

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ETHICS AND GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY**



IN THE MATTER OF:

Date: May 27, 2026

M [REDACTED] Johnson

CASE NO: 24-0069-P

ORDER

Pursuant to the authority conferred by D.C. Official Code § 1-1162.12 and pursuant to authorization by the Board of Ethics and Government Accountability (“BEGA”), the Director of Government Ethics has conducted a preliminary investigation into allegations that the Respondent, [REDACTED] Johnson, violated the District of Columbia’s Code of Conduct.

Based on the results of the preliminary investigation, and the Show Cause Hearing held on August 27, 2025, the Director of Government Ethics has determined that the Respondent’s actions violated District Personnel Regulation, 6B DCMR § 1807.1(h). Pursuant to 3 DCMR § 5535.4, Respondent is hereby ORDERED to pay a fine in the amount of \$1,000 no later than June 24, 2026.

Statement of the Case

This matter was a preliminary investigation into allegations that Respondent, a Teacher for the District of Columbia Public Schools (“DCPS”), violated the ethics rules by operating a before/aftercare business in the same school in which she worked.

Summary of Evidence

At the time of the investigation, Respondent was a Teacher at Ludlow-Taylor Elementary School (“Ludlow-Taylor”). Respondent also owned and operated, Rising Stars Extended Care, LLC (“Rising Stars”), a before and after school care program for elementary school aged children. From 2022 to 2024, Respondent operated the before and after school care program at Ludlow-Taylor. She had approximately 19 employees that assist her with the program. Her rates for care ranged between \$100 and \$300, depending on the number of children enrolled in the program.

On August 1, 2022, Respondent completed and signed a Building Use Agreement (“BUA”) application on behalf of her business, Rising Stars. In the application, Respondent stated that she desired to provide affordable before and after care programming. Based on the representations made in the application, Respondent was to use the Ludlow-Taylor facility from August 2022

through June 2023. Respondent then submitted the application to the Department of General Services (“DGS”) for their approval. DGS approved the application and granted Respondent use of eight (8) classrooms in Ludlow-Taylor for before and after school enrichment services. Respondent signed the BUA on behalf of her company.

On August 1, 2023, Respondent signed and submitted a BUA application on behalf of her business, Rising Stars, for the upcoming school year, spanning from August 2023 through June 2024. On August 28, 2023, Respondent signed the subsequent BUA. Respondent cited again on the application, that she desired to provide affordable before and after school programming at Ludlow-Taylor.

On November 28, 2023, Respondent entered into and signed a Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) between her company, Rising Stars, and DCPS. Respondent was to provide academic, wellness, and/or enrichment services or activities to DCPS students before and after school throughout the school year for a period of five years with the option to extend the agreement an additional two years.

Conclusions of Law

Based on the evidence of record, I therefore conclude:

1. The District Personnel Regulation, 6B DCMR § 1807.1 provides that employees shall not engage in any outside employment or other activity incompatible with the full and proper discharge of his or her duties and responsibilities.
2. 6B DCMR § 1807.1(h) provides that employees shall not serve in a representative capacity or as an agent or attorney for any outside entity involving any matter before the District of Columbia.
3. D.C. Official Code § 1-1162.21(a)(3) states that the Board [of Ethics and Government Accountability] may issue a schedule of fines for violations of [the Code of Conduct], which may be imposed ministerially by the Director of Government Ethics. The Board has so issued that Schedule of Fines.¹
4. Respondent violated 6B DCMR § 1807.1(h) when she provided before and aftercare at Ludlow-Taylor and signed and submitted: a Memorandum of Agreement with DCPS, two Building Use Agreement applications, and two Building Use Agreements on behalf of her company.

WHEREFORE, pursuant to the authority conferred upon me by D.C. Official Code § 1–1162.21(a)(3) and 3 DCMR § 5535.1, it is hereby ORDERED that a ministerial fine in the amount of ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00) is assessed against the Respondent. Pursuant to 3 DCMR § 5535.4, this fine shall be effective on June 12, 2026. Respondent shall make payment by June 24, 2026, via certified check or money order made out to the D.C.

¹ See 3 DCMR § 5530, *et seq.*

Treasurer on behalf of BEGA or by using the following payment link:
<https://dcwebforms.dc.gov/pay/bega1/> and referencing 24-0069-P.



ASHLEY COOKS
Director of Government Ethics

5/27/2026
DATE

SERVICE OF ORDER



NOTICE

Any party adversely affected by this Order may file an appeal with the Board of Ethics and Government Accountability at 1030 15th Street N.W., Suite 700 West, Washington, D.C. 20005, or by emailing bega@dc.gov. All such appeals must be received by the Board no later than fifteen (15) days from the date of this Order.