist or lobbyist principal, or (3) from a person or entity which is doing or seeking to do business with the public servant's agency, is regulated or controlled by the public servant's agency, or has particular financial interests that may be affected by the public servant's official actions. Exceptions to the gifts restrictions are set out in N.C.G.S. §138A-32(e).



Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 138A-15(c), when an actual or potential conflict of interest is cited by the Commission under N.C.G.S. 138A-24(e) with regard to a public servant sitting on a board, the conflict shall be recorded in the minutes of the applicable board and duly brought to the attention of the membership by the board's chair as often as necessary to remind all members of the conflict and to help ensure compliance with the State Government Ethics Act.

Finally, the State Government Ethics Act mandates that all public servants attend an ethics and lobbying education presentation. Please review the attached document for additional information concerning this requirement.

Please contact our office if you have any questions concerning our evaluation or the ethical standards governing public servants under the State Government Ethics Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beth Carpenter".

Beth Carpenter  
SEI Unit

cc: Mr. Cecil Vernon Gammon

Attachment: Ethics Education Flyer



## STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

1324 MAIL SERVICE CENTER  
RALEIGH, NC 27699-1324  
WWW.ETHICSCOMMISSION.NC.GOV

April 13, 2017

The Honorable Roy A. Cooper, III  
Governor of North Carolina  
20301 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

*Via Email*

Re: Evaluation of Statements of Economic Interest Filed By **Mr. Joshua J. Smith**  
**Prospective Appointee – Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System**

Dear Governor Cooper:

Our office is in receipt of **Mr. Joshua J. Smith’s** 2017 Statement of Economic Interest as a prospective appointee to the **Board of Trustees of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System (“Board”)**. We have reviewed it for actual and potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Chapter 138A of the North Carolina General Statutes (“N.C.G.S.”), also known as the State Government Ethics Act.

**We did not find an actual conflict of interest or the potential for a conflict of interest.**

The Board of Trustees of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System (“TSERS”) is responsible for administration of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System, the Consolidated Judicial Retirement System, and the Legislative Retirement System. The Board serves as trustee and the State Treasurer is custodian of and makes decisions concerning investment of System funds.

The State Government Ethics Act establishes ethical standards for certain public servants, including conflict of interest standards. N.C.G.S. §138A-31 prohibits public servants from using their positions for their financial benefit or for the benefit of a member of their extended family or a business with which they are associated. N.C.G.S. §138A-36(a) prohibits public servants from participating in certain official actions from which the public servant, his or her client(s), a member of the public servant’s extended family, or a business or non-profit with which the public servant or a member of the public servant’s immediate family is associated may receive a reasonably foreseeable financial benefit.

Mr. Smith will fill the role of an individual who is not a member of the teaching profession or a State employee. He is Fire Captain of the City of Statesville.

In addition to the conflicts standards noted above, N.C.G.S. §138A-32 prohibits public servants from accepting gifts, directly or indirectly (1) from anyone in return for being influenced in the discharge of their official responsibilities, (2) from a lobbyist or lobbyist principal, or (3) from a person or entity which is doing or seeking to do business with the public servant’s agency, is regulated or controlled by the public servant’s agency, or has particular financial interests that may be affected by the public servant’s official actions. Exceptions to the gifts restrictions are set out in N.C.G.S. §138A-32(e).

The Honorable Roy A. Cooper, III  
April 13, 2017  
Page 2 of 2

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 138A-15(c), when an actual or potential conflict of interest is cited by the Commission under N.C.G.S. 138A-24(e) with regard to a public servant sitting on a board, the conflict shall be recorded in the minutes of the applicable board and duly brought to the attention of the membership by the board's chair as often as necessary to remind all members of the conflict and to help ensure compliance with the State Government Ethics Act.

Finally, the State Government Ethics Act mandates that all public servants attend an ethics and lobbying education presentation. Please review the attached document for additional information concerning this requirement.

Please contact our office if you have any questions concerning our evaluation or the ethical standards governing public servants under the State Government Ethics Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beth Carpenter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Beth Carpenter  
SEI Unit

cc: Mr. Joshua J. Smith

Attachment: Ethics Education Flyer



## STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

1324 MAIL SERVICE CENTER  
RALEIGH, NC 27699-1324  
WWW.ETHICSCOMMISSION.NC.GOV

April 27, 2017

The Honorable Roy A. Cooper, III  
Governor of North Carolina  
20301 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

*Via Email*

Re: Evaluation of Statements of Economic Interest Filed By Mr. David L. German, Jr.  
**Prospective Appointee – Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System**

Dear Governor Cooper:

Our office is in receipt of **Mr. David L. German, Jr.’s** 2017 Statement of Economic Interest as a prospective appointee to the **Board of Trustees of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System (“Board”)**. We have reviewed it for actual and potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Chapter 138A of the North Carolina General Statutes (“N.C.G.S.”), also known as the State Government Ethics Act.

