



**State of Alaska
Department of Commerce, Community &
Economic Development Division of Corporations,
Business, and Professional Licensing
Big Game Commercial Services Board**

This is a Draft Document

Board Packet

March 11, 2026

Big Game Commercial Services Board

Board Roster

Position ↑	Appointee (Current Appointee)	Date Appointed (Current Appointee)	Expiration Date
Designated Game Board Member/Restricted	David Lorring	7/20/2023	
Licensed Registered Guides-Outfitters			3/1/2029
Licensed Registered Guides-Outfitters	Keegan McCarthy	1/31/2025	3/1/2027
Licensed Transporters	Michael Flores	3/8/2023	3/1/2027
Licensed Transporters	Martin Boniek	3/1/2025	3/1/2029
Private Landholders/Restricted	Brianna Hauch	8/25/2025	3/1/2028
Private Landholders/Restricted	Clay Nordlum	3/1/2022	3/1/2026
Public	Larry Kunder	5/25/2022	3/1/2026
Public	Robert Mumford	8/25/2025	3/1/2029



Big Game Commercial Services Board - Spring Meeting

Alaska Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

Wednesday, March 11, 2026, at 9:00 AM AKDT to Wednesday, March 11, 2026, at 4:30 PM AKDT

- In-person: Doyon Anchorage Boardroom
 - 11500 Sukdu Way, Ste. 250, Anchorage, AK 99515
- Online: Zoom (use link below)

Meeting Details: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86767047965>

Agenda

- 1. 9:00am - Roll Call/Call to Order**
- 2. 9:02am - Review Agenda**
- 3. 9:03am - Ethics Review**
- 4. 9:04am - Meeting Minutes Update**
- 5. 9:05am - State & Federal Agency Updates**
 - A. Dept. of Natural Resources - John Forbes**
 - B. Dept. of Fish & Game - Ryan Scott**
 - C. Alaska Wildlife Troopers - Aaron Frenzel/Rob Welch**
 - D. US Fish & Wildlife Service - Kathey Virgin/Cody Smith**
 - E. US Forest Service - Jason Anderson**
 - F. Alaska Professional Hunters Association - Thor Stacey**
- 6. 11:00 - Break**
- 7. 11:15am - Division Update**
 - A. Online Testing: Prov**
 - B. Current Fiscal Report: FY26 2nd Quarter**
- 8. 11:30am - Public Comment**
- 9. 12:00pm - Lunch**
- 10. 1:00pm - Legislative Bills**
- 11. 1:15pm - Legislative Priorities for 2027**
- 12. 2:00pm - Annual Report**
- 13. 2:45pm - Investigative Report**
- 14. 2:50pm - Investigative Matters for Review**

A. Executive Session

i. Case No. 2025-001032

ii. Case No. 2025-000617

iii. Case No. 2025-000383

iv. Case No. 2024-001018 & No. 2025-001006

v. Case No. 2023-001192

15. 4:00pm - Summary/Motions from Executive Session

16. 4:25pm - Schedule Next Meeting(s)

17. 4:30pm - Adjourn

DRAFT

State of Alaska
DEPARTMENT OF LAW

ETHICS ACT PROCEDURES FOR BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

All board and commission members and staff should be familiar with the Executive Branch Ethics Act procedures outlined below.

Who Is My Designated Ethics Supervisor (DES)?

Every board or commission subject to the Ethics Act¹ has several ethics supervisors designated by statute.

- The chair serves as DES for board or commission members.
- The chair serves as DES for the executive director.
- The executive director serves as DES for the staff.
- The governor is the DES for a chair.²

What Do I Have To Disclose?

The Ethics Act requires members of boards and commissions to disclose:

- Any matter that is a potential conflict of interest with actions that the member may take when serving on the board or commission.
- Any circumstance that may result in a violation of the Ethics Act.
- Any personal or financial interest (or that of an immediate family member) in a state grant, contract, lease or loan that is awarded or administered by the member's board or commission.
- The receipt of certain gifts.

The executive director of the board or commission and its staff, as state employees, must also disclose:

- Compensated outside employment or services.
- Volunteer service, if any compensation, including travel and meals, is paid or there is a potential conflict with state duties.

- For more information regarding the types of matters that may result in violations of the Ethics Act, board or commission members should refer to the guide, *“Ethics Information for Members of Boards and Commissions.”* The executive director and staff should refer to the guide, *Ethics Information for Public Employees.* Both guides and disclosure forms may be found on the [Department of Law’s ethics website](#).

How Do I Avoid Violations of the Ethics Act?

- Make timely disclosures!
- Follow required procedures!
- Provide all information necessary to a correct evaluation of the matter!³
- When in doubt, disclose and seek advice!
- Follow the advice of your DES!

What Are The Disclosure Procedures for Board and Commission Members?

The procedural requirements for disclosures by members are set out in AS 39.52.220 and 9 AAC 52.120. One goal of these provisions is to help members avoid violations of the Ethics Act. The procedures provide the opportunity for members to seek review of matters in advance of taking action to ensure that actions taken will be consistent with the Act.

Procedure for declaring actual or potential conflicts.

Members must declare potential conflicts and other matters that may violate the Ethics Act **on the public record and in writing to the chair**.

Disclosure on the public record. Members must identify actual and potential conflicts orally at the board or commission’s public meeting **in advance** of participating in deliberations or taking any official action on the matter.

- A member must always declare a conflict and may choose to refrain from voting, deliberations or other participation regarding a matter.⁴
- If a member is uncertain whether participation would result in a violation of the Act, the member should disclose the circumstances and seek a determination from the chair.

Disclosure in writing at a public meeting. In addition to an oral disclosure at a board or commission meeting, members’ disclosures must be made in writing.

