

98-8



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

December 7, 1998

PRESS RELEASE

On June 5, 1998, Ethics Commission Attorney Catherine Wassel-Nasto filed a complaint (Docket Number 98-8) against Louis Martin, Executive Director of the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities ("CHRO"). The complaint alleged that Mr. Martin violated the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-84(c) by conducting a private human rights training consulting business known as "Albion Associates" for the benefit of which he utilized State time, travel, personnel and/or other resources. The complaint also alleged that Mr. Martin's conduct of "Albion Associates" impaired his independence of judgment as to his official duties in violation of Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-84(b). Records obtained throughout the investigation into these allegations indicated that: 1) Albion Associates provided paid consulting services to "Carrier Corporation," a subsidiary company of United Technologies Corporation ("UTC"), at a time during which UTC had active cases pending before the CHRO; 2) Mr. Martin used the fact of his official position in marketing materials for Albion Associates; and, 3) CHRO employees over whom Mr. Martin had direct supervisory responsibility and whose career advancement was subject to his control were paid to do consulting work on behalf of Albion Associates.

On the basis of the above-referenced counts, on December 4, 1998, the Ethics Commission and Mr. Martin settled this matter by entering into a Stipulation and Order. Under the settlement, the Ethics Commission found that Mr. Martin violated the Code of Ethics as alleged in its complaint, and Mr. Martin agreed to pay a civil penalty of \$3,000.00.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL:

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Executive Director and General Counsel
566-4472

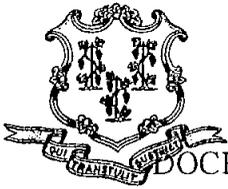
OR

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Ethics Commission Principal Attorney
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STATE OF CONNECTICUT

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

DOCKET NUMBER 98-8) STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
 IN THE MATTER OF A) 20 TRINITY STREET
 COMPLAINT AGAINST) HARTFORD, CT 06106
 LOUIS MARTIN) NOVEMBER 18, 1998

STIPULATION AND ORDER

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-177(c), the State Ethics Commission and the Respondent Louis Martin 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 attached Complaint dated June 5, 1998.
2. The Respondent does not admit the allegations of the Complaint, but does not choose to contest the Commission's findings by pursuing costly litigation, and therefore agrees to settle the matter as set forth below.
3. The Respondent waives any rights he may have under Conn. Gen. Stat. §§1-82, 1-82a, 1-87 and 1-80, including the 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 Louis Martin agrees to, the following orders in lieu of any other action it is authorized to take with regard to this Complaint:

1. The Respondent is ordered to remit a civil penalty of \$3,000.00 payable in \$750.00 monthly installments, the first installment to be made within thirty days; and
2. Henceforth comply with the provisions of the Code of Ethics for Public Officials.

Respondent Dated

Chairperson, State Ethics Commission Dated

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

CONFIDENTIAL

DOCKET NUMBER 98-8) STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
IN THE MATTER OF A) 20 TRINITY STREET
COMPLAINT AGAINST) HARTFORD, CT 06106
LOUIS MARTIN) JUNE 5, 1998

COMPLAINT

It is hereby alleged that:

1. At all times relevant to the complaint, the Respondent was the Executive Director of the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities and a public official within the meaning of Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-79(k).
2. Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-84(c) states in part that "no public official ... shall use his public office or position ... to obtain financial gain for himself."
3. Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-84(b) states in part that "no public official ... shall accept other employment which will ... impair his independence of judgment as to his official duties or employment"
4. Upon information and belief, from June 1995 through June 1998, the Respondent utilized State time, travel, personnel and/or other resources incident to the performance of human rights training for the consulting business known as "Albion Associates," of which he is a principal.
5. Each use of State time, travel, personnel and/or other resource as outlined in paragraph 4 above, constitutes a violation of Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-84(c).
6. The Respondent's conduct of Albion Associates during his tenure as Executive Director of the CHRO constitutes a violation of Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-84(b).

C. Nasto

Catherine Nasto
Ethics Commission Attorney

6/5/98
Date

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