



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

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**MINUTES**  
**STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room**  
**December 19, 2018**  
**9:30 A.M.**

***I. Call to Order***

Commissioner Bramante was present and called the meeting to order at 9:31 A.M. Commissioners Ajello, Cascudo and Penny were also present.

Commissioner Bramante added matter 201-001A to the agenda as item 6 in public session.

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

*Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of November 14, 2018*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Penny to approve the minutes of November 14, 2018. So voted 4-0-0.

***III. Administrative Reports***

2019 SEEC Meeting Schedule

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to approve the 2019 SEEC Meeting Schedule. So voted 4-0-0.

Attorney Shannon Clark Kief provided administrative reports on behalf of Executive Director and General Counsel Michael Brandi.

Attorney Kief thanked staff for all their hard work putting forward a banner year for the Citizens' Election Program. The 2018 grant season saw more grants go out in a tightly compressed timeframe over the summer. 86 percent of the 2019 office holders ran their campaigns using the Citizens' Election Program, which is a 3 percent increase from 2016 and an all time high.

Attorney Kief elaborated on the 2019 legislative proposals. This years' proposals are largely based on 2018 proposals adjusted to accommodate the recent law changes. These proposals include "Restoring the CEP" and drafting a vehicle for candidates to seek additional matching funds beyond the grant by raising more money. Also, proposals include addressing issues with "Dark Money" disclosure, specifically expenditures made surrounding social media and secondary payees.

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**IV. Pending Complaints and Investigations**

**A. Public Session**

1. In re: Contributions to *John Scott 2016*  
File No. 2016-035  
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement  
Respondent: Charles Bowe  
Attorney: James M. Talbert-Slagle  
Legal Investigator: Scott Branfuhr

Attorney James Talbert-Slagle summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2016-035. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2016-035. So voted by a vote 4-0-0.

2. In the Matter of a Referral by the Secretary of the State  
File No. 2016-038  
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement  
Respondents: Betty Torres and Chester Miller, Registrars of Voters  
Attorney: Kevin M. Ahern  
Legal Investigator: Scott Branfuhr

Attorney Kevin Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2016-038. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Ajello to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2016-038. So voted by a vote 4-0-0.

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by Dennis Savitsky, Weston  
File No. 2018-016  
Proposed Findings & Conclusions  
Respondent: Maria Calamita-Proto  
Attorney: William B. Smith  
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2018-016. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2018-016. So voted by a vote 4-0-0.

***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 Penny and seconded by Commissioner Ajello at 10:15 A.M. to proceed into Executive Session pursuant to General Statutes §§ 1-200(6)(B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(1),(3),(4),(10) to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims and exempt records. So voted.

Commissioner Bramante, Penny, Cascudo and Ajello were present. Staff members present were Joshua Foley, William B. Smith, James Talbert-Slagle, Scott Branfuhr, Alfonso Vazquez, Kevin Ahern, Doug Frost, Sheri-Lyn Lagueux, Sarah Clark, Linda Waterman and Shannon Kief.

Returning to public session at 11:40 A.M., the Commission took the following action:

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

Attorney Smith summarized the Recommendation of Counsel dated December 7, 2018 and requested that nine (9) matters be moved to investigate.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to make a determination that it is necessary to investigate violations relating to nine (9) complaints File Nos.: 2018-107, 2018-108, 2018-109, 2018-110, 2018-112, 2018-113, 2018-114, 2018-115 and 2018-116. So approved by the Commission 4-0-0. So voted. It was determined that 2018-111 was not necessary to investigate.

