

## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

## **EXECUTIVE BRANCH ETHICS COMMISSION**

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Press Release Date: September 23, 2024 Contact: Susan Stokley Clary (502) 564-7954 Susan.Clary@ky.gov

FRANKFORT, KY – At its September 19, 2024 meeting, the Executive Branch Ethics Commission ("the Commission) found Tara Reynolds, Harrodsburg, Kentucky, in violation of KRS Chapter 11A, the Executive Branch Code of Ethics.

In a Settlement Agreement approved by the Commission, Ms. Reynolds admitted to four counts of violating the Code of Ethics, KRS 11A.020(1)(a), (c) and (d). Specifically, while employed as a Fiscal Manager, Kentucky School for the Deaf, ("KSD"), Department of Education, Ms. Reynolds used her state email to prepare and modify a bid for a state service on behalf of her husband's private company. In addition, she used her knowledge of the state procurement process to facilitate acceptance of the bid. Ms. Reynolds also used her state computer and email to create a fake estimate for a non-existent company to manipulate the state bidding process.

Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, Ms. Reynolds must pay a \$10,000.00 civil penalty, receive a public reprimand, and waive any right to appeal. The Commission concluded the matter by issuing an Agreed Final Order.