BEFORE THE SEATTLE ETHICS AND ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In The Matter Of	)	Case No. 22-01-0528-1
Mary Brown	)	**CHARGING DOCUMENT**

To: Mary Brown and
The Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission

Pursuant to Seattle Municipal Code ("SMC") §§ 4.16.090.F and 3.70.100.D, and Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission Administrative Rule 3.H, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Executive Director of the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission has reasonable cause to believe that Mary Brown has committed material violations of the Seattle Ethics Code. The Executive Director hereby charges as follows:

Mary Brown violated SMC 4.16.070.C.1 when she solicited an XBox from an individual she supervised in a manner that would appear to condition her assignment of work on his ability to procure an Xbox for her.

Mary Brown also violated SMC 4.16.070.B.2 when she engaged in transactions with an individual she had supervisory authority over.

In support of this charge, the Executive Director further states the following:

1. Brown is a Bridge Operations Supervisor with the Seattle Department of Transportation. She has been a City employee for more than 30 years.

2. Matthew Reese was one of the individuals Brown supervised.

3. On November 10, 2021, at 2:15 pm, Reese e-mailed Brown, "Is S9 [shift 9] Open for this coming Saturday the 13th?"

4. Half an hour later, at 2:45 pm on November 10, 2021, Brown replied to Reese, "In the market for another Xbox Series X console."

5. In October of 2021, Reese had sold Brown an Xbox console for $600.

This notice is hereby given on this 29 day of March, 2023.

Wayne Barnett, Executive Director
Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission

APPENDIX A

SMC 4.16.070.B and C provide in relevant part that a covered individual may not:

B.1. Use or attempt to use his or her official position for a purpose that is, or would to a reasonable person appear to be, primarily for the private benefit of the covered individual or any other person, rather than primarily for the benefit of the City, ….

C.1. Solicit or receive any retainer, gift, loan, entertainment, favor, or other thing of monetary value from any person or entity where the retainer, gift, loan, entertainment, favor, or other thing of monetary value has been solicited, or received or given or, to a reasonable person, would appear to have been solicited, received or given with intent to give or obtain special consideration or influence as to any action by the covered individual in his or her official capacity; ….

Reese, Matthew

From: Reese, Matthew
Sent: Thursday, November 25, 2021 3:05 PM
To: Matt Reese; [redacted]
Subject: FW: Saturday November 13th- S9 ???

From: Brown, Mary <Mary.Brown@seattle.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 10, 2021 2:45 PM
To: Reese, Matthew <Matthew.Reese@seattle.gov>
Subject: RE: Saturday November 13th- S9 ???

In the market for another Xbox Series X console.

Mary E. Brown
Bridge Operations Supervisor/Roadway Structures Division
City of Seattle, Department of Transportation
O: 206-386-4208| M:206-660-7204 | mary.brown@seattle.gov
Web | Blog | Facebook | Twitter | Instagram | YouTube | Flickr | Customer Service

From: Reese, Matthew <Matthew.Reese@seattle.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 10, 2021 2:15 PM
To: Brown, Mary <Mary.Brown@seattle.gov>
Subject: Saturday November 13th- S9 ???

Hi Mary,

Is S9 Open for this coming Saturday the 13th ?

Shorty