

TO: Supervisor Chad Lupinacci

FROM: Chief Administrative Law Judge Joshua C. Price, Director of the Bureau of Administrative Adjudication

RE: Annual Report on Board of Administrative Adjudication Operations

DATE: May 28, 2021

In 2019, the Huntington Town Council enacted Resolution 2019-596 creating the Bureau of Administrative Adjudication (hereinafter “BAA”). In February 2020, Supervisor Chad Lupinacci appointed (with the advice and consent of the Town Council) Joshua C. Price as the Chief Administrative Law Judge and Director the BAA.

The BAA needed to be built from scratch. Initially, the Town Attorney promulgated rules for the BAA. Upon his appointment, the Director revised the suggested rules and then published them for public comment. No public comment was received. The BAA adopted the rules, which are published on the Town website.

The Director appointed four administrative law judges. Judge Mara Manin Amendola was appointed to be the back-up judge. The Director appointed James Leonick, Gregory Grizopoulos, and Tammy Skinner as appellate judges. All of the judges have extensive legal experience as practicing attorneys. Additionally, the judges observed court proceedings and received specific training on court operations.

The Director supervised the development of software in collaboration with the Department of Information Technology.

The BAA commenced operations in September 2020. The BAA hears cases on Thursdays with all cases appearing on the calendar for a 9:30 a.m. start; any hearings are scheduled for 2:00 p.m.

From opening day on September 17, 2020 through December 31, 2020, the BAA reports the following statistics:

Total cases: 320

Total defaults: 34

Total hearings conducted: 3

Total dollar amount collected from respondents who appeared: \$39,476

Total dollar amount levied against respondents who defaulted: \$194,200

Total dollar amount collected from a respondent who defaulted: \$0

Collecting money from respondents who have defaulted is beyond the authority of the BAA; collecting default judgments falls under the jurisdiction of the Town Attorney.

It is recommended that the Supervisor encourage efforts to collect when there is default in appearing and when a citizen stipulates to pay money but fails to do so.

The undersigned is happy to provide any information that the Supervisor should request.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Joshua C. Price
Chief Administrative Law Judge
Director of the BAA