

ETHICS COMPLAINT SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Ethics Complaint Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) is entered into by Lynnwood City Councilperson Patrick Decker, Councilperson Josh Binda, and Noel Treat (as Board Counsel to the City Board of Ethics).

Councilperson Decker, on behalf of the City Council, filed an Ethics Complaint on January 25, 2023, alleging that Councilperson Binda violated the City Ethics Code by using City property and email to conduct a personal business. As permitted under Lynnwood Municipal Code 2.94.080.B.2, the parties hereby agree to resolve the Ethics Complaint with this settlement. To this end, it is agreed as follows:

1. From December, 2022 to January, 2023, Councilperson Binda used the City email system to send or receive numerous emails regarding speaking engagements with school districts. He was compensated for some of these engagements. The emails included those in which he solicited engagements, arranged for contacts and payment, and promoted his speaking tour. Councilperson Binda also entered City Council Chambers after hours to film a video promoting a speaking engagement. The use of City email and use of Council Chambers in this manner is use of City property for personal benefit or gain and constitute a violation of the City Ethics Code as codified in Lynnwood Municipal Code 2.94.030.B.
2. Councilperson Binda was not aware at the time that his activities violated the Ethics Code and he did not knowingly commit a violation. From here on, Councilperson Binda agrees not to use any City property, facilities or email in violation of the Ethics Code. This includes, but is not limited to, Councilperson Binda agreeing to not use City email or Council chambers to promote or conduct any personal business. Councilperson Binda will do all he can to avoid future Ethics Code violations and will diligently seek to learn, understand and follow the Ethics Code, as well as other City Council and elected official rules and regulations.
3. This Agreement fully resolves the issues raised by the Ethics Complaint filed by Councilperson Decker and no further action will be taken by the Board Counsel, the Board of Ethics or the City Council with regard to the Complaint.

ACCEPTED AND AGREED TO this _____ day of May, 2023.

PATRICK DECKER, Councilperson

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ACCEPTED AND AGREED TO this _____ day of May, 2023.

JOSH BINDA, Councilperson

ACCEPTED AND AGREED TO this _____ day of May, 2023.

NOEL TREAT, Board Counsel to City
Board of Ethics