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STATEMENT BY THE BOARD OF ETHICS REGARDING DISMISSAL OF COMPLAINT FILED IN CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY TO ENFORCE ORDER AGAINST TAMMY WENDT, COOK COUNTY BOARD OF REVIEW COMMISSIONER June 30, 2022

Today, the Cook County Board of Ethics dismissed the complaint in the Circuit Court of Cook County that was filed on May 31, 2022, to enforce its order against Tammy Wendt, Cook County Board of Review Commissioner for the First District. That order found that Commissioner Wendt violated two provisions of the Cook County Ethics Ordinance by hiring her first cousin as her First Assistant Commissioner. It ordered that she terminate the employment of her first cousin and pay a \$2,000 fine.

Commissioner Wendt has since complied with the order by terminating the employment of her first cousin and paying the \$2,000 fine.

“We regret that Commissioner Wendt forced the Board to file a lawsuit in order to secure her compliance with the Ethics Ordinance – an ordinance that applies to all 22,000 Cook County employees and elected officials,” said Thomas Szromba, Chair of the Board of Ethics. “It is especially important for elected officials such as Commissioner Wendt to uphold the highest standards of ethical conduct. Where they do not, the Board will use all available tools to see that violations are corrected,” he continued.

The Board of Ethics would like to express our sincere gratitude to Jose Lopez, Pravin Rao, and Gina Buschatzke of the law firm Perkins Coie, for representing the Board of Ethics in this matter.