



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

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**MINUTES OF THE  
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
May 14, 2008**

***I. Call to Order***

Chairman Cashman called the meeting at order at 9:05 A.M. Commissioners Jenkins, Dolan and Bozzuto were present. Staff members were also present.

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

***A. Approval of the Minutes of the April 9, 2008 Regular Meeting***

It was moved by Commissioner Dolan and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2008 regular meeting. So voted.

Attorney Andrews requested an item be added to the agenda in Section IV. She would like to add File No. 2007-245PNF, District B. Republican Committee, Chairman Jon Nathanson to request the Commission rescind its reason to believe finding.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Bozzuto to add File No. 2007-245PNF to today's agenda. So voted.

***III. Pending Complaints and Investigations***

***A. Public Session***

**1. In the Matter of a Complaint by Carl Ruggiero, East Haven  
File No. 2007-368**

Proposed Consent Agreement and Order

Respondents: James Albis

Investigator: Gilberto Oyola, Lead Legal Investigator

Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

Attorney Andrews summarized the above referenced complaint the proposed Consent Agreement and Order. She stated Respondent Albis has signed the agreement and paid the civil penalty of \$600. She recommended its adoption.

It was moved by Commission Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Bozzuto to adopt the proposed Consent Agreement and Order in File No. 2007-368. So voted. A copy of the Consent Agreement and Order is attached and incorporated herein as part of these minutes.

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Santa Mendoza, New London  
File No. 2007-415  
Proposed Consent Agreement and Order  
Respondents: Gerald Grabarek  
Investigator: Attorney Kevin Ahern  
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

This matter was continued to the next meeting.

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by George Pleau, Harwinton  
File No. 2008-009  
Proposed Findings and Conclusions  
Respondents: Suzanne Barlow  
Investigator: Attorney Marc Crayton  
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

Attorney Andrews summarized the above referenced complaint and the proposed Findings and Conclusions recommending the matter be dismissed. She recommended its adoption.

It was moved by Commission Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins to adopt the proposed Findings and Conclusions dismissing the matter for the reason stated. So voted. A copy of the Findings and Conclusions is attached and incorporated herein as part of these minutes.

*B. Executive Session per C.G.S. 1-200(6)(B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(3) and (4)*

It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commissioner Jenkins at 9:09 A.M. to proceed into Executive Session pursuant to C.G.S. 1-200(6)(B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(3) and (4) to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims and exempt records relating thereto, listed as Items 4, 5 and 6 on the agenda. So voted. Commissioners Cashman, Jenkins, Dolan and Bozzuto were present. Staff members present were: Mr. Garfield, Mr. Lenge, Ms. Andrews, Mr. Crayton, Ms. Bergquist, Mr. Ahern, Mr. Oyola, Ms. Blackburn, Ms. Stratton, Ms. Love, Ms. Rotman, Ms. Kief, Mr. Urso and Ms. Kulmacz.

It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commission Jenkins at 9:21 A.M. to return to public session. So voted.

The Commission took the following action:

4. In the Matter of a Complaint by Susan Bednarczyk  
File No. 2007-383  
Investigator: Gilberto Oyola, Lead Legal Investigator  
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

This matter was continued.

5. In the Matter of a Complaint by David F. Walsh, Stafford Springs  
File No. 2007-423  
Investigator: Gilberto Oyola, Lead Legal Investigator  
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

This matter was continued.

6. In the Matter of a Complaint by Lisa Chambers-Williams, Windsor  
File No. 2008-013  
Investigator: Attorney Shannon Bergquist  
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

This matter was continued.

***Non-Filer Compliance***

- IV. File No. 2007-229PNF  
19<sup>th</sup> District Ward Democratic Committee  
Respondent: Matthew Nemerson, Chairman  
Investigator: Attorney Marc W. Crayton  
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

Recommendation: Take administrative notice of compliance with Connecticut  
General Statutes §§9-602, 9-603 and 9-605 and payment of \$100  
as a civil penalty to the State of Connecticut.

- File No. 2007-282NF  
Windham Republican Town Committee  
Respondent: Rosita Vining, Treasurer  
Investigator: Attorney Shannon Bergquist  
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

Recommendation: Take administrative notice of compliance with Connecticut  
General Statutes §§9-608 and 9-623 and payment of \$200 as a civil  
penalty to the State of Connecticut.

