



## *The BEGA/OGE Newsletter*

# ETHICALLY SPEAKING

### **A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR**



Although the Fourth of July holiday is now behind us, the Office of Government Ethics (OGE) is still in the middle of the second quarterly filing period for Lobbying Activity Reports. Lobbying registrants have until July 15, 2019 to report all lobbying activities conducted between April 1, 2019 and June 30, 2019, using BEGA's Lobbying Registration and Reporting (LRR) e-filing system at <https://efiler.bega.dc.gov/LobbyistAccount/Login>.

We are also preparing to initiate enforcement action against designated employees and public officials who failed to file their Financial Disclosure Statements (FDS) during the annual filing season that recently concluded. Late fees can be assessed against non-filers at a rate of \$10 per day up to a maximum of \$300, plus additional penalties may be imposed for deliberate non-compliance with the FDS filing requirements. If you have been designated by your agency as a required Public FDS filer but have not yet filed your statement, we urge you to do so via our e-filing system at <https://efiler.bega.dc.gov/Auth/FDS>. If you have been designated your agency as a required Confidential FDS filer but have not yet submitted your statement with your agency's ethics counselor, we urge you to do so as soon as possible to bring yourself into compliance.

As always, if you have questions or need advice regarding your ethical obligations as a District employee, feel free to contact us at (202) 481-3411 or via email at [bega@dc.gov](mailto:bega@dc.gov).

Regards,  
Brent Wolfingbarger, Director

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**BOARD OF ETHICS AND  
GOVERNMENT  
ACCOUNTABILITY**

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## **BEGA Happenings:**

**On May 2, 2019, Board of Ethics and Government Accountability welcomed two new Board members, Charles Nottingham and Melissa Tucker.**

**Charles “Chip” Nottingham** received his undergraduate degree from Wesleyan University, with a major in history. He worked for three years in the field of environmental policy and regulatory issues at the U.S. Department of Justice, then as a legislative consultant for the American International Group, an international insurance company. After earning his law degree from George Mason University School of Law in Arlington, Virginia, he served as Youth Campaign Advisor, Counsel and Chief of Staff for Congressman Tom Davis of Virginia; Chief of Staff for Congressman Bob Goodlatte of Virginia; Assistant Secretary of Transportation, and Commonwealth Transportation Commissioner for Virginia Governor Jim Gilmore; as Chief Executive Officer of the Virginia Department of Transportation; as Counsel to the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Government Reform; and as associate administrator for policy and governmental affairs at the Federal Highway Administration. In 2006, he was unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve as Chairman of Surface Transportation Board. Since 2014, he has managed a private law practice based in the District.

**Melissa Tucker** is an Attorney Advisor in the Office of Inspector General at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, where she responds to Congressional inquiries regarding OIG audits, evaluations, and investigations. Prior to joining OIG, Ms. Tucker was an Associate Director in the Mayor’s Office of Legal Counsel. She oversaw the adjudication of all Freedom of Information Act appeals submitted to the Mayor and advised District agencies on legislative strategy and personnel issues. Ms. Tucker has also served as an Assistant General Counsel at the Council of the District of Columbia and as an Assistant City Solicitor and Municipal Integrity Officer for the City of Providence in Rhode Island. During Ms. Tucker’s time at the DC Council, she assisted in developing the Council’s first Code of Official Conduct and advised Council members and staff regarding compliance with FOIA and ethics laws. A Ward 3 resident, Ms. Tucker received a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Pennsylvania and a Juris Doctor from Fordham University School of Law. She is admitted to practice law in the District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts.

We are excited to have them on our team. Join us (and them) at our next Board meeting on July 11, 2019.

## ETHICS TIPS!

Leaving District employment soon? Looking to do some outside consulting? BEGA does more than just agency-wide trainings and enforcement. Attorneys are also available for individual counseling sessions regarding any of the Code of Conduct provisions.

If you have any questions about these or other government ethics gifting matters, contact the Board of Ethics and Government Accountability at 202-481-3411 or [beга@dc.gov](mailto:beга@dc.gov).

## Enforcement Matters

- ❖ A District of Columbia Fire and Emergency Medical Services Deputy Chief was recently served with a Notice of Violation for making personnel decisions regarding his son. Read the full text [here](#).
- ❖ A Supervisory Civil Engineer with the District of Columbia's Department of Transportation was fined \$1,000 for failing to disclose her outside interests on 2012 and 2013 Public Financial Disclosure Statements. Read the agreement [here](#).

## Upcoming Events

- ❖ July 11, 2019: 12 p.m. - BEGA monthly Board Meeting 441 4<sup>th</sup> St. NW, Suite 540 South

## Ethics in the News

Last month, the Office of Special Counsel found multiple Hatch Act violations against Kellyanne Conway, Counselor to President Trump. OSC wrote a letter to the President detailing their findings and recommending removal from her position. A copy of the letter and report of the findings is posted [here](#).