

Reprimand of Rashad Cash

On December 15, 2022, the DeKalb County Board of Ethics conducted a final hearing on the matter of Malcolm Whichard against Rashad Cash. Upon conclusion of the evidence, the Board of Ethics voted to find the following violations of the Ethics Code by Rashad Cash:

Rashad Cash had the responsibility of overseeing that the County facilities treating the public water supply were adequately protected. Rashad Cash's responsibilities were a key part of a \$10.5 million public contract approved by the governing authority during his tenure as an employee with DeKalb County. Rather than focusing on this public aim, Rashad Cash became unduly embroiled in personal pursuits with contract security officers retained by the County as part of the public contract. The Board of Ethics found beyond a preponderance of the evidence Rashad Cash had a "gross conflict of interest" by becoming personally involved with these contract security officers and engaged in retaliatory acts towards other officers and Department of Watershed Management ("DWM") employees in furtherance of his personal pursuits.

The actions of Rashad Cash served as a clear violation of Section 22A (c)(1) of the Ethics Code, which provides that "[n]o official or employee of DeKalb County shall . . . by his or her conduct give reasonable basis for the impression that any person can improperly influence him or her or unduly enjoy his or her favor in the performance of his or her official acts or actions or that he or she is affected by the rank or position of or kinship or association with any person . . ." (Emphasis supplied).

In light of the evidence presented and the violations found, the Board of Ethics is issuing this public reprimand pursuant to 22A (k)(B) of the Ethics Code.

It is vital to the proper functioning of DeKalb County government that citizens have confidence in the integrity of their officials and employees and to attain this trust it is essential that the employees and officers do not impair public confidence in government.

As a DeKalb County employee, Rashad Cash did not uphold the ethical standards as required by the DeKalb Code and breached the trust of DeKalb citizens who rely on their government officials and employees. It is therefore necessary to reprimand Rashad Cash for his actions and violations of the DeKalb Ethics Code.

Elisa Murphy
Chief Ethics Officer
02/08/2023