**We did not find an actual conflict of interest, but found the potential for a conflict of interest. The potential conflict identified does not prohibit service on this entity.**

The Board of Trustees of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System (“TSERS”) is responsible for administration of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System, the Consolidated Judicial Retirement System, and the Legislative Retirement System. The Board serves as trustee and the State Treasurer is custodian of and makes decisions concerning investment of System funds.

The State Government Ethics Act establishes ethical standards for certain public servants, including conflict of interest standards. N.C.G.S. §138A-31 prohibits public servants from using their positions for their financial benefit or for the benefit of a member of their extended family or a business with which they are associated. N.C.G.S. §138A-36(a) prohibits public servants from participating in certain official actions from which the public servant, his or her client(s), a member of the public servant’s extended family, or a business or non-profit with which the public servant or a member of the public servant’s immediate family is associated may receive a reasonably foreseeable financial benefit.

Mr. German will fill the role of a State law enforcement officer on the Board. He is a Special Agent in Charge with the State Bureau of Investigation. As such, he is a potential beneficiary of the Retirement System and has the potential for a conflict of interest. In light of this interest, Mr. German should exercise appropriate caution in the performance of his public duties.

In addition to the conflicts standards noted above, N.C.G.S. §138A-32 prohibits public servants from accepting gifts, directly or indirectly (1) from anyone in return for being influenced in the discharge of their official responsibilities, (2) from a lobbyist or lobbyist principal, or (3) from a person or entity which is doing or seeking to do business with the public servant’s agency, is regulated or controlled by the public servant’s agency, or has particular financial interests that may be affected by the public servant’s official actions. Exceptions to the gifts restrictions are set out in N.C.G.S. §138A-32(e).

The Honorable Roy A. Cooper, III  
April 27, 2017  
Page 2 of 2

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 138A-15(c), when an actual or potential conflict of interest is cited by the Commission under N.C.G.S. 138A-24(e) with regard to a public servant sitting on a board, the conflict shall be recorded in the minutes of the applicable board and duly brought to the attention of the membership by the board's chair as often as necessary to remind all members of the conflict and to help ensure compliance with the State Government Ethics Act.

Finally, the State Government Ethics Act mandates that all public servants attend an ethics and lobbying education presentation. Please review the attached document for additional information concerning this requirement.

Please contact our office if you have any questions concerning our evaluation or the ethical standards governing public servants under the State Government Ethics Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beth Carpenter".

Beth Carpenter  
SEI Unit

cc: Mr. David L. German, Jr.

Attachment: Ethics Education Flyer



# NORTH CAROLINA

## State Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement

P.O. Box 27255  
Raleigh, NC 27611-7255

Phone: (919) 733-7173  
Fax: (919) 715-0135

**KIM WESTBROOK STRACH**  
*Executive Director*

June 27, 2017

The Honorable Roy A. Cooper, III  
Governor of North Carolina  
20301 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

*Via Email*

Re: Evaluation of Statements of Economic Interest Filed By Lt. Colonel John H. Ebbighausen  
**Prospective Appointee – Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System**

Dear Governor Cooper:

Our office is in receipt of **Lt. Colonel John H. Ebbighausen's** 2017 Statement of Economic Interest as a prospective appointee to the **Board of Trustees of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System ("Board")**. We have reviewed it for actual and potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Chapter 138A of the North Carolina General Statutes ("N.C.G.S."), also known as the State Government Ethics Act.

**We did not find an actual conflict of interest, but found the potential for a conflict of interest. The potential conflict identified does not prohibit service on this entity.**

The Board of Trustees of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System ("TSERS") is responsible for administration of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System, the Consolidated Judicial Retirement System, and the Legislative Retirement System. The Board serves as trustee and the State Treasurer is custodian of and makes decisions concerning investment of System funds.

The State Government Ethics Act establishes ethical standards for certain public servants, including conflict of interest standards. N.C.G.S. §138A-31 prohibits public servants from using their positions for their financial benefit or for the benefit of a member of their extended family or a business with which they are associated. N.C.G.S. §138A-36(a) prohibits public servants from participating in certain official actions from which the public servant, his or her client(s), a member of the public servant's extended family, or a business or non-profit with which the public servant or a member of the public servant's immediate family is associated may receive a reasonably foreseeable financial benefit.

