

**BEFORE THE WEST VIRGINIA ETHICS COMMISSION**

**In Re:**

**ROGER LEATHERMAN,  
County Commissioner,  
Mineral County,  
Respondent.**

**COMPLAINT NO. VCRB 2023-44**

**FINAL DECISION AND ORDER**

This matter came for consideration before the West Virginia Ethics Commission during its regularly scheduled meeting on January 8, 2026, following a public hearing conducted on July 23, 2025. This proceeding arises under the West Virginia Governmental Ethics Act, W. Va. Code §§ 6B-2-1 through 6B-3-11 ("Ethics Act").

The public hearing on the Complaint was held in Charleston, West Virginia, on July 23, 2025, with Jeffrey G. Blaydes presiding as the independent Hearing Examiner. At the hearing, the Commission was represented by its General Counsel John E. Roush and Deputy General Counsel, John N. Ellem. The Respondent was represented by Jason Sites, Esq., who appeared by teleconference.

The Commission, with two-thirds of the Commission members present and voting, considered the hearing record, which includes the Probable Cause Order, Statement of Charges and Notice of Hearing, the Hearing Examiner's Recommended Decision, and the hearing transcript with exhibits.

The Commission adopts the Hearing Examiner's Recommended Decision, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

**ORDER**

Based on the foregoing, the West Virginia Ethics Commission finds the evidence did not establish, by the standard of clear and convincing evidence, that the Respondent violated the Ethics Act.

This Order was entered on the 8th day of January 2026.

/s/ Robert J. Wolfe  
Robert J. Wolfe, Chairperson  
West Virginia Ethics Commission

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Kimberly B. Weber, Executive Director of the West Virginia Ethics Commission, do hereby certify that I mailed a true and complete copy of the foregoing **FINAL DECISION AND ORDER** on January 8, 2026, to:

***Via Electronic Mail, U.S. Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested:***

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**Counsel for Respondent**

***Via Electronic Mail and Hand Delivery:***

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/s/ Kimberly B. Weber  
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