

DEC 092010

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

## ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION Complaint of Town Clerk

File No. 2010-127

Christopher Healy, Wethersfield

## CONSENT ORDER

This Agreement, by and between Sampher Adorno, Jr., of the City of Stratford, 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 General Statutes of Connecticut. In accordance herewith, the parties agree that:

- 1. Complainant Christopher Healy serves as chairman of the Connecticut Republican Party and filed this complaint alleging that individuals used a false address when completing an absentee ballot application log.
- 2. On October 4, 2010, Sampher Adorno, Jr. obtained absentee ballot applications, serial numbers 29239 through 29313, from the municipal clerk of Bridgeport, Connecticut ("the Clerk").
- 3. To obtain these absentee ballot applications, Sampher Adorno, Jr. recorded on the Clerk's log ("the log") his correct name and the address "1238 North Avenue," which was not his residential address.
- 4. According to Sampher Adorno, Jr., he used the address 1238 North Avenue because he believed that the address that his father had previously recorded on the log, 1238 North Avenue, was the correct address of Malloy's Bridgeport campaign headquarters.
- 5. Malloy's Bridgeport campaign headquarters was located at 1332 North Avenue.
- 6. Between October 1 and October 20, Sampher Adorno, Jr. distributed five or more absentee ballot applications.
- 7. On October 21, after the Complainant had filed this complaint, Sampher Adorno Jr., corrected the log to reflect his correct residential address.
- 8. General Statutes § 9-140 (k) (1), reads in pertinent part:

A person shall register with the town clerk *before* distributing five or more absentee ballot applications for an election, primary or referendum ....." (Emphasis added.)

9. Here, by failing to provide his own address in the log, Sampher Adorno, Jr. failed to register with the Clerk and violated General Statutes § 9-140 (k) (1).

- 10. Because Sampher Adorno, Jr. provided his correct name and phone number in the log, the Commission is in possession of no evidence suggesting an attempt by Samper Adorno, Jr. to conceal his identity or intentionally evade the registration requirement. The Commission has taken the aforesaid into account in assessing the appropriate penalty in this matter.
- 11. Sampher Adorno, Jr. has offered full and prompt cooperation with the Commission's investigation.
- 12. In the course of this investigation, Sampher Adorno, Jr. offered contradicting statements about whether he assisted a Mr. Ryan of 191 Bronx St., Bridgeport in filling out his absentee ballot application.
- 13. General Statutes § 9-140 (a), reads in pertinent part:

Any person who assists another person in the completion of an application shall, in the space provided, sign the application and print or type his name, residence address and telephone number. Such signature shall be made under the penalties of false statement in absentee balloting.

- 14. Other than the Respondent's statements, the Commission has no other evidence that Sampher Adorno, Jr. may have assisted an elector complete an absentee ballot application and failed to sign as an assistor, as required by § 9-140 (a).
- 15. The Commission considers this evidence insufficient for a finding of a violation of this subsection.
- 16. 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.
- 17. 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.
- 18. The Respondent 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.
- 19. Upon the Respondent's compliance with the Order hereinafter stated, the Commission shall not initiate any further proceedings against him pertaining to this matter.

## ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Respondent Sampher Adorno, Jr. will henceforth strictly comply with the requirements of Connecticut General Statutes §§ 9-140 (a) and 9-140 (k) (1).

The Respondent:

Samphér Adorno, Jr. 2777 Broadbridge Avenue Stratford, CT

Dated:  $\frac{12}{3}/10$ 

15<sup>th</sup>

For the State of Connecticut:

BY:

Shannon C. Kief, Esq. Legal Program Director & Authorized Representative of the State Elections Enforcement Commission 20 Trinity St., Suite 101 Hartford, CT

Dated: 12/9/10

Adopted this 32 day of December of 2010 at Hartford, Connecticut

Stephen F. Cashman, Chairman By Order of the Commission