Lt. Colonel Ebbighausen will fill the role of a National Guard member on the Board. As such, he is a potential beneficiary of the Retirement System and has the potential for a conflict of interest. In light of this interest, he should exercise appropriate caution in the performance of his public duties.

In addition to the conflicts standards noted above, N.C.G.S. §138A-32 prohibits public servants from accepting gifts, directly or indirectly (1) from anyone in return for being influenced in the discharge of their official responsibilities, (2) from a lobbyist or lobbyist principal, or (3) from a person or entity which is doing or seeking to do business with the public servant's agency, is regulated or controlled by the public servant's agency, or has particular financial interests that may be affected by the public servant's official actions. Exceptions to the gifts restrictions are set out in N.C.G.S. §138A-32(e).

The Honorable Roy A. Cooper, III  
June 27, 2017  
Page 2 of 2

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 138A-15(c), when an actual or potential conflict of interest is cited by the Commission under N.C.G.S. 138A-24(e) with regard to a public servant sitting on a board, the conflict shall be recorded in the minutes of the applicable board and duly brought to the attention of the membership by the board's chair as often as necessary to remind all members of the conflict and to help ensure compliance with the State Government Ethics Act.

Finally, the State Government Ethics Act mandates that all public servants attend an ethics and lobbying education presentation. Please review the attached document for additional information concerning this requirement.

Please contact our office if you have any questions concerning our evaluation or the ethical standards governing public servants under the State Government Ethics Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beth Carpenter".

Beth Carpenter  
SEI Unit

cc: Lt. Colonel John H. Ebbighausen

Attachment: Ethics Education Flyer



## STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

1324 MAIL SERVICE CENTER  
RALEIGH, NC 27699-1324  
WWW.ETHICSCOMMISSION.NC.GOV

GEORGE L. WAINWRIGHT, JR.  
CHAIRMAN

PERRY Y. NEWSON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

November 21, 2016

The Honorable Tim Moore  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
16 W. Jones St., Rm. 2304  
Raleigh, NC 27601-1096

*Via email*

**Re: Evaluation of Statement of Economic Interest Filed by Michael G. Patterson**  
Non State or Local Government Employee

Dear Speaker Moore:

Our office is in receipt of Michael G. Patterson's **2016 Statement of Economic Interest** as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System ("the Board"). We have reviewed it for actual and potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Chapter 138A of the North Carolina General Statutes ("N.C.G.S."), also known as the State Government Ethics Act.

**We did not find an actual conflict of interest, but found the potential for a conflict of interest. The potential conflict identified does not prohibit service on this entity.**

The Board of Trustees of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System is responsible for administration of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System, the Consolidated Judicial Retirement System, and the Legislative Retirement System. The Board serves as trustee and the State Treasurer is custodian of and makes decisions concerning investment of System funds.

The State Government Ethics Act establishes ethical standards for certain public servants, including conflict of interest standards. N.C.G.S. §138A-31 prohibits public servants from using their positions for their financial benefit or for the benefit of a member of their extended family or a business with which they are associated. N.C.G.S. §138A-36(a) prohibits public servants from participating in certain official actions from which the public servant, his or her client(s), a member of the public servant's extended family, or a business or non-profit with which the public servant or a member of the public servant's immediate family is associated may receive a reasonably foreseeable financial benefit.

Mr. Patterson fills the role of a non-state/local government employee on the Board. He has disclosed that he is the managing principal of Advisors Financial Group, Inc., and that he conducts business as an investment advisor and financial planner. Mr. Patterson has disclosed that he has business relationships with insurance companies and contracts with the state to provide insurance products to state employees. In addition, he has disclosed interests in several privately held companies, including AFG Companies, Inc., Insurance Designers of America, LLC, and U.S. Annuity Partners, LLC. He also holds stock options from the Lincoln Financial Group, and serves as a broker/dealer for ProEquities, Inc. Because of these financial associations, Mr. Patterson has a potential conflict of interest and should exercise appropriate caution in the performance of his public duties should any of the companies in which he has a financial interest, or his clients, come before the Board for official action. or otherwise seek to conduct business with the Board.



The Honorable Tim Moore

November 21, 2016

Page 2 of 2

In addition to the conflicts standards noted above, N.C.G.S. §138A-32 prohibits public servants from accepting gifts, directly or indirectly (1) from anyone in return for being influenced in the discharge of their official responsibilities, (2) from a lobbyist or lobbyist principal, or (3) from a person or entity which is doing or seeking to do business with the public servant's agency, is regulated or controlled by the public servant's agency, or has particular financial interests that may be affected by the public servant's official actions. Exceptions to the gifts restrictions are set out in N.C.G.S. §138A-32(e).

