

BEFORE THE WEST VIRGINIA ETHICS COMMISSION

In the matter of: Verified Complaint No. 2009-19

Respondent: Robert Daquilante, Former Ritchie County School Superintendent

STATEMENT OF CHARGES AND NOTICE OF HEARING

On or about September 8, 2009, an ethics complaint was filed against Robert Daquilante, Ritchie County School Superintendent, and was referred to the West Virginia Ethics Commission's Probable Cause Review Board.

On June 15, 2011, the members of the Probable Cause Review Board, by unanimous vote, entered an Order finding probable cause to believe that the Respondent violated W. Va. Code § 6B-2-5, and directing the preparation of this Statement of Charges.

The members of the Probable Cause Review Board charge that Robert Daquilante did knowingly and intentionally use his office for his own private gain and/or for the private gain of others, in violation of W. Va. Code § 6B-2-5(b).

It is hereby charged that Respondent Daquilante violated the Ethics Act as follows:

COUNT I

Robert Daquilante, in his capacity as Ritchie County School Superintendent used his position to tailor the Athletic Director position and salary to suit his friend/associate, Patrick Allen, and he directed his subordinate employees to select/recommend Allen to ensure Allen's employment as Athletic Director.


COUNT II

Robert Daquilante knowingly caused two "volunteers", Louie Nocida and Tom Cowan, to be compensated from Athletic Department funds characterized as mileage reimbursement, without the authorization or approval of the Board of Education (BOE).

NOTICE OF HEARING

You are hereby notified that at a specific place, date and time to be determined, a public hearing will be held, to determine the truth or falsity of the charges against you contained in the foregoing Statement of Charges.

Pursuant to the direction of the Commission, an independent hearing examiner appointed by the Commission will preside at the hearing. The record compiled by the hearing examiner will then be submitted to the members of the Ethics Commission who will make a final decision in this case.



Theresa M. Kirk
Executive Director

6-22-2011
Date

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