

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ETHICS AND GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY



Office of Government Ethics

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 2, 2024

BEGA ORDERS FORMER-EMPLOYEE TO PAY A \$165,000 FINE FOR VIOLATING THE RESTRICTIONS ON OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT

On January 11, 2024, the Board of Ethics and Government Accountability (BEGA) held a full and adversarial hearing in matter #23-0006-F In re David Deboer. During the hearing, the Office of Government Ethics (“OGE”) presented testimony, introduced exhibits, and offered argument. The Respondent, David Deboer, was not present at the hearing. On February 1, 2024, the Board unanimously voted to issue a Board decision finding that Mr. Deboer violated the District government’s Code of Conduct. Specifically, the Board determined that, Mr. Deboer violated 6B DCMR § 1807.1(b) (“DPM”) by working for Enlightened, LLC during his District government tour of duty over the course of 33 months.

From April 13, 2020 to January 25, 2023, Mr. Deboer was employed with the Department of Employment Services (“DOES”) and worked for Enlightened, LLC (“Enlightened”) as a contractor for the DC Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (“CJCC”) building their JUSTIS system. The Board found that Mr. Deboer’s work for Enlightened was incompatible with his position as a District government employee at DOES. By holding two full time positions with overlapping hours, the Board found that Mr. Deboer deprived DOES, and the District government, of the full benefit of his time and attention and his outside employment was therefore not compatible with his work for the District. Based on the evidence the Board determined that Mr. Deboer used government time and resources for other than official business, or government approved or sponsored activities, in violation of DPM § 1807.1(b).

The Board found Mr. Deboer’s actions to be egregious. Because of the serious nature of this matter, the Board orders Mr. Deboer to pay a civil penalty in the amount of **\$165,000 (ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS)**. This matter will be referred to the United States Attorney’s Office for their review of whether additional enforcement or prosecution of Mr. Deboer is warranted.

