

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

In the Matter of Complaint by Sarah Hemingway
Sandy Hook

File No. 2010-093

AGREEMENT CONTAINING CONSENT ORDER

This Agreement, by and between Janis R. Solheim, hereinafter called the “Respondent,” of Sandy Hook, in the Town of Newtown, County of Fairfield, State of Connecticut, and the authorized representative of the State Elections Enforcement Commission is entered into in accordance with Section 9-7b-54 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies and Section 4-177 (c) of the Connecticut General Statutes. The parties agree that:

1. Christopher LaRocque formed a candidate committee for the 106th General Assembly district on Feb. 19, 2010, naming Respondent as campaign treasurer. *See* SEEC Form 1A Registration by Candidate – *LaRocque for State Rep.* (February 19, 2010). On June 22, 2010, LaRocque and Respondent executed the CEP Form 10, evincing their intention to participate in the Citizens’ Election Program and agreeing to abide by voluntary expenditure limits and other regulations stemming from participation in the public financing program. *See* SEEC Form CEP 10 – *LaRocque for State Rep.* (June 22, 2010).
2. On August 5, 2010, the LaRocque committee submitted an application to the Commission seeking a grant from the Citizens’ Election Fund. *See* SEEC Form 15 Citizens’ Election Program – Application for Grant – *LaRocque for State Rep.* (August 5, 2010).
3. According to the complaint, Respondent failed to include certain expenditures on the candidate committee’s financial disclosure reports.
4. Respondent acknowledged that the committee’s financial disclosure statements did not reflect the costs associated with the committee’s website. In responding to the complaint, Respondent said that the candidate had paid the \$38 cost for the website himself but did not submit the expenditure for reimbursement.
5. Likewise, Respondent accepted that the candidate committee did not report some costs associated with the June 27, 2010 fundraiser, as alleged by the complainant, including food that persons attending the fundraiser brought. Respondent said she failed to identify expenditures incurred and contributions received as a result of the fundraiser held on June 27, 2010.

6. General Statutes § 9-606 (a)(2) – (4) requires campaign treasurers to make and report all expenditures, including those incurred but not yet paid, of the relevant committees for which they serve as treasurer and file the financial disclosure documents with the appropriate repository. *See* General Statutes §§ 9-606 (a) (2)-(4) (imposing affirmative duty on treasurer to file periodic reports and account for all expenditures). *See also* General Statutes § 9-608 (c) (1) (C) (mandating that campaign finance disclosure statements must include itemized accounting of each expenditure).
7. Respondent failed to report transactions on the candidate committee's financial disclosure statements.
8. The Commission concludes that by omitting those expenditures from the statements Respondent violated General Statutes §§ 9-606 (a) (2) – (4).
9. The Respondent admits all jurisdictional facts and agrees that this agreement and Order shall have the same force and effect as a final decision and Order entered after a full hearing and shall become final when adopted by the Commission. The Respondent shall receive a copy hereof as provided in Section 9-7b-56 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.
10. It is understood and agreed that this agreement will be submitted to the Commission at its next meeting and, if it is not accepted by the Commission, it is withdrawn by the Respondent and may not be used as an admission in any subsequent hearing, if the same becomes necessary.
11. Respondent admits all jurisdictional facts and waives:
 - (a) Any further procedural steps;
 - (b) The requirement that the Commission's decision contain a statement of findings of fact and conclusions of law, separately stated; and
 - (c) All rights to seek judicial review or otherwise to challenge or contest the validity of the Order entered into pursuant to this agreement.
13. Upon the Respondent's compliance with the Order hereinafter stated, the Commission shall not initiate any further proceedings against her pertaining to this matter.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the Respondent shall henceforth strictly comply with the requirements of Connecticut General Statutes § 9-608.

The Respondent:

For the State Elections Enforcement Commission:

By: Janis R. Solheim
Janis R. Solheim
Sandy Hook, CT 06482

By: Shannon Clark Kief
Shannon Clark Kief
Legal Affairs Program Director
and Authorized Representative of the
State Elections Enforcement Commission
20 Trinity Street, Suite 101
Hartford, CT 06106

Dated: 5/15/2012

Dated: 5/22/12

Adopted this 23rd day of May of 2012 at Hartford, Connecticut.

Stephen F. Cashman
Stephen F. Cashman, Chairman
By Order of the Commission