- If the meeting is recorded, a tape or transcript of the meeting is preserved **and** there is a method for identifying the declaration in the record, an oral disclosure may serve as the written disclosure.
- Alternatively, the member must note the disclosure on the Notice of Potential Violation disclosure form and the chair must record the determination.

Confidential disclosure in advance of public meeting. Potential conflicts may be partially addressed in advance of a board or commission's public meeting based on the published meeting agenda or other board or commission activity.

- A member identifying a conflict or potential conflict submits a Notice of Potential Violation to the chair, as DES, in advance of the public meeting.
- This written disclosure is considered confidential.
- The chair may seek advice from the Attorney General.
- The chair makes a written determination, also confidential, whether the disclosed matter represents a conflict that will result in a violation of the Ethics Act if the member participates in official action addressing the matter.⁵
- If so, the chair directs the member to refrain from participating in the matter that is the subject of the disclosure.
- An oral report of the notice of potential violation and the determination that the member must refrain from participating is put on the record at a public meeting.⁶

Determinations at the public meeting. When a potential conflict is declared by a member for the public record, the following procedure must be followed:

- The chair states his or her determination regarding whether the member may participate.
- Any member may then object to the chair's determination.
- If an objection is made, the members present, excluding the member who made the disclosure, vote on the matter.
- *Exception:* A chair's determination that is made consistent with advice provided by the Attorney General may not be overruled.
- If the chair, or the members by majority vote, determines that a violation will exist if the disclosing member continues to participate, the member must refrain from voting, deliberating or participating in the matter.⁷

If the chair identifies a potential conflict, the same procedures are followed. If possible, the chair should forward a confidential written notice of potential violation to the Office of the Governor for a determination in advance of the board or commission meeting. If the declaration is first

made at the public meeting during which the matter will be addressed, the members present, except for the chair, vote on the matter. If a majority determines that a violation of the Ethics Act will occur if the chair continues to participate, the chair shall refrain from voting, deliberating or participating in the matter. A written disclosure or copy of the public record regarding the oral disclosure should be forwarded to the Office of the Governor for review by the chair's DES.

Procedures for Other Member Disclosures

A member's interest in a state grant, contract, lease or loan and receipt of gifts are disclosed by filling out the appropriate disclosure form and submitting the form to the chair for approval. The disclosure forms are found on the [Department of Law's ethics website](#).

What Are The Disclosure Procedures for Executive Directors and Staff?

Ethics disclosures of the executive director or staff are made in writing to the appropriate DES (chair for the executive director and the executive director for staff).

- Disclosure forms are found on the ethics website, noted above.

Notices of Potential Violations. Following receipt of a written notice of potential violation, the DES investigates, if necessary, and makes a written determination whether a violation of the Ethics Act could exist or will occur. A DES may seek advice from the Attorney General. If feasible, the DES shall reassign duties to cure a potential violation or direct divestiture or removal by the employee of the personal or financial interests giving rise to the potential violation.

- These disclosures are not required to be made part of the public record.
- A copy of a determination is provided to the employee.
- Both the notice and determination are confidential.

Other Disclosures. The DES also reviews other ethics disclosures and either approves them or determines what action must be taken to avoid a violation of the Act. In addition to the disclosures of certain gifts and interests in the listed state matters, state employees must disclose all outside employment or services for compensation.

- The DES must provide a copy of an approved disclosure or other determination the employee.

How Are Third Party Reports of Potential Violations or Complaints Handled?

Any person may report a potential violation of the Ethics Act by a board or commission member or its staff to the appropriate DES or file a complaint alleging actual violations with the Attorney General.

- Notices of potential violations and complaints must be submitted **in writing** and **under oath**.
- Notices of potential violations are investigated by the appropriate DES who makes a written determination whether a violation may exist.⁸
- Complaints are addressed by the Attorney General under separate procedures outlined in the Ethics Act.
- **These matters are confidential**, unless the subject waives confidentiality or the matter results in a public accusation.

What Are The Procedures for Quarterly Reports?

Designated ethics supervisors must submit copies of notices of potential violations received and the corresponding determinations to the Attorney General for review by the state ethics attorney as part of the quarterly report required by the Ethics Act.

- Reports are due in April, July, October and January for the preceding quarter.
- A sample report may be found on the Department of Law's ethics website.
- An executive director may file a quarterly report on behalf of the chair and combine it with his or her own report.
- If a board or commission does not meet during a quarter and there is no other reportable activity, the DES advises the Department of Law Ethics Attorney by e-mail at ethicsreporting@alaska.gov and no other report is required.

If the state ethics attorney disagrees with a reported determination, the attorney will advise the DES of that finding. If the ethics attorney finds that there was a violation, the member who committed the violation is not liable if he or she fully disclosed all relevant facts reasonably necessary to the ethics supervisor's or commission's determination and acted consistent with the determination.

How Does A DES or Board or Commission Get Ethics Advice?

A DES or board or commission may make a **written request** to the Attorney General for an opinion regarding the application of the Ethics Act. In practice, the Attorney General, through the state ethics attorney, also provides **advice by phone or e-mail** to designated ethics supervisors, especially when time constraints prevent the preparation of timely written opinions.

- A request for advice and the advisory opinion are confidential.
- The ethics attorney endeavors to provide prompt assistance, although that may not always be possible.
- The DES must make his or her determination addressing the potential violation based on the opinion provided.

It is the obligation of each board or commission member, as well as the staff, to ensure that the public's business is conducted in a manner that is consistent with the standards set out in the Ethics Act. We hope this summary assists you in ensuring that your obligations are met.

¹ The Act covers a board, commission, authority, or board of directors of a public or quasi-public corporation, established by statute in the executive branch of state government.

