

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

In the Matter of a Complaint by

File No. 2012-190

Jonathan Pelto, Storrs

STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Stipulated Settlement Agreement is made on this 16th day of October, 2013 by and between Maria Zambrano of the City of Bridgeport, County of Fairfield, State of Connecticut (hereinafter "Respondent"), and the authorized representative of the State Elections Enforcement Commission (hereinafter the "Commission") is entered into in accordance with the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies § 9-7b-54 and Connecticut General Statutes § 4-177 (c).

WHEREAS, Excel Bridgeport (hereinafter "Excel") is a non-profit organization that made expenditures to advocate for a referendum regarding the Bridgeport Board of Education that took place on November 6, 2012 (hereinafter the "November Referendum").

WHEREAS, Respondent was Executive Director of Excel at all times relevant to this complaint.

WHEREAS, Excel has the stated purpose of improving public education in Bridgeport through educational reforms.

WHEREAS, the Commission received a complaint from Jonathan Pelto (hereinafter "Complainant") alleging that the Respondent's registration and reporting relating to the November Referendum violated General Statutes §§ 9-602, 9-605 and 9-608.

WHEREAS, Respondent, Excel, and its employees and representatives, made numerous calls to the Commission with questions regarding its registration and reporting obligations under General Statutes §§ 9-602, 9-605 and 9-608, in relation to the November Referendum, and thereby showed good faith and due diligence in attempting to comply.


WHEREAS, at the time prior to and through the date of the November Referendum expenditures, the Commission maintained published advice that materially conflicted with General Statutes §§ 9-602, 9-605 and 9-608, thereby creating confusion for Respondent regarding registration and reporting obligations under General Statutes §§ 9-602, 9-605 and 9-608.

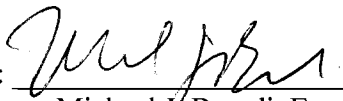
NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree as follows:

1. Going forward, to the extent Excel makes expenditures in excess of \$1,000.00 to advocate on a referendum, Respondent shall file a *Political Committee (PAC) Registration* form (SEEC Form 3) with the Bridgeport Town Clerk's office within three days of making such expenses pursuant to General Statutes §§ 9-602 and 9-605.
2. Going forward, when Respondent files statements pursuant to subsections (a), (e), or (f) of General Statute § 9-608, such statements shall be filed with the Bridgeport Town Clerk's office, and shall include the Itemized Campaign Finance Disclosure Statement – PAC's: Party & Municipal form (SEEC Form 20), which shall contain an itemized accounting of each expenditure, including disclosure of secondary payees pursuant to §§ 9-602, 9-608, and 9-612 (e).
3. Respondent shall file, or cause to be filed, within thirty days from the adoption of this agreement, the *Political Committee (PAC) Registration* form (SEEC Form 3) and Itemized Campaign Finance Disclosure Statement – PAC's: Party & Municipal form (SEEC Form 20), which shall contain an itemized accounting of each expenditure, including disclosure of secondary payees, necessary to accurately reflect Excel's expenditures to promote the November Referendum.
4. Upon Respondent's compliance with paragraph 1, 2, and 3 above, the Commission shall not initiate any further proceedings against Respondent with respect to this matter.
5. This Stipulated Settlement 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.

The Respondent:

For the State Elections Enforcement Commission:

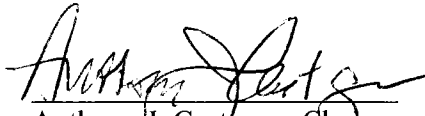
By: 
Maria Zambrano
1057 Broad Street, Suite 302
Bridgeport, Connecticut

By: 
Michael J. Brandi, Esq.
Executive Director and General Counsel
and Authorized Representative of the
State Elections Enforcement Commission
20 Trinity Street, Suite 101
Hartford, Connecticut

Dated: 10-09-13

Dated: 10/15/13

Adopted this 16 day of October, 2013 at Hartford, Connecticut by vote of the Commission.


Anthony J. Castagno, Chairman
By Order of the Commission

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OCT 15 2013

ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION