



EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA
Shadae Jones Appeal Hearing Minutes
October 11, 2022 – Via Zoom
8:00 am

Purpose: Review the Coalition’s decision to recoup childcare payments made by the ELC for the children of Shadae Jones due to false household information submitted.

Executive Committee Members Present:

- Dr. Kelly Roy (committee chair)** *Professor/Coordinator of Early Childhood Education, Florida Southwestern State College*
- Barbara Short (at the ELC & via Zoom)** *Quality Assurance Program Manager, CareerSource Southwest Florida*
- Rebecca McKellar, (via Zoom)** *Creative World Schools, Private for-Profit Child Care*

Appellant (s) Present: Shadae Jones, Client

Coalition Staff Present: Susan Block, CEO; Lugeenya Blackstock, CFO, and Gilda Duran, Chief Program Officer.

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action/Assignments
Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairperson, Kelly Roy led introductions at 8:04 am. Ms. Jones was not present at the start of the meeting. 	
Review of Hearing Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chairperson reviewed the appeal hearing procedure, referring to the agenda provided to all participants. • Gilda Duran, Notary Republic, administered the swearing in. 	

Presentation by Early Learning Coalition Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lugeenya Blackstock, CFO, reviewed the background of the Coalition’s Decision to terminate and recoup funds for terminated childcare services. She highlighted the documents requested to prove the residence of Camilo Jones. The client failed to present the required documents • A VPK application, indicating that Mr. Jones lived with Ms. Jones was presented. • Ms. Jones arrived to the Zoom meeting at 8:13 am with apologies for her tardiness. Kelly Roy restarted the appeals process, from the beginning. 	
Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairperson, Kelly Roy led introductions at 8:14 am with Ms. Jones present. 	
Review of Hearing Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chairperson reviewed the appeal hearing procedure, referring to the agenda provided to all participants with Ms. Jones present. • Gilda Duran, Notary Republic, administered the swearing in. 	
Presentation by Early Learning Coalition Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With Ms. Jones now present, Lugeenya Blackstock, CFO, again reviewed the background of the Coalition’s Decision to terminate and recoup funds for terminated childcare services. She highlighted the documents requested to prove the residence of Camilo Jones. The client failed to present the required documents • A VPK application, indicating that Mr. Jones lived with Ms. Jones was presented. 	
Presentation of Appeal by Shadae Jones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Jones presented her appeal. The key points were: 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Facebook posts are only because the family still gathers for occasions together. • She attempted to share a paycheck and W-2 over the Zoom call however, appeal committee members couldn't see these documents clearly. These documents were not submitted as part of the appeals documents for review prior to the hearing. • She reiterated the claim that Mr. Jones doesn't work there. 	
Conclusion of Appeal Hearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee considered the documentation and presentations by both the ELC and 	.
Committee Decision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The committee supported the ELC decision. • The Committee specifically stated these reasons in support of its decisions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Jones did not submit allowable documentation to verify the home address of Camilo Jones. • The VPK application presented indicates that Mr. Jones lives with Ms. Jones. • Documentation presented prior to the hearing was not consistent with Ms. Jones claim that Mr. Jones did not live with her. 	<p>Motion to support the ELC decision to terminate childcare and recoup funds by Barb Short. Second by Rebecca McKellar.</p> <p>Motion approved.</p>
Preparation of Appeals Hearing Committee Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minutes of the appeal will be prepared for approval at the next scheduled ELC Board meeting. 	
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chairperson thanked the members for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 8:32 am. 	