² The governor has delegated the DES responsibility to Guy Bell, Administrative Director of the Office of the Governor.

³ You may supplement the disclosure form with other written explanation as necessary. Your signature on a disclosure certifies that, to the best of your knowledge, the statements made are true, correct and complete. False statements are punishable.

⁴ In most, but not all, situations, refraining from participation ensures that a violation of the Ethics Act does not occur. Abstention does not cure a conflict with respect to a significant direct personal or financial interest in a state grant, contract, lease or loan because the Ethics Act prohibition applies whether or not the public officer actually takes official action.

⁵ The chair must give a copy of the written determination to the disclosing member. There is a determination form available on the Department of Law's ethics web page. The ethics supervisor may also write a separate memorandum.

⁶ In this manner, a member's detailed personal and financial information may be protected from public disclosure.

⁷ When a matter of particular sensitivity is raised and the ramifications of continuing without an advisory opinion from the Attorney General may affect the validity of the board or commission's action, the members should consider tabling the matter so that an opinion may be obtained.

⁸ The DES provides a copy of the notice to the employee who is the subject of the notice and may seek input from the employee, his or her supervisor and others. The DES may seek advice from the Attorney General. A copy of the DES' written determination is provided to the subject employee and the complaining party. The DES submits a copy of both the notice and the determination to the Attorney General for review as part of the DES' quarterly report. If feasible,

the DES shall reassign duties to cure a potential violation or direct divestiture or removal by the employee of the personal or financial interests giving rise to the potential violation.

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The Attorney General and Department of Law staff may not provide legal advice to private citizens or organizations. Please contact an attorney if you need legal advice. The [Alaska Lawyer Referral Service](#) or your local bar association may be able to assist you in locating a lawyer.

Alaska Department of Law

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Ethics Disclosure Form

<p style="text-align: center;">CONFIDENTIAL REQUEST FOR ETHICS DETERMINATION</p>
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TO: _____, Designated Ethics Supervisor

(Identify Your Department, Agency, Public Corporation, Board, Commission)

I request advice regarding the application of the Executive Branch Ethics Act (AS 39.52.010 - .960) to my situation. The situation involves the following:

I have provided additional information in the attached document(s).

I believe the following provisions of the Ethics Act may apply to my situation:

- AS 39.52.120, Misuse of Official Position
- AS 39.52.130, Improper Gifts
- AS 39.52.140, Improper Use or Disclosure of Information
- AS 39.52.150, Improper Influence in State Grants, Contracts, Leases or Loans
- AS 39.52.160, Improper Representation
- AS 39.52.170, Outside Employment Restricted
- AS 39.52.180, Restrictions on Employment after Leaving State Service
- AS 39.52.190, Aiding a Violation Prohibited

I understand that I should refrain from taking any official action relating to this matter until I receive your advice. If the circumstances I described above may result in a violation of AS 39.52.110 - .190, I intend that this request serve as my disclosure of the matter in accordance with AS 39.52.210 or AS 39.52.220.

I certify to the best of my knowledge that my statement is true, correct, and complete. In addition to any other penalty or punishment that may apply, the submission of a false statement is punishable under AS 11.56.200 - AS 11.56.240.

(Signature)

(Date)

(Printed Name)

(Division, Board, Commission)

(Position Title)

(Location)

Designated Ethics Supervisor: Provide a copy of your written determination to the employee advising whether action is necessary under AS 39.52.210 or AS 39.52.220, and send a copy of the determination and disclosure to the attorney general with your quarterly report.

Ethics Disclosure Form

Receipt of Gift

TO: _____, Designated Ethics Supervisor, _____
(Agency, Public Corporation, Board, Commission or Council)

This disclosure reports receipt of a gift with value in excess of \$150.00 by me or my immediate family member, as required by AS 39.52.130(b) or (f).

- 1. Is the gift connected to my position as a state officer, employee or member of a state board or commission?
 Yes No
- 2. Can I take or withhold official action that may affect the person or entity that gave me the gift?
 Yes No

(If you answer "No" to both questions, you do not need to report this gift. If the answer to either question is "Yes," or if you are not sure, you must complete this form and provide it to your designated ethics supervisor.)

The gift is _____

Identify gift giver by full name, title, and organization or relationship, if any:

Describe event or occasion when gift was received or other circumstance explaining the reason for the gift:

My estimate of its value is \$ _____ The date of receipt was _____

The gift was received by a member of my family. Who? _____

If you checked "Yes" to question 2 above, explain the official action you may take that affects the giver (attach additional page, if necessary):

I certify to the best of my knowledge that my statement is true, correct, and complete. In addition to any other penalty or punishment that may apply, the submission of a false statement is punishable under AS 11.56.200 - AS 11.56.240.

(Signature)

(Date)

(Printed Name)

(Division)

(Position Title)

(Location)

Ethics Supervisor Determination: Approve Disapproved

Designated Ethics Supervisor*

(Date)

**Designated Ethics Supervisor: Provide a copy of the approval or disapproval to the employee. If action is necessary under AS 39.52.210 or AS 39.52.220, attach a determination stating the reasons and send a copy of the determination and disclosure to the attorney general with your quarterly report.*

Department of Commerce Community, and Economic Development
Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

Summary of All Professional Licensing
Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures

