

**TO:** Mayor Victoria Woodards and Members, Tacoma City Council  
**FROM:** Ohad Lowry, Chair of City of Tacoma Board of Ethics for 2021  
**SUBJECT:** 2021 Tacoma Board of Ethics Annual Report  
**DATE:** January 12, 2022

In accordance with Tacoma Municipal Code (TMC) 1.46.045(C)(4), I am providing you the Board's 2021 Annual Report which contains a summary of its decisions and opinions.

Three complaints (2021-001, 2021-002, 2021-003) were decided by the Board in 2021:

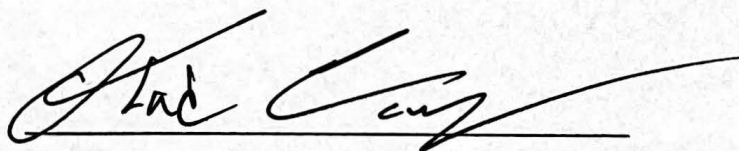
2021-001 was a complaint made on February 28, 2021 that Mayor Victoria Woodards had violated the Ethics Code and acted with a conflict of interest when she stated she was representing the family of Manuel Ellis and advocated for the prosecution and termination of Tacoma Police officers. The Board determined the complaint lacked sufficient facts, which, if proven true, would constitute a violation of anything listed as prohibited conduct under TMC 1.46.030. The complaint was therefore dismissed by the Board in a decision opinion dated March 15, 2021.

2021-002 was a complaint made on April 16-30, 2021 that City Planning Commission member Chris Karnes violated the Ethics Code when he made comments on social media and thru his conduct during a meeting that the complainant found unprofessional, disrespectful, exhibiting clear bias, and failing to disclose his conversations regarding the Home in Tacoma project at a meeting, and posting a citizen's letter on social media prior to its release to the public by the Planning Department. The Board determined the complaint did not allege facts sufficient to constitute a violation of anything listed as prohibited conduct under TMC 1.46.030. The complaint was therefore dismissed by the Board in a decision opinion dated May 27, 2021.

2021-003 was a complaint made on May 2, 2021 that City Planning Commission member Chris Karnes violated the Ethics Code when he shared and made fun of public comments provided by citizens at a meeting that he did not agree with on social media. The Board determined that the complaint did not allege facts sufficient to constitute a violation of anything listed as prohibited conduct under TMC 1.46.030. The complaint was therefore dismissed by the Board in a decision opinion dated May 27, 2021.

The Board appreciates the continued opportunity to serve the citizens of the City of Tacoma, and would be happy to answer any questions.

REPORT IS ISSUED AS OF THE 12th DAY OF JANUARY, 2022 BY



Ohad Lowry

Chair for City of Tacoma Board of Ethics for 2021