

**OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES
OF THE
PALM BEACH COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS (COE)
PRETRIAL CONFERENCE
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

DECEMBER 21, 2022

**WEDNESDAY
1:30 P.M.**

**WEBEX TELECONFERENCE
WEISMAN GOVERNMENTAL CENTER**

COUNTY STAFF PRESENT:

Rhonda Giger, COE General Counsel
Mark A. Higgs, COE Investigator II
Abigail Irizarry, COE Investigator II
Christie Kelley, COE Director III
Gina A. Levesque, COE Intake and Compliance Manager

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE STAFF PRESENT:

Jillian Zalewska, Deputy Clerk

ALSO PRESENT:

Elizabeth R. Clark, Hearing Officer
John Cleary, Counsel for Respondent
Kenneth Payne, Respondent

Ms. Levesque said that the pre-trial conference concerned Case No. C22-005 against respondent Kenneth Payne.

Ms. Clark began the hearing at 1:44 p.m.

No appearances were stated for the record.

No motions were considered.

Mr. Cleary said that an offer extended on his client's behalf was rejected, and Mr. Payne was prepared to appear at his hearing.

Mr. Payne concurred that he wanted his case to be heard and to submit evidence for consideration.

In response to questions from Ms. Clark, Mr. Payne and Mr. Cleary said they were aware that the hearing was scheduled for February 8, 2023, and were prepared to proceed on that date.

Ms. Clark inquired if there were any additional matters to be addressed before the hearing.

Ms. Levesque asked if Ms. Clark wanted to set a deadline for submission of witness and exhibit lists.

Ms. Clark suggested 5:00 p.m. on January 10, 2023, as a deadline, and all parties agreed.

Ms. Levesque asked if Ms. Clark wanted to set a deadline for final motions.

Ms. Clark suggested 5:00 p.m. on January 10, 2023, as a deadline, and all parties agreed.

Ms. Clark asked if there were any additional matters to discuss.

Ms. Levesque confirmed that the January 10, 2023, deadline applied to all discovery, witness lists, exhibit lists, and motions.

Ms. Levesque inquired if she or Ms. Clark should create the order, and Ms. Clark requested that Ms. Levesque create the order and submit it to Ms. Clark, who would sign it and distribute it to all parties.

The parties agreed that there were no other matters to discuss.

Ms. Clark declared the hearing concluded at 1:50 p.m.

APPROVED:

Chair/Vice Chair