## STATE OF CONNECTICUT STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

In the Matter of a Complaint by Christopher Healy, Hartford

File No. 2007-203

## FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Complainant brings this complaint pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 9-7b and alleges that the Perez for Mayor 2007 candidate committee violated campaign finance laws by receiving contributions in 2003 for his 2007 candidacy for Mayor of the City of Hartford.

After an investigation of the complaint, the following Findings and Conclusions are made:

- 1. The Respondent, Edward Jason, is the duly designated treasurer of the Perez for Mayor 2007, the funding vehicle for Mayor Eddie Perez's 2007 re-election campaign for Mayor of the City of Hartford.
- 2. A Registration of Candidate Committee, Form ED-49 was filed with the Hartford Town and City Clerk on December 29, 2006 designating Perez for Mayor 2007 as Mayor Perez's candidate committee for the November 6, 2007 municipal election.
- 3. On January 5, 2007, a Registration by Candidate, SEEC Form 1 amending the previously filed Perez for Mayor 2007 Form ED-49 was filed with the Hartford Town and City Clerk designating the Respondent as the treasurer.
- 4. Complainant alleged that the Perez for Mayor 2007 candidate committee violated Connecticut General Statutes § 9-604 by receiving contributions in 2003 for the 2007 Hartford municipal election prior to the Perez for Mayor 2007 filing of a campaign finance disclosure registration statement for the 2007 municipal election.
- 5. The April 10, 2007 campaign finance disclosure statement filed by the Respondent included a spreadsheet of contributions that the committee had received for the period from January 1, 2007 to April 10, 2007. Among those contributions were eighty contributions that were reported as having been received in 2003.
- 6. Connecticut General Statutes § 9-604 (a) provides:

Each candidate for a particular public office or the position of town committee member shall form a single candidate committee for which he shall designate a campaign treasurer and a depository institution situated in this state as the depository for the committee's funds and shall file a committee statement containing such designations, not later than ten days after becoming a candidate, with the proper authority as required by section 9-603. The candidate may also designate a deputy campaign treasurer on such committee statement. The campaign treasurer and any deputy campaign

treasurer so designated shall sign a statement accepting such designation which the candidate shall include as part of, or file with, the committee statement. [Emphasis added.]

7. Connecticut General Statutes § 9-622 provides:

The following persons shall be guilty of illegal practices and shall be punished in accordance with the provisions of section 9-623:

- (10) Any person who solicits, makes or receives a contribution that is otherwise prohibited by any provision of this chapter
- 8. The Respondent filed an amended April 10, 2007 Itemized Campaign Finance Disclosure Statement with the Hartford City and Town Clerk on April 24, 2007. The amended statement reflects that all eighty contributions that were reported as having been received by the committee in 2003 were in fact received by the committee in 2007.
- 9. The Respondent also provided a written response indicating that a computer error had generated the 2003 date for the date the contributions were received instead of the actual 2007 date the contributions were received. Respondent provided copies of some of the contribution checks in question and the dates on those checks reflect that the contributions were made in 2007.
- 10. It is therefore concluded that contributions called in to question by the Complainant's complaint were contributions that were made to the committee in 2007. As such, Respondent did not the violate Connecticut General Statutes §§ 9-604 and 9-622.

## **ORDER**

The following Order is issued on the basis of the aforementioned findings:

The complaint is hereby dismissed.

Adopted this 13<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2007 at Hartford, Connecticut.

Stephen F. Cashman, Chairman By Order of the Commission