## STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

In re: Randall Fine,

Respondent.

DOAH Case No.: 23-2760EC Complaint No.: 22-079

## JOINT STATUS REPORT

COMES NOW, Advocate for the Commission on Ethics and Respondent's counsel,

Richard Coates, file this joint status report and state as follows:

1. On August 1, 2023, the Parties filed a Joint Response to Initial Order stating:

Due to the accelerated schedule of the upcoming 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature, the attendant advance committee weeks and bill filing and appropriation requires deadlines, all Parties cannot provide suggested hearing dates within the time frames set forth in the Initial Order. The Parties agree that discovery should proceed as the availability of the Parties will allow.

2. On August 2, 2023, the Administrative Law Judge entered an Order Granting the Extension of Time and mandated the Parties file a Joint Status Report on or before September 25, 2023, setting forth multiple mutually available dates for a three-day hearing.

3. The compressed schedule of the upcoming Regular Legislative Session continues to pose scheduling problems, when coupled with deadlines for budget items. Most likely, if required, a final hearing in this matter cannot be scheduled until after the upcoming committee weeks and Regular Session of the Legislature. Nevertheless, the parties will proceed with the discovery process.

4. The Commission Advocate and counsel for Respondent have engaged in discussions to resolve the pending matter, which would avoid the need for future litigation before this agency. As such, the parties respectfully request that the Administrative Law Judge allow the parties to continue their discussions and provide a second status report within forty-five (45) days of the date herein.

## **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

aboth C. WIDDIN

ELIZABETH A. MILLER Advocate for the Florida Commission on Ethics Florida Bar No. 578411 Office of the Attorney General The Capitol, PL-01 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050 Telephone: (850) 414-3300, Ext. 3702 Facsimile: (850) 488-4872 elizabeth.miller@myfloridalegal.com

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the copy of the forgoing was sent to Counsels for Respondent, Suite 1, Tallahassee, Florida 32301, Richard Coates, 115 East Park Avenue, rcoates@rcoateslaw.com and sgreen@rcoateslaw.com and George Levesque, 301 S. Bronough george.levesque@gray-robsinson.com Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32301, and becky.emerson@gray-robinson.com via email only, this  $\frac{25^{\text{th}}}{25^{\text{th}}}$  day of September, 2023.

<u>Elizabeth A. Miller</u> CROBBY