- File No. 2007-360PNF  
First District Republicans  
Respondent: Kevin C. Kelly, Chairman  
Investigator: Attorney William B. Smith  
Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

Recommendation: Take administrative notice compliance with Connecticut General  
Statutes §§9-602, 9-603 and 9-605 and payment of \$100 as a civil  
penalty to the State of Connecticut.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Bozzuto that the Commission takes administrative notice of compliance with the statutes indicated, and accepts, as full settlement the payments indicated and will take no further action with respect to File Nos. 2007-229PNF, 2007-282NF and 2007-360PNF.

File No. 2007-245PNF

District B. Republican Committee

Respondent: Jon Nathanson, Chairman

Investigator: Attorney William B. Smith

Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

Recommendation: Commission rescind the Reason to Believe Finding of violations of Connecticut General Statutes §§9-602, 9-603 and 9-605.

Attorney Andrews explained that it was discovered after the reason to believe finding was made by the Commission at its February 13, 2008 meeting that Mr. Nathanson resigned as chairmen of the above referenced committee on January 4, 2007 and therefore was not responsible for re-registering the committee.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Dolon to rescind the Reason to Believe Finding with regard to Respondent Nathanson. So voted.

***V. Possible Referral to the Attorney General's Office for Enforcement***

**7. Complaint of Olga Aviles, Hartford**

File No. 2004-203

Respondent: Mamie Jackson

Investigator: Attorney Marc Crayton

Managing Attorney: Joan M. Andrews

Attorney Andrews stated that Respondent Mamie Jackson has failed to comply with the consent order concerning the payment of her civil penalty. Attorney Crayton has sent several letters concerning her failure to pay the final installment of \$125. Respondent has been unresponsive. Attorney Andrews recommended the Commission refer the matter to the Attorney General for enforcement and collection of the civil penalty.

It was moved by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Dolan to refer Mamie Jackson to the Attorney General's Office for enforcement of the Commission order. So voted.

## **VI. *Administrative Reports***

Commissioner Gerratana joined the meeting at 9:40 A.M. She was not present for any votes taken during the meeting up until this point.

Attorney Andrews gave a brief update on the pending litigation concerning Minnie Gonzalez v. SEEC and the Porricelli case, which is scheduled to be heard Monday. Kurt Christensen, Respondent in File No. 2007-136NF, which was referred by the Commission to the Attorney General's Office for enforcement, was heard in court on Monday. The Court ordered him to pay the civil penalty \$500 in two \$250 installments, which should be completed in July.

Attorney Andrews briefly summarized the status of the Complaint by Susan Bysiewicz regarding the individuals identified by the UCONN students as appearing to have voted after their death. This matter was brought to the public's attention following a news article published in the Hartford Courant. Attorney Andrews worked with the students and met with them prior to publication. It has been determined that the Commission's focus will be on whether anyone actually voted under a diseased persons name. The updating and correcting of the voter registry list will be done by the election officials.

Attorney Andrews noted that the numbers of non-filers for the April 10 filing date has been significantly reduced to about 20 that were referred for enforcement. Mr. Garfield credited Ms. Kulmacz and Ms. Staniewicz for their efforts in educating and notifying the treasurers of the filing requirements.

Mr. Garfield summarized some of the amendments and bills that were not successful during this years session. He stated that many of the issues will probably be revisited for consideration for the 2009 legislative package. He stated that the only election bill to be enacted and signed by the Governor was H.B. 5505, An Act Concerning the Citizens Election Program, Public Act 08-2.

The Commission discussed in detail and reviewed the processes and procedures for the approval of the CEP grants and the Commission's role in the approval of the grants. Ms. Kulmacz gave an overview of the process for the audits, how each and every contribution is thoroughly reviewed for accuracy. Ms. Love briefly explained the process for creating the voucher and issuing the grant funds.

Ms. Rotman distributed an updated schedule for meetings for consideration of grant applications. The Commission discussed the schedule. It was decided that the May meetings will be held with Commissioners present. The remainder of the meetings for grant approvals will be held by teleconference call at 4:00 p.m. Afternoon meetings will give Ms. Kulmacz's unit the opportunity to complete the verification process in the short time that is allowed. The monthly meetings that generally include the legal and enforcement issues will continue in the 5th floor hearing room with Commissioners in person.

**VII. Adjournment**

It was moved by Commissioner Bozzuto and seconded by Commission Gerratana at 11:15 A.M. to adjourn the meeting. So voted.

Unless otherwise indicated, all votes of the Commission were unanimous.

***The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 21, 2008 at 9:00 A.M., 5th Floor Conference Room.***

Respectfully submitted,

Lois E. Blackburn  
Clerk of the Commission

Adopted this 29th day of May, 2008 at Hartford, Connecticut.

Stephen F. Cashman, Chairman  
Order of the Commission