Big Game Commercial Services Board, Guide-Outfitters	FY 20	FY 21	Biennium	FY 22	FY 23	Biennium	FY 24	FY 25	Biennium	FY 26 1st & 2nd QTR
	Revenue									
Revenue from License Fees	\$ 1,061,930	\$ 458,520	\$ 1,520,450	\$ 1,193,160	\$ 314,340	\$ 1,507,500	\$ 1,097,850	\$ 285,923	\$ 1,383,773	\$ 416,920
General Fund Received		\$ -	-	\$ 27,909	\$ 5,342	33,251	\$ 800	\$ -	800	\$ -
Allowable Third Party Reimbursements	\$ -	\$ -	-	\$ -	\$ -	-	\$ -	\$ -	-	\$ -
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 1,061,930	\$ 458,520	\$ 1,520,450	\$ 1,221,069	\$ 319,682	\$ 1,540,751	\$ 1,098,650	\$ 285,923	\$ 1,384,573	\$ 416,920
Expenditures										
Non Investigation Expenditures										
1000 - Personal Services	116,391	128,509	244,900	191,468	153,104	344,572	215,670	269,777	485,447	140,865
2000 - Travel	9,328	3,751	13,079	12,731	11,843	24,574	18,902	9,658	28,560	1,215
3000 - Services	50,200	23,671	73,871	20,872	16,907	37,779	15,256	34,842	50,098	1,296
4000 - Commodities	41	165	206	2,283	2,108	4,391	886	5,821	6,707	-
5000 - Capital Outlay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Non-Investigation Expenditures	175,960	156,096	332,056	227,354	183,962	411,316	250,714	320,098	570,812	143,376
Investigation Expenditures										
1000-Personal Services	150,184	148,053	298,237	165,989	169,735	335,724	171,967	178,533	350,500	108,725
2000 - Travel	1,099	-	1,099	-	996	996	975	-	975	-
3023 - Expert Witness	-	2,981	2,981	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3088 - Inter-Agency Legal	46,637	59,243	105,880	8,084	25,718	33,802	8,731	19,088	27,819	8,018
3094 - Inter-Agency Hearing/Mediation	20,485	38,084	58,569	4,140	7,387	11,527	1,147	19,765	20,912	-
3000 - Services other	1,730	612	2,342	3,969	345	4,314	567	424	991	18
4000 - Commodities	49	300	349	54	-	54	-	-	-	-
Total Investigation Expenditures	220,184	249,273	469,457	182,236	204,182	386,417	183,387	217,810	401,197	116,761
Total Direct Expenditures	396,144	405,369	801,513	409,590	388,144	797,733	434,101	537,908	972,009	260,137
Indirect Expenditures										
Internal Administrative Costs	70,156	59,162	129,318	66,247	68,383	134,630	72,429	71,914	144,343	35,957
Departmental Costs	39,754	37,509	77,263	48,863	39,472	88,335	56,561	59,530	116,091	29,765
Statewide Costs	35,119	37,959	73,078	44,929	35,108	80,037	37,517	38,251	75,768	19,126
Total Indirect Expenditures	145,029	134,630	279,659	160,039	142,963	303,002	166,507	169,695	336,202	84,848
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 541,173	\$ 539,999	\$ 1,081,172	\$ 569,629	\$ 531,107	\$ 1,100,735	\$ 600,608	\$ 707,603	\$ 1,308,211	\$ 344,985
Cumulative Surplus (Deficit)										
Beginning Cumulative Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (150,523)	\$ 370,234		\$ 288,755	\$ 940,195		\$ 728,770	\$ 1,226,812		\$ 805,132
Annual Increase/(Decrease)	520,757	(81,479)		651,440	(211,425)		498,042	(421,680)		71,935
Ending Cumulative Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 370,234	\$ 288,755		\$ 940,195	\$ 728,770		\$ 1,226,812	\$ 805,132		\$ 877,067
Statistical Information										
Number of Licenses for Indirect calculation	1,624	1,446		1,635	1,521		1,746	1,593		
Additional information:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General fund dollars were received in FY21-FY24 to offset increases in personal services and help prevent programs from going int • Most recent fee change: Fee reduction FY24 • Annual license fee analysis will include consideration of other factors such as board and licensee input, potential investigation load, court cases, multiple license and fee types under one progr 									

Appropriation Name (Ex)	(Multiple Items)
Sub Unit	(All)
PL Task Code	GUI1

Sum of Budgetary Expenditures Object Name (Ex)	Object Type Name (Ex)			Grand Total
	1000 - Personal Services	2000 - Travel	3000 - Services	
1011 - Regular Compensation	120,801.98			120,801.98
1014 - Overtime	2,606.69			2,606.69
1023 - Leave Taken	27,168.42			27,168.42
1028 - Alaska Supplemental Benefit	9,239.24			9,239.24
1029 - Public Employee's Retirement System Defined Benefits	24,451.60			24,451.60
1030 - Public Employee's Retirement System Defined Contribution	3,072.05			3,072.05
1034 - Public Employee's Retirement System Defined Cont Health Reim	1,565.04			1,565.04
1035 - Public Employee's Retirement Sys Defined Cont Retiree Medical	504.09			504.09
1037 - Public Employee's Retirement Sys Defined Benefit Unfnd Liab	11,467.57			11,467.57
1039 - Unemployment Insurance	734.06			734.06
1040 - Group Health Insurance	31,276.72			31,276.72
1041 - Basic Life and Travel	40.24			40.24
1042 - Worker's Compensation Insurance	1,559.91			1,559.91
1047 - Leave Cash In Employer Charge	3,287.81			3,287.81
1048 - Terminal Leave Employer Charge	1,423.50			1,423.50
1053 - Medicare Tax	2,143.72			2,143.72
1062 - GGU Business Leave Bank Contributions	88.39			88.39
1077 - ASEA Legal Trust	97.36			97.36
1079 - ASEA Injury Leave Usage	17.00			17.00
1080 - SU Legal Trst	8.18			8.18
1970 - Personal Services Transfer	8,036.34			8,036.34
2000 - In-State Employee Taxable Airfare			467.90	467.90
2002 - In-State Employee Taxable Lodging			537.00	537.00
2003 - In-State Employee Non-Taxable Meals and Incidentals			210.00	210.00
3035 - Long Distance			17.66	17.66
3036 - Local/Equipment Charges			16.27	16.27
3044 - Courier			5.82	5.82
3045 - Postage			11.92	11.92
3085 - Inter-Agency Mail			965.20	965.20
3088 - Inter-Agency Legal			8,315.38	8,315.38
Grand Total	249,589.91	1,214.90	9,332.25	260,137.06

