

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 2020E-06

WHEREAS, the State of Florida Commission on Ethics has issued Final Order and Public Report No. 19-011; and

WHEREAS, the Governor accepts the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the Commission on Ethics Final Order and Public Report No. 19-011, In re Elliot Cohen; and

WHEREAS, Elliot Cohen was at all times material hereto the Director of Communications for the City of West Palm Beach, and as such was subject to the provisions of the Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees, Part III of Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, and subject to the jurisdictions of the Commission on Ethics; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RON DESANTIS, Governor of Florida, in obedience to my constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of Florida, issue this Executive Order, effective immediately, declaring that:

1. Elliot Cohen violated section 112.313(6), Florida Statutes, by misusing his official public office or employment to solicit business for Cohen Publicity, violated section 112.313(7)(a), Florida Statutes, by maintaining a contractual relationship with a business entity subject to the regulation of, and doing business with, Cohen's agency, the City of West Palm Beach and violated section 112.313(8), Florida Statutes, by soliciting business for his private company after learning through his public position that the City of Pahokee had asked for guidance in the areas of human resources and communications.

2. A civil penalty in the amount of \$4,500 for the violation of sections 112.313(6), 112.313(7)(a) and 112.313(8), Florida Statutes, is hereby imposed against Cohen, which shall be satisfied within thirty (30) days of the date of this order. Payment must be submitted with a written statement under oath by Cohen that the penalty amount was not paid with public funds and will not be reimbursed with public funds.



RON DESANTIS

GOVERNOR

DATE: February 11, 2020

By:

Joseph Jacquot
GENERAL COUNSEL

On behalf of and by the authority of Governor Ron DeSantis

ATTEST:

Laurel M. Lee
Laurel M. Lee
SECRETARY OF STATE

2020 FEB 11 PM 4:07