OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

DOCKET NUMBER 2008-36	:	OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS
IN THE MATTER OF A	:	18-20 TRINITY STREET
COMPLAINT AGAINST	:	HARTFORD, CT 06106
ROBERT JACOBS	:	NOVEMBER 20, 2009

STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

Pursuant to the Code of Ethics, General Statutes sections 1-79, et seq., Thomas K. Jones, Ethics Enforcement Officer for the Office of State Ethics ("OSE"), issued a Complaint against the Respondent Robert Jacobs ("Jacobs" or "Respondent") for violations of the Code of Ethics, Connecticut General Statutes section 1-84(f). Based on the investigation by the Enforcement Division of the OSE, the Ethics Enforcement Officer finds there is probable cause to believe that the Respondent, who was a bail bondsman licensed by the state of Connecticut, provided gifts in the forms of cash, gifts and loans to several state of Connecticut employees ("state employees") in exchange for, or in consideration of, or as a reward for, those state employees assisting him in their state capacity for his business. Consequently, the Ethics Enforcement Officer finds there is probable cause to believe that the Respondent gave to state employees items of value based on the understanding that the official action or judgment of the state employees would be or had been influenced thereby, in violation of General Statutes section 1-84(f).

The Parties have entered into this Stipulation and Consent Order following the issuance of the Complaint, but without any adjudication of any issue of fact or law herein.

I. STIPULATION

The Ethics Enforcement Officer and the Respondent stipulate to the following facts:

1. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was a licensed bail bondsman associated with Jacobs Bail Bonds in New Haven, Connecticut.

2. As a bail bondsman, the Respondent, through Jacobs Bail Bonds, charged fees to persons in exchange for posting bonds on their behalves. If any person for whom bond was posted failed to appear in court at a designated time, the Respondent or Jacobs Bail Bonds would typically be obligated to pay the State of Connecticut a percentage of the bond that was posted.

3. From on or about 2000 to no later than December of 2007, the Respondent solicited and received assistance from one or more state employees, as that term is defined in General Statutes § 1-79(m), acting in their state capacities.

4. In exchange for, in consideration of, or as a reward for the state employees assisting the Respondent in his business in their state capacities, the Respondent provided cash, gifts, loans and/or other items of value to the state employees.

5. General Statutes §1-84(f) states in pertinent part:

> No person shall offer or give to a… state employee…anything of value, including, but not limited to, a gift, loan, political contribution, reward or promise of future employment based on any understanding that the… official action or judgment of the… state employee… would be or had been influenced thereby.

6. By providing cash, gifts, loans and/or other items of value to state employees based on the understanding that the state employees' official actions and/or

judgment would be or had been influenced thereby, the Respondent violated General Statutes §1-84(f).

7. The Respondent admits to all the foregoing facts set forth in this stipulation and consent order and admits that such facts constitute a violation of General Statutes §1-84(f).

II. JURISDICTION

1. The Ethics Enforcement Officer is authorized to investigate the Respondent's acts as set forth herein, to issue a Complaint against the Respondent, and to enter into this Stipulation and Consent Order.

2. The provisions of this Stipulation and Consent Order apply to and are binding upon the Respondent.

3. The Respondent hereby waives all objections and defenses to the jurisdiction of the Ethics Enforcement Officer over matters addressed in this Stipulation and Consent Order.

4. The Respondent waives any rights he may have under General Statutes sections 1-80, 1-82, 1-82a, 1-87 and 1-88, including the right to a hearing or appeal in this case, and agrees with the Ethics Enforcement Officer to an informal disposition of this matter as authorized by General Statutes section 4-177(c).

5. The Respondent consents to jurisdiction and venue in the Connecticut Superior Court, Judicial District of Hartford, in the event that the State of Connecticut seeks to enforce this Stipulation and Consent Order. The Respondent recognizes that the Connecticut Superior Court has the authority to specifically enforce the provisions of this Stipulation and Consent Order, including the authority to award equitable relief.

6. The terms set forth herein are in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other existing or future statutory, regulatory, or other legal obligation that may be applicable to the Respondent.

7. The Respondent understands that he has the right to counsel and has been represented by counsel throughout the negotiation of this settlement.

III. ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to General Statutes section 4-177(c), the Office of State Ethics hereby **ORDERS**, and the Respondent agrees, that:

1. Pursuant to General Statutes section 1-88(a)(1), the Respondent will heretofore cease and desist from any future violation of General Statutes § 1-84(f).

2. Pursuant to General Statutes section 1-88(a)(3), the Respondent will pay civil penalties to the State in the amount of two thousand five hundred dollars ($2,500.00) for his violation of General Statutes sections 1-84(f).

3. The Respondent shall not seek or accept work as a bail bondsman in the state of Connecticut for two (2) years following the execution of this Stipulation and Consent Order.

4. The Respondent shall not seek or enter into employment with the state of Connecticut for two (2) years following the execution of this Stipulation and Consent Order.

5. The Respondent shall not seek or enter into any contract for services with the state of Connecticut for two (2) years following the execution of this Stipulation and Consent Order.

6. If the Respondent should, in the future, become employed as a state employee, the Respondent shall be subject to the filing requirements of General Statutes section 1-83 (statement of financial interests) for each year in which he serves as a state employee.

WHEREFORE, the Ethics Enforcement Officer and the Respondent hereby execute this Stipulation and Consent Order dated November 20, 2009.

Dated: November 25, 2009

Robert Jacobs
Respondent
19 Linden Shores
Branford, CT 06405-5253

Dated: November 30, 2009

Thomas K. Jones
Ethics Enforcement Officer
Connecticut Office of State Ethics
18-20 Trinity Street
Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 263-2390