9. Legislative Priorities (all motions under this section will be addressed at the end)

EA Position

Brief Discussion:

Chairman Bloomquist said although Mr. Bay was currently working as the board's executive administrator, it was a year-to-year position that had to be approved annually, and that the board needed to get the position approved in the legislature, so it could be a full-time position in statute. The board agreed to pursue legislation in their effort of attaining an executive administrator solely for the Big Game Commercial Services Board.

Provide for Emergency Situations/Survivorship/Provide Commissioner Emergency Authority to Deal with Unforeseen Situations (Covid, licensee illness, deaths, etc.)

Brief Discussion:

Chairman Bloomquist said that these topics come up a few times a year and that the reality is that the board does not have the authority to tell someone who has an emergency that the board can ignore parts of their statutes/regulations. He said that this is probably priority #1 for licensees as far as legislative priorities go, other than the GCP. He said that it will probably take a while to accomplish and that he has a few legislators that are likely willing to introduce stuff for the board, but that they need to make sure that the GCP is passed without any changes first. He said that he would like to see a bill introduced before the end of the first legislative session. He said that their survivorship workgroup needs to start drafting language so they can get the ball rolling. The board agreed to pursue legislation on all three topics.

Removing Former Regulations from Statute and Making them Current Regulations

Brief Discussion:

Chairman Bloomquist reminded the board that they still need to remove former regulations from statute that were put in there by the legislature after the board came back from sunset. He talked about different ways that could be accomplished. Mr. Bay said it was likely an issue one of his legislators could easily answer and that it was likely going to be a bill introduced in the legislature. Chairman Bloomquist said that it might be a question for legal. The board agreed to pursue legislation on this topic.

Authority to License and Oversee Hunt Planners/Booking Agents

Brief Discussion:

Chairman Bloomquist said that he had gone back and forth on the topic and was not sure if he really wanted more regulation for more industries, but that hunt planners/booking agents were causing problems, so something needed to be done. He said that they might be able to fix it through the findings that come from the LAW review he recently sent to the division, and that maybe some advice from the board to hunt planners/booking agents might help the situation. The board agreed to pursue legislation on this topic.

Changing Board Composition

Brief Discussion:

Chairman Bloomquist began discussion on changing board composition, which the board has talked about numerous times. Mr. Buist said that it has been hard to find a second private landowner and that he would be okay with adding two guides or another guide in lieu of the vacant private landowner seat. He said that guides and transporters on the board have a lot more work to do than other spots on the board, so adding a guide or two would make sense. Mr. Kunder said that he agreed with Mr. Buist, stating that it would be beneficial to add a guide, however, he said that he would not be in favor of taking away one of the private landowner seats. The board agreed to pursue legislation on this topic.

Authorize the Board to Implement CE for Licensees	
Brief Discussion:	Chairman Bloomquist reminded the board that they were told that they do not have statutory authority to provide for continuing education (CE). He said that he thought it would be popular in the legislature, as part of a bigger package. Mr. Boniek said that he did not think that transporters need CE, but instead need information on the front end of getting licensed, such as the FAQ sheet discussed earlier. The rest of the board was okay with possibly adding statutory authority to provide for CE. The board agreed to pursue legislation on this topic.
Streamline the Regulation Process for all Boards in the Licensing Division (similar to ADF&G's process)	
Brief Discussion:	Chairman Bloomquist said that he was working on the idea of streamlining the regulation process for all boards in the licensing division. He said that there might be something they can do administratively, and that this topic likely will not be in the form of a bill. He said that he is going to try and work from the top down, possibly speaking with the governor's office or the commissioner's office to make things more streamlined. With no objections from the board, Chairman Bloomquist said he would continue to work on it.
Authorize all DCCED Boards to Prioritize Spending of Licensing Funds as Trustees of the Funds	
Brief Discussion:	Chairman Bloomquist said that he was still frustrated that the board cannot use their funds the way that their licensees want them to. He said that they could have the legislature tell the department that boards can be the trustees of their own funds instead of the department. He said that it would be a rather large topic that would include a standalone bill, that the timing would have to be just right, and that it is probably at the bottom of their priority list.
Fine Amount to Trigger License Suspensions	
Brief Discussion:	Chairman Bloomquist said that amending the fine amounts that trigger license suspensions is pretty high up on their list and that it should be addressed sooner than later. He reminded the board that a few of their licensees have lost their licenses for at least a year because of federal fines handed out that were egregious. The board agreed that it needs to be addressed. The board agreed to pursue legislation on this topic.
Make it so Transporter Licenses can only be issued to a Natural Person	
Brief Discussion:	Chairman Bloomquist said that there has been a lot of conversation and disagreement from the board on whether or not they should limit transporter licenses to a natural person, which stems from the issue that transporters that get their license suspended are able to have someone get a new transporter license and continue to work under them. Mr. Boniek said there may be a way around the problem by dealing with applications or regulation. Mr. Strout said that he was currently working with an attorney on a case who had concerns about the division issuing licenses to an entity, and that it should be to a person. Chairman Bloomquist asked both transporters on the board, Mr. Boniek and Mr. Flores, if they could tackle this issue and come back to the board with some suggestions, to which they agreed.
Brief Discussion:	Having finished with their legislative priorities, the board began motions to pursue legislation.
Motion:	Move to pursue legislation to create a range 23 executive administrator position for the Big Game Commercial Services Board and move forward with the division's suggested

