



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

98-114

April 12, 1999

PRESS RELEASE

On December 4, 1998, Ethics Commission Principal Attorney Brenda M. Bergeron filed a Complaint against Gerry Egan, High Sheriff for New London County, alleging that Sheriff Egan had hired his wife and son as Special Deputy Sheriffs, in violation of the Code of Ethics for Public Officials, Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-79 et seq.

On April 9, 1999, the Ethics Commission and the Respondent settled this matter by entering into a Stipulation and Order which requires the Respondent to pay a civil penalty of \$4000, and to participate in ethics training which will be provided to all of the state's High Sheriffs.

Copies of the Complaint and the Stipulation and Order are attached.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

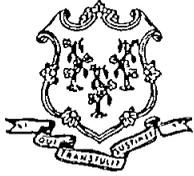
Alan S. Plofsky
Executive Director and General Counsel

or

Brenda M. Bergeron
Principal Attorney

566-4472

eganpr



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

DOCKET NUMBER 98-14

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF A

20 TRINITY STREET

COMPLAINT AGAINST

HARTFORD, CT 06106

GERRY EGAN

APRIL 9, 1999

STIPULATION AND ORDER

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-177(c), the State Ethics Commission and the Respondent agree to settle this matter in the manner described below:

1. The Commission finds that the Respondent violated the Code of Ethics for Public Officials as alleged in the Complaint dated December 4, 1998, when he appointed his wife and son to positions as Special Deputy Sheriffs. The Commission further finds that these violations were not intentional, but were the result of the Respondent's failure to familiarize himself with the Code of Ethics.

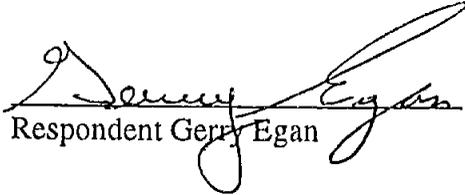
2. The Respondent submits that, during the course of their employment, his wife and son fully performed their duties as Special Deputies and received only the usual compensation for their positions. Therefore, the Respondent states, the State suffered no economic detriment. Furthermore, the Respondent has terminated their employment. The Respondent also submits that his son was hired only after the normal civil service process for hiring special deputy sheriffs had been followed: the Respondent was not aware that appointing his son after a hiring process which included a test administered by the Department of Administrative Services, a physical administered by UConn Health Services and a training program at the sheriff's academy was a violation of the Code of Ethics.

3. The Respondent waives any rights he may have under Conn. Gen. Stat. §§1-82, 1-82a, 1-87 and 1-80, including any right to a hearing or appeal in this case, and agrees with the Commission to an informal disposition of this matter as authorized by Conn. Gen. Stat. §4-177(c).

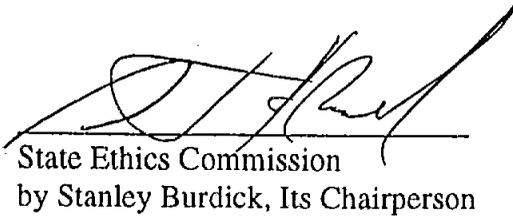
WHEREFORE, the State Ethics Commission enters and the Respondent agrees to the following order in lieu of any other action regarding this matter:

The Respondent agrees to pay \$4000 to the State Ethics Commission, payable in four monthly installments of \$1000 each, the first payment to be made within thirty days

of this Stipulation and Order, and henceforth to comply with the Code of Ethics. The Respondent also agrees that he will participate in training which is to be provided for all the High Sheriffs by the Ethics Commission staff regarding the Code of Ethics for Public Officials.


Respondent Gerry Egan

3-19-99
Dated


State Ethics Commission
by Stanley Burdick, Its Chairperson

4/9/99
Dated

eganstip

SHERIFF EGAN'S STATEMENT

I have been in the forefront of the effort to mandate the rigorous requirements to which my son's hiring was subject. As Chairman of the Sheriff's Advisory Board, I led the effort to introduce a higher level of professionalism into the sheriff's department and to insulate it from the highly criticized process that historically prevailed. As legislative liaison for the Sheriff's Advisory Board, I played a significant role in the passage of Public Act 97-148 which places special deputy sheriffs under the umbrella of the State Personnel and Retirement Acts and authorizes them to collectively bargain as of July 1, 1999. Under my direction and leadership, practices and procedures have been implemented statewide to insure that Special Deputy Sheriffs meet all statutory training mandates. In view of these efforts, it is clear that any violation by me of the Ethics Code was unintentional.

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