

# State Elections Enforcement Commission

## Citizens' Election Program



Press Release

Press Contact:  
Joshua Foley  
860-256-2962  
[joshua.foley@ct.gov](mailto:joshua.foley@ct.gov)

### COMMISSION AWARDS THIRTEEN PUBLIC FINANCING GRANTS TO PARTICIPATING CEP CANDIDATES

HARTFORD, CT – September 26, 2012 – The State Elections Enforcement Commission (the “Commission”) today awarded thirteen more public grant payments under the Citizens’ Election Program (the “Program” or “CEP”) for the upcoming November 6 election. The Commission determined that state representative candidates Emil Altobello (D – 82<sup>nd</sup> District), Philip Balestriere (R – 148<sup>th</sup> District), Joseph Crudo (R – 121<sup>st</sup> District), Leonard Greene, Jr. (R – 105<sup>th</sup> District), Edward Moukawsher (D – 40<sup>th</sup> District), John Samperi (R – 35<sup>th</sup> District), and William Simanski (R – 62<sup>nd</sup> District) were eligible to receive Program grants. State senate candidates Clark Chapin (R – 30<sup>th</sup> District), Tony Guglielmo (R – 35<sup>th</sup> District), Theresa Madonna (R – 18<sup>th</sup> District), Joseph Markley (R – 16<sup>th</sup> District), William Riiska (D – 30<sup>th</sup> District), and Andrea Stillman (D – 20<sup>th</sup> District) were also determined to be eligible to receive Program grants.

The final deadline for participation in the CEP is tomorrow. Candidates have until 4 P.M. September 27 (this Thursday) to file their Affidavit of Intent to Abide by Expenditure Limits and Other Program Requirements (SEEC Form CEP 10). The final deadline for grant applications is Friday, October 12. Only candidates who have filed their Form 10 by September 27, however, will be eligible to apply for a grant. The Commission strongly encourages candidates who wish to participate to file immediately.

Grant amounts vary. Typically, general election grant amounts are \$26,850 for state representative candidates and \$91,290 for state senate candidates. This is the third election cycle in which General Assembly candidates can use the public financing program. In 2010, approximately 70 percent of the total number of candidates elected to participate in the Program. To date, 74 percent of sitting legislators have come to office using the Program. All of the candidates currently elected to statewide offices participated in the voluntary Program.

The Citizens’ Election Program is a groundbreaking program that allows qualifying candidates for the General Assembly to receive full public financing. To qualify for public financing, candidates must demonstrate they have sufficient support from their constituents. Participating candidates may only accept small dollar contributions from individual human beings—the maximum contribution is \$100—and no contributions from state contractors, PACs, unions or corporations. The CEP was designed, in part, to reduce the influence of special interests in state politics, and it has done so to a remarkable degree in just two full election cycles. As the SEEC, struggling with staff reductions, begins its third cycle of administering the voluntary Program, the CEP continues to provide a seawall against the rising tide of special interest money in today’s elections.

For more information please contact Joshua Foley at [joshua.foley@ct.gov](mailto:joshua.foley@ct.gov).