	statutory language. Aaron Bloomquist and Mike Flores will be the board's liaisons and spokespersons. (First: Boniek; Second: Nordlum).	
Recorded Votes:	Buist - Yes	Flores - Yes
	Boniek - Yes	Kunder - Yes
	Bloomquist - Yes	Nordlum - Yes
	Lorring - Absent	
Motion:	<p>Move to pursue legislation for the following board priorities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create an EA position 2. Provide for emergency situations 3. Survivorship 4. Provide commissioner emergency authority to deal with unforeseen situations (Covid, licensee illness, deaths, etc.) 5. Remove former regulations from statute and make them current regulations 6. Authority to license and oversee hunt planners/booking agents 7. Change board composition 8. Authorize the board to implement continuing education for licensees 9. Change the fine amount that triggers license suspensions <p>Aaron Bloomquist will be the board's liaison and spokesperson (First: Boniek; Second: Nordlum).</p>	
Recorded Votes:	Buist - Yes	Flores - Yes
	Boniek - Yes	Kunder - Yes
	Bloomquist - Yes	Nordlum - Yes
	Lorring - Absent	
10. Business as Needed		
New Regulation Project: 12 AAC 75.260(d)		
Brief Discussion:	<p>Chairman Bloomquist said that they needed to amend 12 AAC 75.260(d) because of the UVC code issue they discussed earlier. He suggested amending the second to last sentence in the regulation to read as the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unique verification codes will be current until the day before the first day of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game drawing application period in the year the associated guide use area registration expires or is withdrawn or amended. <p>This would fix the UVC code issue they currently have with RGOs being able use a UVC code in their final year of registration without actually being registered in the unit the following year. The board agreed with the change.</p>	

Department of Commerce, Community
and Economic Development

Division of Corporations, Business
and Professional Licensing

Big Game Commercial Services Board

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2025



Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

P.O. Box 110806
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806
Email: License@Alaska.Gov

This report is required under Alaska Statute 08.01.070(10).

**Big Game Commercial Services Board
FY 2025 Annual Report**

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**Big Game Commercial Services Board
FY 2025 Annual Report**

Board Membership *(as of the Date This Report was Approved)*

Date of Final Board Approval: 7/18/2025

Aaron Bloomquist, Keegan McCarthy, Martin Boniek, Michael Flores, David Loring, Larry Kunder, Clay Nordlum

Big Game Commercial Services Board FY 2025 Annual Report

Accomplishments

- The board's sunset date was reapproved by the legislature until June 30, 2032:
 - o As mentioned in last year's annual report, the board passed the sunset audit with flying colors, largely due to former Chairman Jason Bunch, with just a few small suggestions to the Board and division from the Auditors. The only suggestion to the board was to find a private landholder to fill the vacant seat. This has not happened, although we have reached out to numerous individuals.
- A Bill was introduced during the Legislative Session to create an Executive Administrator position dedicated to the BGCSB. This bill ran out of time but was widely supported. In the interim, the Department has placed Tom Bay in this position, so we are no longer sharing him with the Board of Marine Pilots.
- The board completed the regulatory process to change several Guide Use Area boundaries to better suit a viable business in the areas.
- Continue to build and strengthen partnerships between the various agencies involved in the guide profession including ADF&G, Alaska Wildlife Troopers and the various land managers.
- A Guide Concession Program (GCP) bill was successfully repassed through the Legislature in 2025 with the help of various agencies. The program will be hosted by DNR. The bill also added a fiscal note, which will allow for deployment of the program.
- Work with the department to finish an automated hunt record filing system. This system will be rolled out in July 2025.
 - o This project has been in the works for several years. Hunt records and transporter activity reports take up a lot of staff time to manually enter the data. It seems the IT department is now working to make it a reality.
- Continue to monitor trends in violations and make adjustments as required:
 - o The board continually monitors trends in violations and makes adjustments as needed. Violations have continued to be stable and mostly minor. The few major Violations are frustratingly slow to make it to the Board. The worst violators continue operating for years while their criminal violations work through the system. We are working with OSP and our investigative staff to try to expedite these cases.
- Add sublegal animal violations to the board's disciplinary matrix:
 - o This needs to be officially added to the matrix but it has been used in several cases. Our goal is competence and compliance in licensees. In the case of a sublegal animal take, the reviewing board members have been suggesting a certain number of hunts for that species where the licensee must act as a packer before they are allowed to guide a hunter on their own. This is usually 1-3 hunts, depending on severity of the violation or if it is a first offense or more.
- Promptly adjudicate consent agreements for minor violations:
 - o This has become a priority for the board. Minor violations usually happen unintentionally and are very stressful for licensees. Individual board members and the board's investigator have done a great job getting these issues cleared up promptly.
- The board updated their GMU exams.
- The board is constantly updating RGO testing and the Department is constantly updating study material. This is an ongoing task.
- The board establishes subcommittees/workgroups as needed. Currently there is a Transporter workgroup and a Legislative workgroup. We anticipate a workgroup to deal with the GCP.
- Continue to strengthen public trust and participation through communication, education and efficiency:
 - o Public comment is provided at most meetings and everybody's voice that wants to be heard is.

Big Game Commercial Services Board FY 2025 Annual Report

Activities

The board will continue to work on regulation projects and make efforts to streamline processes where possible.

