STATE OF CONNECTICUT STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

In re Audit Report for the Committee to Elect Stephen R. Ferrucci III State Representative File No. 2010-156

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The State Elections Enforcement Commission voted to initiate an investigation into the *Committee* to Elect Stephen R. Ferrucci III State Representative based upon a Draft Final Audit Report prepared by the Commission's Campaign Disclosure and Audit Unit (See attached). The draft audit report suggested that the 2008 qualified candidate committee established by Stephen R. Ferrucci III had failed to supply documentation to support several expenditures totaling approximately \$10,000. Failure to supply the necessary backup documentation to support expenditures violates General Statutes § 9-608.

After the investigation of the Complainant's complaint, the Commission makes the following findings and conclusions:

- Stephen R. Ferrucci III established a candidate committee on May 29, 2008, designating himself as a candidate for the 71st district Assembly seat in the General Assembly and naming Stephen R. Ruccio as campaign treasurer. See SEEC Form 1 Registration by Candidate (*Committee to Elect Stephen R. Ferrucci III State Representative*, May 29, 2008).
- The candidate committee became a participating candidate committee upon the execution of an "Affidavit Of Intent To Abide By The Expenditure Limits And Other Citizens' Election Program Requirements" by the candidate and campaign treasurer on August 15, 2008. See SEEC Form CEP 10 (Committee to Elect Stephen R. Ferrucci III State Representative, August 15, 2008).
- 3. On October 8, 2008, the Commission approved a grant to the Ferrucci candidate committee for the 2008 general election. *See* Minutes of Special Meeting (State Elections Enforcement Comm'n, Oct. 8, 2008)
- 4. Along with all candidate committees in the 2008 election, the Commission audited the *Committee to Elect Stephen R. Ferrucci III State Representative*. The audit identified 10 expenditures, totaling \$10,513.78 in the aggregate, for which the candidate committee had not provided adequate documentation to support the expenditures. Two expenditures constituted the bulk of the undocumented transactions, namely two separate checks to the candidate of \$6,107.84 and \$2,942.02 respectively, which totaled \$9,049.86, or 85% of the undocumented expenditures.

- 5. The investigation was able to identify documents within those supplied during the audit phase that supported more than \$8,600 of the expenditures made to the candidate.
- 6. Both the candidate and the campaign treasurer cooperated fully with the audit and the investigation.
- 7. The investigation did not reveal undocumented expenditures in excess of the number that other candidate committees experienced in the 2008 election, making further prosecution of this matter unwarranted.

ORDER

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

That the complaint be dismissed.

Adopted this 13^{th} day of April of 2011 at Hartford, Connecticut.

Stephen F. Cashman By Order of the Commission