

Resolution No. R-023- 087

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, COLORADO**

**A Resolution for the Formal Censure of Douglas County Commissioner Lora Thomas.**

*WHEREAS*, pursuant to C.R.S. § 30-11-101, the following resolution is adopted for the welfare of Douglas County.

*WHEREAS* the Board of County Commissioners adopted a Commissioners' Code of Conduct. The Commissioners' Code of Conduct states in relevant part:

*The Board of County Commissioners commits itself to ethical, businesslike, and lawful conduct, including proper use of authority and appropriate decorum when acting as the Board of County Commissioners.*

*Commissioners shall support the maintenance of a positive, professional, and productive workplace environment at the county and inspire confidence in the functioning of county government.*

*Commissioners shall conduct themselves at all times in a manner that is professional, respectful, courteous, and civil toward one another and those with whom they engage in their official capacity.*

*WHEREAS* the Commissioners' Code of Conduct further states:

*The Code of Conduct section of the policy manual expresses standards of ethical conduct expected for commissioners. Commissioners themselves have the primary responsibility to ensure that ethical standards are understood and met, and that the public can continue to have full confidence in the integrity of local government.*

*The Board of County Commissioners may impose sanctions on commissioners whose conduct does not comply with the Board's ethical standards, such as reprimand, formal censure, loss of committee assignment, and/or budget restriction.*

*WHEREAS*, in public comments related to the Douglas County Cultural Council, a volunteer board, which represents Douglas County in the Colorado Scientific and Cultural Facilities District, Commissioner Lora Thomas criticized the Cultural Council, questioned the performance of the Cultural Council, and employed a tone meant to negatively represent the Cultural Council's work. Members of the Douglas County Cultural Council reported feeling publicly shamed and attacked by Commissioner Thomas's comments. Members of the Cultural Council reported feeling their values were compromised and morale diminished by Commissioner Thomas' comments. James Smith, ex-Chair of the Douglas

County Cultural Council attributed his resignation from the Cultural Council to Commissioner Thomas' comments.


*WHEREAS* the Board of County Commissioners determines such behavior violates the Douglas County Commissioners' Code of Conduct; is unprofessional and not an acceptable representation of Board practices; is conduct unbecoming one of its members; and tarnishes Douglas County's reputation.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Douglas, State of Colorado, publicly censure Douglas County Commissioner Lora Thomas for behavior contrary to the Douglas County Commissioners' Code of Conduct and conduct detrimental to Douglas County.

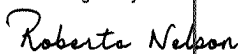
**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 22nd day of August 2023, in Castle Rock, Douglas County, Colorado.

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, COLORADO**

**BY:**

DocuSigned by:  
  
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DS  
**ABE LAYDON, Chair**

**ATTEST:**

DocuSigned by:  
  
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**ROBERTA NELSON, Clerk to the Board**

