

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF ETHICAL CONDUCT  
OF THE  
METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY  
TENNESSEE**

Nicole Weatherspoon,	)
	)
Complainant	)
	)
v.	)
	)
Joy Styles, Member of the Metropolitan Council	)
	)
Respondent	)
_____	)

**ORDER**

This matter came to be heard before the Board of Ethical Conduct (“Board”) of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County on November 8, 2022, pursuant to a complaint filed by Nicole Weatherspoon (“Complainant”), against Joy Styles, a member of the Metropolitan Council (“Respondent”). The Complainant filed this matter on October 13, 2022, as an ethics complaint pursuant to the procedures set out in section 2.222.040 of the Metropolitan Code.

The complaint alleged that the Respondent failed to follow proper protocol and misused her official position with the Metropolitan Council by contacting Performance Towing & Recovery and authorizing the removal of Complainant’s vehicle with a flat tire from a public road. The complaint addressed allegations that the Respondent violated four Metropolitan Code sections: 2.222.020(d), 2.222.020(i), 2.222.020(k) and 2.222.020(m).

Pursuant to the provisions of section 2.222.040(C)(1)(e) of the Metropolitan Code, the Department of Law evaluated the allegations of the complaint for the purpose of determining whether the facts as alleged, if proven true, would give rise to a violation of the Standards of Conduct. Upon completing its evaluation, the Department of Law concluded that the allegations in the complaint, if proven true, could constitute a violation of the Standards of

Conduct set forth in two sections of the Metropolitan Code: 2.222.020(i) and 2.222.020(m). Accordingly, the Department of Law recommended that the Board hold a hearing on allegations in the complaint concerning violations of sections 2.222.020(i) and 2.222.020(m) of the Metropolitan Code.

The Department of Law further concluded that the facts alleged in the complaint are insufficient to establish violations of the other two sections of the Metropolitan Code: 2.222.020(d) and 2.222.020(k). Accordingly, the Department of Law recommended that the Board dismiss the allegations in the complaint that the Respondent violated sections 2.222.020(d) and 2.222.020(k) of the Metropolitan Code.

The Board, after receiving the recommendations of the Department of Law, in an open meeting, considered the allegations against the Respondent. Following Board deliberation, motions were made and properly seconded to adopt the recommendations of the Department of Law that: (1) a hearing be held on allegations that the Respondent violated sections 2.222.020(i) and 2.222.020(m) of the Metropolitan Code; and (2) allegations that the Respondent violated sections 2.222.020(d) and 2.222.020(k) of the Metropolitan Code be dismissed. The Board voted (4-0) in favor of the motions.


IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF ETHICAL CONDUCT, that:

- I. (a) A hearing shall be held on the allegations in the complaint that the Respondent, Joy Styles, violated sections 2.222.020(i) and 2.222.020(m) of the Metropolitan Code.
- (b) The hearing is set for **Thursday, December 1, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.**
- (c) The hearing shall be conducted pursuant to the procedures outlined in section 2.222.040(C)(2) of the Metropolitan Code and the Hearing Procedures adopted by the Board.
- (d) If a party wishes to submit material to the Board, the party must file such material with the Metropolitan Clerk, and provide a copy of the same to the other party, no later than November 28, 2022.

(e) Each party must file with the Metropolitan Clerk a list of witnesses that the party intends to call at the hearing, and provide a copy of the same to the other party, no later than November 28, 2022.

II. The allegations in the complaint that the Respondent, Joy Styles, violated Metropolitan Code sections 2.222.020(d) and 2.222.020(k) are hereby dismissed.

Entered, this the 11<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022.

  
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Diane DiIanni, Chairperson  
Metropolitan Board of Ethical Conduct

cc: Complainant, Ms. Nicole Weatherspoon  
Respondent, Councilmember Joy Styles