



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

---

**MINUTES**  
**STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room**  
**May 15, 2013**  
**9:00 A.M.**

***I. Call to Order***

Chairman Anthony Castagno was present and called the meeting to order at 9:05 A.M. Commissioner Stephen Cashman was present and Commissioners Joan Jenkins and Patricia Stankevicius were present via teleconference, agency staff was also present.

***II. Approval of the Minutes***

*Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of April 17, 2013*

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Cashman to approve the Minutes of the April 17, 2013 meeting as amended. So voted.

***III. Administrative Reports***

Mr. Brandi reported that there is a surplus in SEEC's budget due to conserving purchases and staff vacancies, which is good news. More good news is that the Citizens Election Fund has over \$20 Million for future elections.

There is a special election being held in June in House District 52.

Mr. Brandi reports that personnel wise, there remains three unfilled SEEC positions. These positions include that of a Director of Finance and Disclosure, an Accounts Examiner and a Fiscal Administrative Officer. All of which SEEC is trying to fill.

The Information Technology team is working on an integrated audit function for the SEEC website. The team is also working on making more comprehensive information available to the public.

The legislative bill for a pilot program for municipal campaign filings has passed in the House and will be voted on in the Senate. Two other bills are awaiting the House and Senate for approval, which relate to prior bad acts and commissioner appointments.

SEEC staff is working closely with the Secretary of the State's Office staff on election bills and trying to move them forward.

---

20 Trinity Street • Hartford, Connecticut • 06106—1628

Phone: (860) 256-2940 • Toll Free-CT Only: 1-866-SEEC-INFO • Email: SEEC@ct.gov • Internet: www.ct.gov/seec

*Affirmative Action / Equal Opportunity Employer*

**IV. Pending Complaints and Investigations**

**A. Consideration of Hearing Officer's Reports**

1. In the Matter of a Referral by the Campaign Disclosure and audit Unit of the State Elections Enforcement Commission  
File No. 2012-211 NF  
Hearing Officer: Michael J. Brandi  
Respondent: Jonathan Kastner  
Prosecutor: Patrick J. Lamb

Hearing Officer Brandi summarized the above referenced report and proposed final decision in File No. 2012-211 NF. Attorney Lamb recommended an amendment to change all three reports regarding the wording of precisely who represented the state in these matters. He also recommended adoption of the proposed final decision.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to adopt the amendment in File No. 2012-211 NF. So voted.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to add a line to the proposed final decision for File No. 2012-211 NF, which stated that upon satisfaction of the signed final decision, SEEC will not refer the case to the Attorney General's Office for civil penalty enforcement. So voted.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to adopt the proposed final decision in File No. 2012-211 NF. So voted. The final decision is available on our website under Commission Decisions.

2. In the Matter of a Referral by the Campaign Disclosure and audit Unit of the State Elections Enforcement Commission  
File No. 2012-231 NF  
Hearing Officer: Michael J. Brandi  
Respondent: Wayne H. Knight  
Prosecutor: Patrick J. Lamb

Hearing Officer Brandi summarized the above referenced report and proposed final decision in File No. 2012-231 NF. He recommended adoption of the proposed final decision.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Cashman to adopt the proposed final decision in File No. 2012-231 NF. So voted. The final decision is available on our website under Commission Decisions.

3. In the Matter of a Referral by the Campaign Disclosure and audit Unit of the State Elections Enforcement Commission

File No. 2012-220 NF

Hearing Officer: Michael J. Brandi  
Respondent: Stephanie L. Savoy  
Prosecutor: Patrick J. Lamb

Hearing Officer Brandi summarized the above referenced report and proposed final decision in File No. 2012-220 NF. He recommended adoption of the proposed final decision.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Cashman to adopt the proposed final decision in File No. 2012-220 NF. So voted. The final decision is available on our website under Commission Decisions.

*B. Public Session*

4. In the Matter of a Complaint by John S. McGinnis, Bridgeport  
File No. 2012-172

Proposed Findings and Conclusions

Respondent: City of Bridgeport  
Attorney: William B. Smith  
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings and Conclusions in File No. 2012-172. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings and Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to adopt the Proposed Findings and Conclusions in File No. 2012-172. So voted. The Proposed Findings and Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

5. In the Matter of a Complaint by Lesa C. Peters, Woodbury  
File No. 2012-003

Proposed Consent Orders & Agreements

Respondents: T.J. Brennan and Susan Scott  
Attorney: William B. Smith

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and proposed Consent Agreements in File No. 2012-003. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Orders & Agreements.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the Proposed Consent Orders & Agreement in File No. 2012-003, as related to T.J. Brennan. So voted. The Proposed Consent

Orders & Agreements are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to adopt the Proposed Consent Orders & Agreement in File No. 2012-003, as related to Susan Scott, upon receipt within 10 days of the signed Consent Order & Agreement. So voted. The Proposed Consent Orders & Agreements will be available on our website under Commission Decisions.