Attorney Smith summarized the Supplemental Recommendation of Counsel dated December 19, 2018 and requested the following:

The Commission has determined that it is necessary to investigate the self-reported complaint of Harry A. Perkins under File Number 2018-117. While the case remains under investigation, and the Commission reserves all rights and remedies available to it, the Commission concludes that, based upon the information provided by Mr. Perkins and the quasi-public agency Connecticut Innovations, Inc., Connecticut Innovations, Inc. is permitted to enter into state contracts with Connecticut Container Corporation, of which Mr. Perkins is a principal.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to adopt the above motion for File No.: 2018-117. So approved by the Commission 4-0-0. So voted

The Commission has determined that it is necessary to investigate the self-reported complaint in File Number 2018-118.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Penny to adopt the proposed above motion and issue a cease and desist order for File No. 2018-118. So approved by the Commission 4-0-0. So voted

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Ryan C. Henowitz, New London  
File No. 2016-062  
Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: William B. Smith  
Lead Legal Investigator: Gilberto Oyola

The matter is continued.

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by John Flannery, et al  
File No. 2018-074  
Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: William B. Smith

The matter is continued.

4. In the Matter of a Complaint by Arnold Skretta, Hartford  
File No. 2014-114  
Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: Ryan M. Burns  
Lead Legal Investigator: Charlie Urso

Attorney Kevin M. Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and recommendation of counsel in File No. 2014-114.

It was moved by Commissioner Cascudo and seconded by Commissioner Ajello that the Commission shall take no further action concerning File No. 2014-114. without prejudice to reopen such investigation should new information become available to the Commission and/or its staff. So voted by a vote 4-0-0.

5. In the Matter of a Complaint by Donna Rusgrove, Burlington  
File No. 2018-032

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

Ryan M. Burns

Lead Legal Investigator:

Gilberto Oyola

Attorney Kevin M. Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2018-032. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2018-032. So voted by a vote 4-0-0.

6. In the Matter of a Complaint by Giselle Gigi Jacobs, Hartford  
File No. 2018-048

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

Ryan M. Burns

Legal Investigator:

Alfonso Vazquez

Attorney Kevin M. Ahern summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2018-048. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2018-048. So voted by a vote 4-0-0.

7. In the Matter of a Complaint of Angel DePara, et al, Bridgeport  
File No. 2013-138

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

Kevin M. Ahern

Lead Legal Investigator:

Gilberto Oyola

The matter is continued.

8. Recommendation of Counsel Regarding Petition for Declaratory Ruling on the State Contractor Status of Medical Marijuana Industry Licensees as requested by Andrew C. Glassman

The matter is continued.

9. Consideration of Draft Audit Reports

1. "Raghib for Connecticut," Raghib Allie-Brennan

Examiner: Karen Walauskas

2. "Lopes 2016," Rick Lopes  
Examiner: Ergys Guni
3. "Lemar 2016," Roland Lemar  
Examiner: Matthew Lombardi
4. "Re-Elect Cara Pavalock," Cara Pavalock  
Examiner: Matthew Lombardi
5. "Dargan 2016," Stephen Dargan  
Examiner: Matthew Lombardi

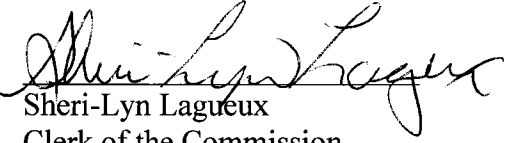
Linda Waterman provided an overview of the draft audit reports and recommended that the Commission make audit numbers 1 through 5 final, so moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Ajello. So approved by the Commission, 3-0-1 with Commissioner Cascudo abstaining.

***VI. Consideration of Matters Discussed in Executive Session***

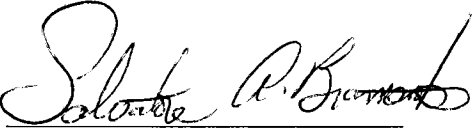
**VII. Adjournment**

It was moved by Commissioner Penny and seconded by Commissioner Cascudo at 12:20 P.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 16<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2019 at Hartford, Connecticut.



By Order of the Commission

***The next regular scheduled meeting is January 2, 2019 at 9:30 A.M. in the 5th Floor Conference room.***