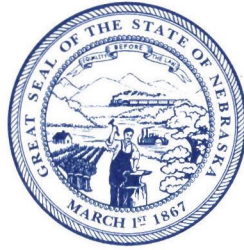


State of Nebraska

Accountability and Disclosure Commission

P.O. BOX 95086
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509
www.nadc.nebraska.gov



Centre Terrace, 1225 L St. #400
Phone (402) 471-2522
Fax (402) 471-6599

Synopsis Case #20-41 Action Taken on June 4, 2021

Respondent: Ronald Hunter

The Respondent was a member of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education who was required to file a Statement of Financial Interests on or before March 1, 2020 and within 30 days after leaving his position on May 6, 2020. He failed to do so in violation of §49-1493 of the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act. The Executive Director of the Commission commenced a Preliminary Investigation on December 10, 2020 alleging a failure to file a Statement of Financial Interests in violation of §49-1493. The required statements were filed on March 22, 2021. A hearing was held on March 23, 2021 before Hearing Officer Karen Flowers. The Respondent did not appear. Thereafter, Hearing Officer Flowers submitted her recommended Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law. On June 4, 2021, the Commission, with nine Commissioners concurring, no Commissioners dissenting and no Commissioners abstaining entered Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and an Order by which:

Violation: The Commission found that the Respondent failed to file a Statement of Financial Interests within 30 days after leaving his position on May 6, 2020 in violation §49-1493 of the NPADA.

Civil Penalty: \$1,000.00 and cost of hearing

Other: The required statements are now on file. The Respondent shall pay the costs of the action.

Attorney for the Commission: Neil B. Danberg

Synopsis Prepared by: Frank Daley ,
Executive Director
Nebraska Accountability & Disclosure Commission
P.O. Box 95086
Lincoln, NE 68509
402-471-2522

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June 4, 2021

Ronald Hunter
4293 470th Lane
Hay Springs, NE 69347

Re: Case #20-41

Dear Mr. Hunter:

Enclosed is a copy of an order issued by Commission today by which it assessed a civil penalty of \$1,000 against you, plus the cost of the hearing. I will be calculating the cost of the hearing and providing that information to you in a separate letter. In the meantime, please direct your check or money order in the amount of \$1,000 to this office. It should be made payable to State of Nebraska.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Frank J. Daley, Jr.
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank J. Daley, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA ACCOUNTABILITY AND DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

)	
)	Case #20-41
)	
In the Matter of Ronald Hunter)	Findings of Fact, Conclusions of
)	Law and Order

This matter was heard on March 23, 2021 before Hearing Officer Karen Flowers. The allegation is that Ronald Hunter failed to file a Statement of Financial Interests in violation of §49-1493 of the NPADA. Appearing on behalf of the Commission was Neil Danberg. Though properly served there was no appearance by or on behalf of the Respondent, Ronald Hunter. Evidence was presented by way of the testimony of Frank Daley, Executive Director of the NADC and the receipt of Exhibits 1 and 3-13. Judicial Notice was taken of the relevant statutes. The matter was submitted. Thereafter, the Hearing Officer submitted recommended findings of fact and conclusions of law.

Findings of Fact

In 2019 Ronald Hunter was a member of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education (the Commission). As such he was required to file a statement of financial interest (known as a form C-1) for the period covering January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019. By statute, such filing was due by March 1, 2020. Mr. Hunter did not file a C-1 by the statutory deadline. The NADC contacted Mr. Hunter by mail to remind him of his duty to file and extended the deadline. (E3, E4). Mr. Hunter did not respond.

In 2020 Ronald Hunter resigned from the Commission and the Governor accepted his resignation on May 6, 2020 (E1, E5). Following his resignation, Mr. Hunter had a duty to file a C-1 covering the period from January 1, 2020 through the date of his resignation. By statute, he had until June 6, 2020 to do so. By mail the NADC reminded Mr. Hunter of this duty to file and extended the deadline (E6). Mr. Hunter did not respond.

In December of 2020 Mr. Hunter was notified that the NADC was conducting a preliminary investigation to determine whether there was probable cause to believe that he was in

violation of the Accountability and Disclosure Act for failure to file one or more C-1s covering the period from January 1, 2019 through May 6, 2020 (E7). The Commission determined there was probable cause and set the matter for hearing on March 23, 2021 (E8-10, E12). On March 22, 2021, Mr. Hunter filed two C-1s covering the period from January 1, 2019 to March, 2021 (E13). The filing was not accompanied by any explanation for its lateness.

Conclusions of Law

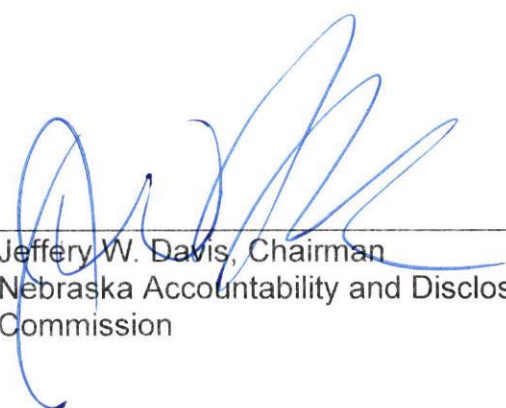
Based on the forgoing findings of fact Ronald Hunter violated the provisions of the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Act, specifically Neb. Rev. Stat. 49-1493, by failing to file one or more statements of financial interest (C-1s) covering the period from January 1, 2019 through May 6, 2020 within the time allowed by statute or any extension thereof.

Order

Wherefore, with 9 Commissioners concurring, 0 Commissioners dissenting and 0 abstaining, the Commission adopts the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth above and finds that Ronald Hunter failed to file a Statement of Financial Interests in violation of §419-1493 of the NPADA.

Wherefore, with 9 Commissioners concurring, 0 Commissioners dissenting, 0 abstaining, the Commission orders Ronald Hunter to pay a civil penalty of \$1,000.00 and pay the costs of hearing.

Dated this 4 day of June 2021.

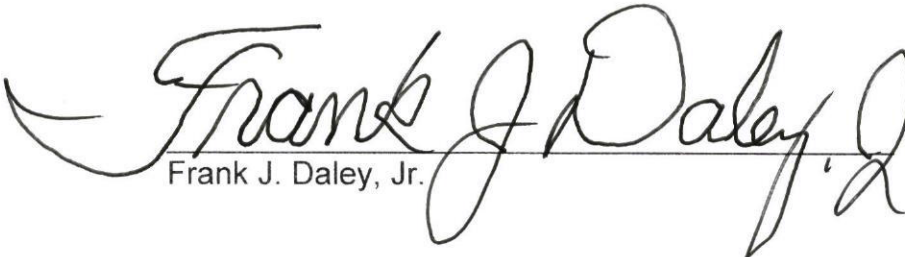


Jeffery W. Davis, Chairman
Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure
Commission

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

A copy of this Order ~~was~~ sent certified U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested on this 4th day of June 2021 to the following person at the following address:

Ronald Hunter
4293 470th Lane
Hay Springs, NE 69347


Frank J. Daley, Jr.