Current regulation projects include amendments to the following regulations:

1st Project:

- 12 AAC 75.200, REGISTERED GUIDE-OUTFITTER PROVIDING SERVICES
- 12 AAC 75.230, GUIDE USE AREA REGISTRATION
- 12 AAC 75.240, SUPERVISION
- 12 AAC 75.250, PARTICIPATION IN A HUNT
- 12 AAC 75.400, TRANSPORTER ACTIVITY REPORT
- 12 AAC 75.405, MARKING OF AIRCRAFT AND VESSELS USED BY TRANSPORTERS
- 12 AAC 75.440, PROFESSIONAL ETHICS STANDARDS FOR PROVIDERS OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES.
- 12 AAC 75.455, HELICOPTER USE
- 12 AAC 75.655, BOAT-BASED TRANSPORTERS WITH LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS ON SALTWATER

2nd Project:

- 12 AAC 75.100, APPLICATION FOR REGISTERED GUIDE-OUTFITTER EXAMINATION
- 12 AAC 75.110, REGISTERED GUIDE-OUTFITTER EXAMINATIONS
- 12 AAC 75.260, REGISTERED GUIDE-OUTFITTER CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS

- The board is behind on getting regulation projects out for public comment. This is primarily due to the complication of the regulations process at the department over the last five or more years, and the overburden of tasks to staff being shared between multiple Boards. The board has also experienced some turnover in members and the chairman. In addition, the Governor's administrative order to pause all regulation projects until further notice has put all of the board's current regulation projects on hold.
- In addition to current regulatory projects, the board will continue work on the following:
 - o Complete the process to help DNR implement the Guide Concession Program as authorized by statute.
 - o Construct a workgroup for transporter concessions.
 - o Start a new regulations project to simply repeal the unneeded regulations.
 - o Seek Legislative support to provide for emergency situations by relaxing some regulations for a contracting guide-outfitter in some situations, add survivorship for emergency transfers, remove some former regulations from statute so the board may make changes, allow for hunt planner and booking agent licenses, add guide seats to the board to ease the workload of board members, provide Commissioner emergency authority to deal with unforeseen situations (covid, licensee illness, deaths, etc.), authorize the board to implement continuing education for licensees, change the fine amounts that triggers license suspensions.
 - o Continue to strengthen the ethics standards. We continue to incorporate ethical violations into sanction actions. Moving forward, ethics violations may need to be incorporated into the disciplinary guidelines and precedence matrix. These violations are very difficult to maneuver and often times are without enough proof to justify board action. The board recognizes these barriers and plans to move forward with procedures to aid in the decision process of ethics violations once current projects are complete.

**Big Game Commercial Services Board
FY 2025 Annual Report**

Needs

- 3rd party proctor service to provide examinations outside of the current two times a year process. This will also allow examinations to be administered remotely.
- Lifting of the administrative order regarding pausing of regulation projects, to successfully and safely conduct business.
- Allowing board travel to conduct business in-person at important problem areas around the state.



MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 25, 2026
 TO: Big Game Commercial Services Board
 THRU: Erika Prieksat, Chief Investigator
 FROM: Lee Strout, Investigator *LS*
 RE: Investigative Report for the March 11, 2026 Meeting

The following information was compiled as an investigative report to the Board for the period of January 28, 2026 thru February 25, 2026; this report includes cases, complaints, and intake matters handled since the last report.

Matters opened by the Paralegals in Anchorage and Juneau, regarding continuing education audits and license action resulting from those matters are covered in this report.

OPEN - 77

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Violation Type</u>	<u>Case Status</u>	<u>Status Date</u>
2026-000038	Criminal action - conviction	Complaint	02/05/2026
2025-001114	Criminal action - conviction	Investigation	12/30/2025

ASSISTANT GUIDE

2026-000148	License Application Review/Referral	Intake	02/12/2026
2025-000685	License Application Review/Referral	Complaint	07/24/2025
2025-001215	Criminal action - conviction	Complaint	12/22/2025
2026-000106	License Application Review/Referral	Investigation	02/09/2026
2026-000138	Criminal action - conviction	Investigation	02/19/2026
2024-000145	Criminal action - no conviction	Criminal Case Pending	

CLASS A ASSISTANT GUIDE

2025-001107	Violation of Profession Statute or Regulation	Investigation	12/31/2025
2024-000970	Criminal action - no conviction	Criminal Case Pending	

GUIDE-OUTFITTER

2026-000109	License Application Review/Referral	Intake	02/04/2026
2026-000145	License Application Review/Referral	Intake	02/12/2026
2026-000142	Falsified application	Complaint	02/13/2026

MASTER GUIDE-OUTFITTER

2026-000069	Violation of Profession Statute or Regulation	Intake	01/22/2026
2026-000149	License Application Review/Referral	Intake	02/12/2026
2020-000135	Criminal action - no conviction	Complaint	03/04/2020
2023-000977	Violation of licensing regulation	Complaint	10/09/2023
2023-000978	Violation of licensing regulation	Complaint	10/17/2023
2024-000340	Violation of License Regulation	Complaint	05/13/2024
2025-000723	Violation of Profession Statute or Regulation	Complaint	08/18/2025
2025-000838	Violation of Profession Statute or Regulation	Complaint	01/26/2026
2025-000945	Criminal action - conviction	Complaint	10/01/2025
2025-001183	Criminal action - conviction	Complaint	12/16/2025
2022-000615	Criminal action - conviction	Investigation	07/30/2024
2023-000008	Violation of licensing regulation	Investigation	04/03/2024
2025-001032	Criminal action - conviction	Investigation	01/07/2026
2022-000100	Criminal action - no conviction	Criminal Case Pending	
2022-000577	Criminal action - no conviction	Criminal Case Pending	

