



OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

DOCKET NUMBER 2014-43 :  
IN THE MATTER OF A : 18-20 TRINITY STREET  
COMPLAINT AGAINST : HARTFORD, CT 06106  
AMISHA DESAI : JUNE 23, 2015

**STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER**

Pursuant to the Code of Ethics, General Statutes §§ 1-79, *et seq.*, Thomas Jones, Ethics Enforcement Officer, filed a Complaint against Amisha Desai (“Desai” or “Respondent”), alleging violations of the Code of Ethics. Based on the investigation by the Enforcement Division of the Office of State Ethics (“OSE”), the OSE finds that there is probable cause to believe that the Respondent violated § 1-84 (c) of the Code of Ethics, as further set forth herein.

The Parties have entered into this 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, Amisha Desai (hereinafter “Desai” or “Respondent”) was employed as a Human Resources Specialist at the Department of Mental Health and

Addiction Services (hereinafter "DMHAS").

2. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was a "State Employee" as that term is defined in General Statutes § 1-79 (m).

3. During the years 2010-2014, the Respondent owned and/or operated several private businesses, including two restaurants, one liquor store and a hotel (the "private businesses").

4. The private businesses that the Respondent owned and/or operated were not related to her state job duties.

5. During the years 2010-2014, the Respondent used state resources to operate her private businesses, including her state-issued computer, state issued e-mail account, state copier, and state telephone.

6. The Respondent used state resources to operate her private businesses while on state time, and was compensated by the state for such time.

7. The resources that the Respondent used to conduct her private businesses were provided by virtue of her state position.

8. General Statutes § 1-84 (c) states in pertinent part:

No public official or state employee... shall use his public office or position or any confidential information received through his holding such public office or position to obtain financial gain for himself, his spouse, child, child's spouse, parent, brother or sister or a business with which he is associated.

9. The Respondent, by using the resources provided by virtue of her state position for private business purposes, used her public office or position to obtain financial gain for herself, in violation of General Statutes § 1-84 (c).

## **II. RESPONDENT'S POSITION**

1. The Respondent states that she has always received annual evaluations that were either "good" or "excellent."
2. The Respondent states that she did not intend to violate the Code of Ethics

## **III. JURISDICTION**

1. The Ethics Enforcement Officer is authorized to investigate the Respondent's acts as set forth herein, 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 she may have under General Statutes §§ 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 § 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 she has a right to counsel and has chosen not to be represented by counsel during the OSE's investigation and in connection with this Stipulation and Consent Order.

**IV. ORDER**

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

1. Pursuant to General Statutes § 1-88 (a) (1), Desai will cease and desist from any future violation of § 1-84 (c).

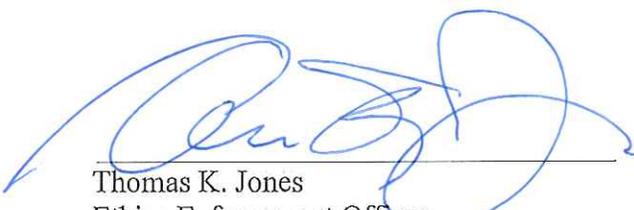
2. Pursuant to General Statutes § 1-88 (a) (3), Desai will pay a civil penalty to the State in the amount of three thousand dollars (\$ 3,000.00) for his violation of General Statutes § 1-84 (c) as set forth in the Complaint and herein.

WHEREFORE, the Ethics Enforcement Officer and Desai hereby execute this Stipulation and Consent Order dated June 23, 2015.

Dated: 06/29/15

  
Amisha Desai

Dated: 6/29/15

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