

**Report on actions taken by the Rhode Island Ethics Commission
in Executive Session held on September 1, 2026:**

1. Voted (4-0) to approve the minutes of the Executive Session held on August 4, 2026.

[Reporter's Note: The vote was as follows:

AYES: Christopher P. Callahan; Frank J. Cenerini; Emma L. Peterson;
and Hugo L. Ricci.

ABSTENTIONS: Lauren E. Jones.]

2. Unanimously voted (5-0) in the matter of **In re: Gordon E. Rogers**, Complaint No. 2026-4, to initially determine that the Complaint states facts that, if true, are sufficient to constitute violations of the Code of Ethics and to authorize an investigation.

An Initial Determination is a preliminary vote that should not be construed as an opinion regarding the truth of the facts alleged in the complaint but is merely a vote to conduct an investigation into the allegations raised.

3. A motion was made in the matter of **In re: Valarie J. Lawson**, Complaint No. 2026-3, to initially determine that the Complaint states facts that, if true, are sufficient to constitute violations of the Code of Ethics and to authorize an investigation. The motion was not seconded.

Voted (4-1) in the matter of **In re: Valarie J. Lawson**, Complaint No. 2026-3, to initially determine that the Complaint does not state facts that are sufficient to constitute violations of the Code of Ethics and to dismiss the Complaint without prejudice.

[Reporter's Note: The vote was as follows:

AYES: Lauren E. Jones; Christopher P. Callahan; Frank J. Cenerini; and
Emma L. Peterson.

NOES: Hugo L. Ricci.]

4. Received an update and discussed the litigation matter of **K. Joseph Shekarchi vs. Rhode Island Ethics Commission**, Superior Court C.A. No. PC-2026-03423. The Commission took no action. [Reporter's Note: Lauren E. Jones recused from the discussion and left the hearing room.]

5. Unanimously voted (5-0) to return to Open Session. [Reporter's Note: Lauren E. Jones returned to the hearing room for the vote to return to Open Session.]