

In the Matter of
Jennifer Lambert
Respondent

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Before the
State Ethics Commission
Complaint No. C-12-25

ORDER

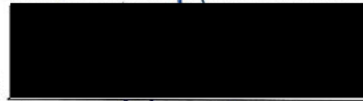
Having considered the Stipulation of Settlement Agreement entered into between the Respondent, Jennifer Lambert, and Katherine P. Thompson, Staff Counsel to the State Ethics Commission, on July 21, 2026, the State Ethics Commission hereby determines that the matter complained of herein has been settled by the Respondent's execution of the Stipulation of Settlement Agreement, attached hereto and made part hereof.

ORDERED, that the Respondent is reprimanded, and that this Order and the Stipulation of Settlement Agreement are public documents.

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

Date: September 17, 2026

By:



Craig D. Roswell, Chair

In the Matter of:

JENNIFER LAMBERT

Respondent

Before the State Ethics Commission

Complaint No. C-12-25

STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Stipulation of Settlement Agreement (hereinafter "Agreement") was made on the 21st day of July 2026, between Jennifer Lambert, Respondent, and Katherine P. Thompson, Staff Counsel to the State Ethics Commission ("Staff Counsel").

STIPULATIONS

1. The State Ethics Commission ("the Commission") is an executive agency of the State of Maryland established for the purpose of enforcing the Maryland Public Ethics Law (General Provisions Article, Title 5, Annotated Code of Maryland, (hereinafter the "Ethics Law")).
2. Jennifer Lambert (the "Respondent") was, at all times relevant to this matter, employed by the Office of the Register of Wills for Anne Arundel County, and an employee subject to the conflicts of interest provisions of the Ethics Law.
3. The Respondent is employed as Chief Deputy for the Office of the Register of Wills for Anne Arundel County.
4. On October 7, 2025, the Commission received correspondence from an individual (the "Complainant") requesting that a complaint be issued against the Respondent for using State resources for political gain of another. The Commission met on November 13, 2025, and authorized the issuance of the complaint. Staff Counsel was directed to perform a preliminary investigation into the matter.
5. On November 20, 2025, a copy of the redacted Complaint issued in proceeding C-12-25 was sent via regular mail and electronic mail to the Respondent.
6. The Respondent posted a photograph of herself holding a political campaign car magnet on social media. The photograph was taken in the Office of the Register of Wills for Anne Arundel County. The photograph shows that it was taken during normal working hours in an area where no members of the public were present in the office, and during the Respondent's assigned lunch hour. The social media post contained no mention of the Respondent's State position, and there was no solicitation for political campaign contributions. The social media post has since been deleted. No other ethics violations were found during Staff Counsel's

investigation into the matter.

7. Section 5-506(a)(1)(i) of the Ethics Law prohibits a State employee or official from intentionally using the prestige of his or her office for his or her own private gain or that of another. Section 5-506(c)(1) of the Ethics Law prohibits a public official or employee from using public resources or the title of the public official or employee to solicit a political contribution.
8. The Respondent has been forthright in her cooperation in Staff Counsel's review of this matter.
9. The Respondent is voluntarily entering into this Agreement to admit a certain violation of the Ethics Law, to accept certain sanctions, and to resolve the matter now pending against her without a hearing before the Commission.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the agreed facts contained herein, and effective on the date of the Commission's acceptance of the terms of this Agreement, Jennifer Lambert, Respondent, and Katherine P. Thompson, Staff Counsel, agree as follows:

- A. The Respondent admits that the use of State resources for political activity is a violation of the prohibition against using the prestige of one's office for their private gain or that of another contained in § 5-506(a)(1)(i) of the Ethics Law.
- B. The Respondent understands that a violation of the conflicts of interest provisions of the Ethics Law may result in civil fines pursuant to § 5-902 of the Ethics Law. The Respondent further agrees to pay, in lieu of potential fines, the sum of ONE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$100.00) for the above admitted violation of the Ethics Law. That said sum will be paid by check or money order made payable to the "State of Maryland" in care of the Commission on or before August 14, 2026. The fee shall be distributed to the Fair Campaign Financing Fund established under § 15-103 of the Fair Campaign Finance Article. If the fee is not paid, it is agreed that the matter will be transferred to the Maryland State Central Collection Unit for the purpose of collecting the monies owed.
- C. This Agreement will serve as a reprimand to the Respondent for the above admitted violation of the Ethics Law effective the date of the Commission's acceptance of this Agreement.
- D. The Commission will transmit a copy of this Agreement to the Complainant and the Register of Wills for Anne Arundel County.

- E. The Respondent waives any formal proceedings and hearing in this matter if the Commission accepts this Agreement and agrees that acceptance of this Agreement by the Commission constitutes a final action and finding of a violation by the Commission.
- F. The Respondent further agrees that this Agreement is not subject to the confidentiality provisions of the Ethics Law and will be public information unless otherwise protected.
- G. Upon execution of this Agreement by the Respondent, Staff Counsel will recommend that the Commission suspend any further proceedings against the Respondent and recommend further that the Commission issue a Final Order consistent with the terms of this Agreement. Should the Respondent fail to comply with the terms of this Agreement, and after written notice to her, the Commission reserves the right to issue a further order regarding this matter or to schedule a hearing in this matter.
- H. In the event that the Commission declines to accept this Agreement, both the Respondent and Staff Counsel are relieved of their respective obligations hereunder, and neither this Agreement, nor any admission it may contain, shall be admissible in any subsequent proceeding by the Commission.
- I. The Respondent and Staff Counsel are entering into this Agreement for the sole purpose of resolving this matter and for no other purpose.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Jennifer Lambert, Respondent, and Katherine P. Thompson, Staff Counsel, State Ethics Commission, have hereunto set their hands.


Katherine P. Thompson, Staff Counsel
State Ethics Commission
45 Calvert Street, 3rd Floor
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(410) 260-7770


Jennifer Lambert

State of Maryland
County of: Anne Arundel, to wit:

Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared Jennifer Lambert, who made oath in due form of law on this 21st day of July 2026, that the matters and facts hereinabove set forth in the Stipulation of Settlement Agreement are true to the best of her knowledge, information and belief and it is her voluntary act and that she executed this Agreement for the purposes set forth herein.

[Redacted Signature]
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: June 20, 2029



State of Maryland,
County of: Anne Arundel, to wit:

Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared Katherine P. Thompson, Staff Counsel to the State Ethics Commission, who made oath on this 21st day of July 2026, in due form of law that she executed this Agreement for the purposes therein contained.

[Redacted Signature]
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: June 20, 2029



Accepted by the Commission

Date: Sept. 17, 2026

[Redacted Signature]
Craig D. Roswell, Chair
for the Commission