STATE OF CONNECTICUT STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

Complaint by Catherine Strother, New London Complaint by Lewis Strother, New London File No. 2011-148 File No. 2011-149

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The Complainants bring the above Complaints pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 9-7b, each alleging that unidentified respondents impermissibly conducted campaign activities within the restricted 75' area at a polling place in the City of New London during voting hours, in violation of General Statutes § 9-236.

After an investigation of the Complaint, the Commission makes the following findings and conclusions:

- 1. The Complainants here each allege that during the November 8, 2011 municipal election a person supporting the campaign of candidate Michael Buscetto stood under 10 feet from the outside entrance leading to the New London High School polling place and repeatedly approached individuals to hand them literature supporting Mr. Buscetto.
- 2. General Statutes § 9-236 (a), reads, in pertinent part:

On the day of any primary, referendum or election, no person shall solicit on behalf of or in opposition to the candidacy of another or himself or on behalf of or in opposition to any question being submitted at the election or referendum, or loiter or peddle or offer any advertising matter, ballot or circular to another person within a radius of seventy-five feet of any outside entrance in use as an entry to any polling place or in any corridor, passageway or other approach leading from any such outside entrance to such polling place or in any room opening upon any such corridor, passageway or approach, except as provided in section 9-294 . . .

- 3. Assuming the Complainants' allegations to be true, the actions alleged would constitute a violation of General Statutes § 9-236 (a). However, the Complainants here have not cooperated in the investigation subsequent to the filing of the instant Complaints. Commission staff has made multiple attempts to contact the Complainants in order to interview them concerning the instant allegation, to no avail.
- 4. In consideration of the aforesaid, the matters should be dismissed without prejudice.

ORDER

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

That the matters are dismissed without prejudice.

Adopted this 22nd day of August, 2012 at Hartford, Connecticut.

Stephen F. Cashman, Chairperson By Order of the Commission