6. In the Matter of a Complaint by Jonathan Pelto, Storrs  
File No. 2012-150  
Proposed Findings and Conclusions  
Respondent: Lillian Wade  
Attorney: William B. Smith  
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings and Conclusions in File No. 2012-150. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings and Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the Proposed Findings and Conclusions in File No. 2012-150. So voted. The Proposed Findings and Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

7. In Re: a Referral by Therese Pac, Town Clerk Bristol  
File No. 2012-163  
Proposed Findings & Conclusions  
Respondent: Nicole Douglin  
Attorney: William B. Smith  
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-163. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Stankevicius and seconded by Commissioner Cashman to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-163. So voted. The Proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

8. In Re: a Referral by John T. Coffindaffer, Oxford  
File No. 2012-075  
Proposed Findings & Conclusions  
Respondent: Nicole Douglin  
Attorney: William B. Smith  
Legal Investigators: Gilberto Oyola & Scott Branfuhr

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-075. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2012-075. So voted. The Proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

9. In the Matter of a Complaint by Janice A. Gionfriddo, Middletown, Registrar of Voters

File No. 2013-015

Proposed Findings and Conclusions

Respondent:	Dawn R. Wilson Jones
Attorney:	William B. Smith
Legal Investigators:	Gilberto Oyola & Scott Branfuhr

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2013-015. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2013-015. So voted. The Proposed Findings & Conclusions are available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

10. In the Matter of a Complaint by Deborah Evangelista, West Haven

File No. 2010-039

Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondent:	Michelle Hufcut
Attorney:	Kevin M. Ahern
Lead Legal Investigator:	Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2010-039. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2010-039. So voted. The Proposed Findings & Conclusions is available on our website under [Commission Decisions](#).

11. In the Matter of a Complaint by Evelyn Louziotis, New London

File No. 2011-152

Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondent:  
Attorney: Kevin M. Ahern  
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-152. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2011-152. So voted. The Proposed Findings & Conclusions is available on our website under Commission Decisions.

12. In Re a Referral of the Wilton Town Clerk and Registrar of Voters  
File No. 2012-168  
Proposed Consent Agreement

Respondent: John F. Hartner  
Attorney: Kevin M. Ahern

Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Agreement in File No. 2012-168. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the Proposed Consent Agreement upon receipt within 10 days in File No. 2012-168. So voted. The Proposed Consent Agreement will be available on our website under Commission Decisions.

13. In Re a Referral of the Secretary of the State, Hartford  
File No. 2012-187  
Proposed Consent Agreement

Respondent: George M. Souto, Moderator  
Attorney: Kevin M. Ahern

Attorney Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Agreement in File No. 2012-187. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the Proposed Consent Agreement in File No. 2012-187. So voted. The Proposed Consent Agreement is available on our website under Commission Decisions.

14. In the Matter of a Complaint by Ruth Sussler, New London  
File No. 2011-153  
Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondent: Edward DeMuzzio  
Attorney: James M. Talbert-Slagle  
Legal Investigators: Gilberto Oyola & Scott Branfuhr

Attorney Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings and Conclusions in File No. 2011-153. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings and Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the Findings and Conclusions in File No. 2011-153. So voted. The Proposed Findings and Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

15. In the Matter of a Complaint by Phoebe Sussler Pilj, New London  
File No. 2011-154  
Proposed Findings & Conclusions

Respondent: Edward DeMuzzio  
Attorney: James M. Talbert-Slagle  
Legal Investigators: Gilberto Oyola & Scott Branfuhr

Attorney Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings and Conclusions in File No. 2011-154. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings and Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the Proposed Findings and Conclusions in File No. 2011-154. So voted. The Proposed Findings and Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

16. In the Matter of a Complaint by Carole Dmytryshak, Salisbury  
File No. 2012-197  
Proposed Findings and Conclusions

Respondent: Vivian Nasiatka  
Attorney: James M. Talbert-Slagle  
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

Attorney Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings and Conclusions in File No. 2012-197. He recommended adoption of the updated Proposed Findings and Conclusions, replacing the older version.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to vacate the older version of the Proposed Findings and Conclusions, and adopt the updated Proposed Findings and Conclusions in File No. 2012-197. So voted. The updated Proposed Findings and Conclusions are available on our website under Commission Decisions.