REGISTERED GUIDE-OUTFITTER

2026-000150	License Application Review/Referral	Intake	02/12/2026
2023-000270	Violation of licensing regulation	Complaint	04/03/2023
2023-000900	Criminal action - no conviction	Complaint	08/21/2023
2024-000010	Criminal action - no conviction	Complaint	01/04/2024
2024-000795	Violation of Profession Statute or Regulation	Complaint	08/29/2024

2024-000952	Violation of Profession Statute or Regulation	Complaint	11/06/2024
2024-001048	Violation of License Regulation	Complaint	12/09/2024
2025-000925	Criminal action - no conviction	Complaint	09/24/2025
2025-000929	Violation of Profession Statute or Regulation	Complaint	09/30/2025
2025-000938	Criminal action - conviction	Complaint	09/29/2025
2025-001105	Criminal action - no conviction	Complaint	11/19/2025
2025-001113	Violation of Profession Statute or Regulation	Complaint	11/20/2025
2025-001182	Criminal action - conviction	Complaint	12/16/2025
2022-000244	Criminal action - no conviction	Investigation	06/09/2025
2022-000686	Criminal action - no conviction	Investigation	07/23/2025
2023-000918	Criminal action - no conviction	Investigation	02/04/2025
2023-000974	Violation of licensing regulation	Investigation	07/23/2025
2023-000983	Violation of licensing regulation	Investigation	07/23/2025
2023-001145	Violation of licensing regulation	Investigation	07/02/2024
2023-001197	Violation of Profession Statute or Regulation	Investigation	07/02/2024
2024-000162	Violation of Profession Statute or Regulation	Investigation	07/23/2025
2024-000469	Fraud or misrepresentation	Investigation	07/23/2025
2024-000695	License Application Review/Referral	Investigation	08/19/2025
2024-000803	Violation of Profession Statute or Regulation	Investigation	07/23/2025
2024-000854	Criminal action - conviction	Investigation	08/20/2025
2024-001018	Criminal action - no conviction	Investigation	01/14/2026
2025-000383	Criminal action - conviction	Investigation	05/21/2025
2025-000617	Criminal action - conviction	Investigation	11/06/2025
2025-000856	Violation of Profession Statute or Regulation	Investigation	01/13/2026
2025-001006	Violation of Profession Statute or Regulation	Investigation	01/14/2026
2021-000624	Criminal action - no conviction	Criminal Case Pending	
2022-000406	Criminal action - no conviction	Criminal Case Pending	
2022-000407	Criminal action - no conviction	Criminal Case Pending	
2023-000151	Violation of licensing regulation	Criminal Case Pending	
2023-000158	Violation of licensing regulation	Criminal Case Pending	
2023-001042	Criminal action - no conviction	Criminal Case Pending	

2024-001009	Criminal action - no conviction	Criminal Case Pending
2024-001010	Criminal action - no conviction	Criminal Case Pending

TRANSPORTER

2026-000146	License Application Review/Referral	Intake	02/12/2026
2026-000147	License Application Review/Referral	Intake	02/12/2026
2026-000173	License Application Review/Referral	Intake	02/19/2026
2023-001034	Criminal action - no conviction	Complaint	11/22/2023
2023-001048	Violation of licensing regulation	Complaint	10/18/2023
2023-001049	Violation of licensing regulation	Complaint	10/17/2023
2019-000483	Criminal action - no conviction	Investigation	04/06/2022
2019-000589	Falsified application	Investigation	04/06/2022
2023-000705	Violation of licensing regulation	Investigation	12/11/2024
2026-000037	Criminal action - conviction	Investigation	01/29/2026
2025-000573	Criminal action - no conviction	Criminal Case Pending	

Closed - 6

<u>Case #</u>	<u>Violation Type</u>	<u>Case Status</u>	<u>Closed</u>	<u>Closure</u>
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ASSISTANT GUIDE

2025-001025	Probation violation	Closed-Complaint	02/13/2026	No Action - No Violation
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GUIDE-OUTFITTER

2026-000107	License Application Review/Referral	Closed-Intake	02/11/2026	Review Complete
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REGISTERED GUIDE-OUTFITTER

2026-000097	License Application Review/Referral	Closed-Intake	02/10/2026	Review Complete
2026-000174	License Application Review/Referral	Closed-Intake	02/20/2026	Review Complete

TRANSPORTER

2026-000164	License Application Review/Referral	Closed-Intake	02/20/2026	Review Complete
2026-000189	License Application Review/Referral	Closed-Intake	02/20/2026	Review Complete

END OF REPORT

EXECUTIVE SESSION MOTION

I, _____, move that the Alaska State Big Game Commercial Services Board enter into executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c), and Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of discussing _____

Board staff member(s) _____ to remain during the session.

Off record: _____

On record: _____

Authority: AS 44.62.310(c), Government meetings public

The following subjects may be considered in executive session:

- matters, the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the public entity;
- **subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion;**
- **matters which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required to be confidential;**
- matters involving consideration of government records that by law are not subject to public disclosure.

2026 HOLIDAY CALENDAR

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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FEBRUARY

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MAY

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31						

JUNE

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JULY

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AUGUST

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SEPTEMBER

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OCTOBER

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NOVEMBER

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DECEMBER

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26	27	28	29	30	31	

 Holiday

State Holidays

Date	Holiday
01/01/26	New Year's Day
01/19/26	MLK Jr.'s Birthday
02/16/26	Presidents' Day
03/30/26	Seward's Day
05/25/26	Memorial Day
06/19/26	Juneteenth Day
07/04/26	Independence Day (observed 07/03/2026)

State Holidays

Date	Holiday
09/07/26	Labor Day
10/18/26	Alaska Day (observed 10/19/2026)
11/11/26	Veterans' Day
11/26/26	Thanksgiving Day
12/25/26	Christmas Day

Please refer to appropriate collective bargaining unit agreement for more information regarding holidays.