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 138A-15(c), when an actual or potential conflict of interest is cited by the Commission under N.C.G.S. 138A-24(e) with regard to a public servant sitting on a board, the conflict shall be recorded in the minutes of the applicable board and duly brought to the attention of the membership by the board's chair as often as necessary to remind all members of the conflict and to help ensure compliance with the State Government Ethics Act.

Finally, the State Government Ethics Act mandates that all public servants attend an ethics and lobbying education presentation. Please review the attached document for additional information concerning this requirement.

Please contact our office if you have any questions concerning our evaluation or the ethical standards governing public servants under the State Government Ethics Act.

Sincerely,



Gretchen D. Aycock  
SEI Attorney

cc: Michael G. Patterson, Filer  
Laura Rowe, Ethics Liaison  
Janet R. Cowell, Board Chair

Attachment: Ethics Education Flyer



## STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

1324 MAIL SERVICE CENTER  
RALEIGH, NC 27699-1324  
WWW.ETHICSCOMMISSION.NC.GOV

ROBERT L. FARMER  
CHAIRMAN

PERRY Y. NEWSON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

October 7, 2013

The Honorable Phil Berger  
President Pro Tempore of the Senate  
16 West Jones Street, Room 2008  
Raleigh, NC 27601

*Via email*

**Re: Evaluation of Statement of Economic Interest Filed By W. Lentz Brewer**  
Appointee – Board of Trustees of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System

Dear President Pro Tem Berger:

Our office is in receipt of W. Lentz Brewer’s **2013 Statement of Economic Interest** as an appointee to the **Board of Trustees of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System (“Board”)**. We have reviewed it for actual and potential conflicts of interest pursuant to Chapter 138A of the North Carolina General Statutes (“N.C.G.S.”), also known as the State Government Ethics Act.

**We did not find an actual conflict of interest, but found the potential for a conflict of interest. The potential conflict identified does not prohibit service on this entity.**

The Board of Trustees of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System (“Board”) is responsible for administration of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System, the Consolidated Judicial Retirement System, and the Legislative Retirement System. The Board serves as trustee and the State Treasurer is custodian of and makes decisions concerning investment of System funds.

The State Government Ethics Act establishes ethical standards for certain public servants, including conflict of interest standards. N.C.G.S. §138A-31 prohibits public servants from using their positions for their financial benefit or for the benefit of a member of their extended family or a business with which they are associated. N.C.G.S. §138A-36(a) prohibits public servants from participating in certain official actions from which the public servant, his or her client(s), a member of the public servant’s extended family, or a business or non-profit with which the public servant or a member of the public servant’s immediate family is associated may receive a reasonably foreseeable financial benefit.

Mr. Brewer will fill the role of a public member, who is not a teacher or state employee, appointed by the Senate on the Board. He is a commercial banker for ParkSterling Bank (“Bank”), which is a financial service, including investments, banking company. As the Bank could seek to do business with the Board, he has the potential for a conflict of interest. Mr. Brewer should exercise appropriate caution in the performance of his public duties should issues involving the Bank come before the Board for official action or otherwise seek to conduct business with the Board. This would include recusing himself to the extent that this interest would influence or could reasonably appear to influence his actions.

In addition to the conflicts standards noted above, N.C.G.S. §138A-32 prohibits public servants from accepting gifts, directly or indirectly (1) from anyone in return for being influenced in the discharge of their official responsibilities, (2) from a lobbyist or lobbyist principal, or (3) from a person or entity which is doing or seeking to do business with the public servant's agency, is regulated or controlled by the public servant's agency, or has particular financial interests that may be affected by the public servant's official actions. Exceptions to the gifts restrictions are set out in N.C.G.S. §138A-32(e).

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 138A-15(c), when an actual or potential conflict of interest is cited by the Commission under N.C.G.S. 138A-24(e) with regard to a public servant sitting on a board, the conflict shall be recorded in the minutes of the applicable board and duly brought to the attention of the membership by the board's chair as often as necessary to remind all members of the conflict and to help ensure compliance with the State Government Ethics Act.

Finally, the State Government Ethics Act mandates that all public servants attend an ethics and lobbying education presentation. Please review the attached document for additional information concerning this requirement.

Please contact our office if you have any questions concerning our evaluation or the ethical standards governing public servants under the State Government Ethics Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anitra Hill", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Anitra Hill  
State Ethics Commission, SEI Unit

cc: W. Lentz Brewer  
Janet Cowell, Board Chair  
Sandra Johnson, Ethics Liaison

Attachment: Ethics Education Flyer