17. In re Audit of “*Friends of Gerry Garcia*,” Hartford  
File No. 2012-072  
Proposed Consent Agreement  
Respondents: Ronald Petronella  
Attorney: James M. Talbert-Slagle  
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

Attorney Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Agreement in File No. 2012-072. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the Proposed Consent Agreement in File No. 2012-072. So voted. The Proposed Consent Agreement is available on our website under Commission Decisions.

18. In re Audit of “*Friends of Gerry Garcia*,” Hartford  
File No. 2012-072  
Proposed Consent Agreement  
Respondents: Gerry Garcia  
Attorney: James M. Talbert-Slagle  
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

Attorney Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Agreement in File No. 2012-072. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the Proposed Consent Agreement upon receipt within 10 days in File No. 2012-072. So voted. The Proposed Consent Agreement is available on our website under Commission Decisions.

***V. Executive Session per General Statutes §§ 1-200(6)(B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(1),(3),(4),(10) and General Statutes §9-7a, as amended by Public Act 11-48 §300***

*(Preliminary draft and agency consideration of enforcement action and exempt records relative thereto)*

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius at 10:10 A.M. to proceed into Executive Session pursuant to C.G.S. §§ 1-200(6)(B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(1),(3),(4) and (10) to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims and exempt records. So voted.

Commissioners Castagno and Cashman were present and Commissioners Jenkins and Stankevicius were present via teleconference. Staff members present were, Kevin Ahern, Michael Brandi, Shannon Kief, Evelyn Gratacos, Lindsey Leung,

William Smith, James Talbert-Slagle, Patrick Lamb, Hy Ly, Gilberto Oyola, Paige Adams, Charlie Urso, Scott Branfuhr, Matt Pribula, Mann Hasen, and Sheri-Lyn Lagueux.

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius at 10:40 A.M. to return to public session. So voted.

1. In Re: OTS Referrals Killingly Town Clerk and Stratford Town Clerk  
File Nos. 2012-166 & 2012-167  
Recommendation of Counsel  
Attorney: Patrick Lamb  
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

This matter is continued.

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Carmen Cordero, Hartford  
File No. 2011-141  
Recommendation of Counsel  
Attorney: Kevin M. Ahern  
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

This matter is continued.

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by Mary Rydingsward, Bristol  
File No. 2012-135  
Recommendation of Counsel  
Attorney: Kevin M. Ahern  
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

This matter is continued.

4. In the Matter of a Complaint by Hector Lopez, David A. Bedell, et al,  
New Canaan  
File No. 2013-018  
Request for Order  
Attorney: William B. Smith  
Legal Investigators: Gilberto Oyola & Scott Branfuhr

Attorney Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Request for Order in File No. 2013-018. He recommended adoption of the Request for Order.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to adopt the Request for Order in File No. 2013-018. So voted. The Request for Order is available on our website under Commission Decisions.

5. In the Matter of a Complaint by Lesa C. Peters, Woodbury  
File No. 2012-004  
Recommendation of Counsel  
Attorney: William B. Smith  
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

The matter is continued.

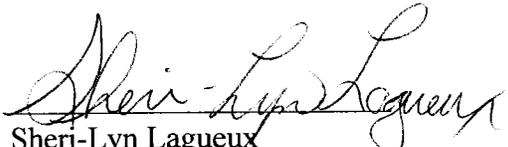
6. Recommendation of Counsel: Necessary to Investigate Determination pursuant to General Statutes §9-7a, as amended by Public Act 11-48 §300

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius to move to make a determination that it is necessary to investigate violations relating to three complaints in File Nos.: 2013-040, 2013-041 and 2013-042. So voted.

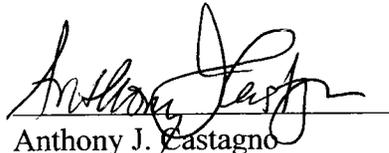
**VI. *Adjournment***

It was moved by Commissioner Cashman and seconded by Commissioner Stankevicius at 10:43 A.M. to adjourn the meeting. So voted. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes of the Commission were unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sheri-Lyn Lagueux  
Clerk of the Commission

Adopted this 19<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2013 at Hartford, Connecticut.

  
Anthony J. Castagno  
By Order of the Commission

***The next regular scheduled meeting is June 19, 2013 at 9:00 A.M. in the 5th Floor Conference room.***