

DOCKET NUMBER 2006-65)	OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS
)	
IN THE MATTER OF A)	18-20 TRINITY STREET
)	
COMPLAINT AGAINST)	HARTFORD, CT 06106
)	
<u>ADRIENNE NAILS</u>)	MARCH 9, 2007

STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

Pursuant to the Code of Ethics, Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 1-79, et seq., Thomas K. Jones, Ethics Enforcement Officer for the Office of State Ethics (“OSE”), issued a complaint (“Complaint”) against the respondent Adrienne Nails (“Nails” or “Respondent”) for a violation of the Code of Ethics, Connecticut General Statutes §1-84(i). Based on the findings of an investigation by the Enforcement Division of the OSE, the Ethics Enforcement Officer believes that the Respondent entered into a contract with the Department of Veterans Affairs (“DVA”), her employer, valued at an amount over \$100.00, without the contract being awarded through an open and public process. At the time that the violation occurred, Nails was employed by the State of Connecticut DVA as a Fiscal Administrative Officer.

The Parties have entered into this Stipulation and Consent Order following issue of the Complaint, but without adjudication of any issue of fact or law herein. This Stipulation and Consent Order relates solely to the specific allegations of the Complaint. With the Respondent’s stipulation to entry into this agreement, the Respondent admits to the allegations detailed below.

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I. FINDINGS

Based upon the Ethics Enforcement Officer's investigation, the Ethics Enforcement Officer was prepared to allege the following:

1. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was employed by the State of Connecticut as a Fiscal Administrative Officer for the DVA.
2. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was a "State Employee" as is defined in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 1-79(m) (formerly Conn. Gen. Stat. § 1-79(1)).
3. On June 12, 2004, the DVA held an event in celebration of the 140th anniversary ("event") of the Veterans' home and hospital in Rocky Hill.
4. In or about June of 2004, the Respondent entered into a contract with the DVA to perform at said event. The amount of the contract was \$1,500.00.
5. The contract between Nails and the DVA was not awarded through an open and public process.
6. The contract was not a contract for state employment.
7. Pursuant to her contract with the DVA, the Respondent performed at the event.
8. As a result of her performance, the Respondent was paid the full amount of the contract subsequent to the event.
9. By entering into a contract with the DVA valued at over \$100.00, without such contract being awarded through an open and public process, the Respondent violated Connecticut General Statutes §1-84(i).

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NOW THEREFORE, the Ethics Enforcement Officer of the Connecticut Office of State Ethics and the Respondent hereby enter into this Stipulation and Consent Officer and hereby agree as follows:

II. JURISDICTION

1. The Ethics Enforcement Officer is authorized to investigate the Respondent's employment practices, 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 undersigned Parties.

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 she 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 Ethics Enforcement Officer to an informal disposition of this matter as authorized by Conn. Gen. Stat. § 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.

III. REPRESENTATION

The Respondent understands that she has the right to counsel and has expressly waived such right.

IV. ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 4-177(c), the Ethics Enforcement Officer and Nails agree to settle the matter in the manner described below:

1. Pursuant to General Statutes § 1-88(a)(1), Ethics Enforcement Officer orders and the Respondent agrees to cease and desist from any future violation of General Statutes § 1-84(i).

2. Pursuant to General Statutes § 1-88(a)(3), the Ethics Enforcement Officer orders and the Respondent agrees that the Respondent pay civil penalties to the State in the amount of TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) for violation of General Statutes § 1-84(i).

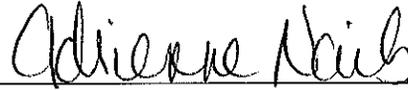
3. The Ethics Enforcement Officer orders and the Respondent agrees to pay all damages and civil penalties to the Office of State Ethics within thirty (30) days of the signing to this Stipulation and Consent Order;

4. Nails agrees to henceforth comply with the requirements of the Code of Ethics for Public Officials.

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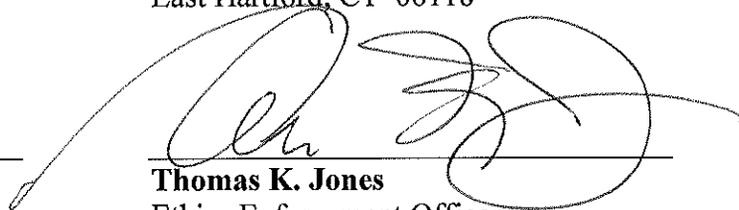
WHEREFORE, the Ethics Enforcement Officer and the Respondent hereby execute this Stipulation and Consent Order dated March 9, 2007.

Dated: 03/08/07



Adrienne Nails
Respondent
622 Oak Street
East Hartford, CT 06118

Dated: 3/19/07



Thomas K. Jones
Ethics Enforcement Officer,
Enforcement Division,
State of Connecticut Office of State Ethics
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Hartford, CT 06106
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