State of Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission

P.O. BOX 95086 Lincoln, Nebraska 68509 www.nadc.nebraska.gov



Centre Terrace, 1225 L St. #400 Phone (402) 471-2522 Fax (402) 471-6599

Synopsis Case #19-01 Action Taken on June 7, 2019

Respondent: Sanford Goshorn

Respondent Sanford Goshorn is the Stanton County Director of Emergency Management. On February 13, 2019 a Complaint was filed by Stanton County resident Jena Orlowski alleging that Goshorn permitted a Stanton County vehicle to be used for a personal, non-governmental purpose. Specifically, it was alleged that a person who was not a county employee was permitted to use the vehicle to travel from Stanton to a hospital in Norfolk and back. A Preliminary Investigation was commenced on February 20, 2019 alleging the Respondent authorized the use of public resources other than in accordance with law in violation of §49-14,101.01(2) of the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act. The parties entered into a settlement agreement by the terms of which the Commission could find a violation of §49-14,101.01(2) and assess a civil penalty of up to \$250.00. The Commission approved the Settlement Agreement with seven Commissioners concurring, no Commissioners dissenting, and no Commissioners abstaining. The Commission assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$250.00.

Violation: Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, the Commission found that the Respondent authorized the use of a public resource for a non-government purpose in violation §49-14,101.01(2) of the NPADA.

Civil Penalty: \$250.00

Attorney for the Respondent: None

Attorney for the Commission: Neil Danberg

Synopsis Prepared by: Frank Daley

Executive Director

Nebraska Accountability & Disclosure Commission

P.O. Box 95086 Lincoln, NE 68509 402-471-2522

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA ACCOUNTABILITY AND DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

In the Matter of Sanford Goshorn,)	Case #1901
)	
Respondent)	ORDER

Now on this 7th day of June, 2019, this matter comes before the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission. Commissioners Callahan, Carlson, Davis, Evnen, Loudon, Peetz and Sullivan are present with Commissioner Davis presiding. Commissioners Enenbach and Hegarty are excused. The Respondent is not present. The Commission notes the submission of a proposed Settlement Agreement.

Whereupon, the Commission, with seven (7) Commissioners concurring, no Commissioners dissenting, and no Commissioners abstaining, finds that the attached Settlement Agreement should be and hereby is approved and incorporated into this Order. Pursuant to that Agreement, the Commission finds that the Respondent, Sanford Goshorn has committed a violation of Nebraska Revised Statutes, Section 49-14,101.01, as more fully set forth in the attached Settlement Agreement.

Pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement, the Commission elects to impose a civil penalty in the amount of \$250 upon the Respondent, Sanford Goshorn.

Issued this 7th day of June, 2019.

Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission

Frank J. Daley, Jr Executive Director

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of this Order was sent by certified U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested on this _____ day of June, 2019, to the following person at the following address: Sanford Goshorn, P.O. Box 325, Stanton, NE 68779.

Frank J. Daley, Jr. Executive Director/

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA ACCOUNTABILITY AND DISCLOSURE COMMISSION CASE No. 19-01

In the Matter of Sanford Goshorn



- 1) <u>Parties</u>: The parties to this Settlement Agreement (hereinafter "Agreement") are the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission, hereafter referred to as the "Commission" and Sanford Goshorn, hereafter referred to as the "Respondent".
- 2) <u>Jurisdiction:</u> The Respondent acknowledges the jurisdiction of the Commission pursuant to the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act ("NPADA").
- 3) <u>Intention:</u> The parties hereby agree and intend that this Agreement shall constitute a waiver of any further proceedings in this matter, thereby resolving the matter without further delay and expense to the parties.
- 4) The Alleged Violation: In its Notice of Preliminary Investigation in this case, the Commission alleged the Respondent, as the Stanton County Emergency Manager, committed a violation of the NPADA, Section 49-14,101.01, on December 3, 2018, by authorizing the use of a publicly owned vehicle under his official care and control for a purpose other than in accordance with prescribed constitutional, statutory or regulatory procedures.
- 5) <u>The Alleged Violation: Stipulation:</u> The Respondent and the Commission stipulate and agree that at the time of the alleged violation, the Respondent was a public official as the Stanton County Emergency Manager, and that on December 3, 2018, he did have a publicly owned vehicle under his care and control.
- The Alleged Violation: Agreement: With respect to the Violation, as described above in Paragraph 4, the Respondent and the Commission hereby agree that the Respondent will accept a finding by the Commission of a violation of Section 49-14,101.01. In this regard, the Respondent states that it was not his intention to violate Nebraska law as alleged. Nonetheless, the Respondent agrees and stipulates that if this matter proceeded to a hearing, there is sufficient evidence from which the Commission could make a finding that there has been a violation as alleged in the Notice of Preliminary Investigation and as described in Paragraph 4, above. Respondent Sanford Goshorn further agrees that the Commission may enter an order in accordance with said findings, and he would not contest such an order.
- 7) <u>Limitation of Civil Penalty:</u> The parties have agreed that, upon acceptance of this Agreement by the Commission, the Commission may, but is not required to, impose a civil penalty upon the Respondent, Sanford Goshorn. The parties further agree

that In the event the Commission elects to impose a civil penalty, such penalty will not exceed the amount of \$250.00.

- 8) The Commission must approve this Agreement in order for it to be effective: The parties agree that in order for this Agreement to become effective, the Commission must approve it and shall, if it approves the Settlement, enter an Order in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.
- 9) Effective Date of Agreement: This Agreement shall not be binding upon the parties until the date it is approved by the Commission, and the Commission issues an order in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. The date upon which the Commission enters its Order approving this Agreement shall be deemed its effective date. If this Agreement is not approved in whole by the Commission, this Settlement Agreement shall be void and may not be used in this or any other proceeding. The parties acknowledge that this Settlement Agreement and any subsequent Order shall be announced at an open public meeting of the Commission. The parties further acknowledge that, upon adoption, this Settlement Agreement, the Order, and the Commission's file pertaining to this matter shall become open and public.
- 10) Right to Address the Commission: The Respondent has a right to address the Commission on the matter of the approval of this Settlement Agreement.

11) <u>Advice of Counsel:</u> The Respondent acknowledges that he has had an opportunity to seek the advice of his attorney in connection with the terms of this agreement.

Sanford Goshorn

Respondent

rank J. Daley, Jr., Executive Director

Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission