



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

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**MINUTES**  
**STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR TELEPHONIC MEETING**

**Via Webex**

**Additional Methods to Attend This Meeting Include:**

**For public access please click: <https://facebook.com/ctseec/live>**

**WebEx Call-In Number: 1-401-418-9388**

**November 6, 2024**

**9:30 A.M.**

***I. Call to Order***

Commissioner Penny was present via Webex and called the meeting to order at 9:33 A.M. Commissioners Ajello, Bergquist, and Asare were present via Webex. Agency staff was also present and present via Webex.

***II. Approval of the Minutes***

***1. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of October 23, 2024***

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of October 23, 2024. So voted by a vote of 2-0-2 with Commissioners Ajello & Asare abstaining.

***III. Administrative Reports***

***IV. Pending Complaints and Investigations***

***A. Public Session***

N/A

***V. Executive Session per General Statutes §§ 1-200(6)(B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(1), (3),(4),(10) and General Statutes §9-7a, as amended by Public Act 11-48 §300 (Preliminary draft and agency consideration of enforcement action and exempt records relative thereto)***

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare at 9:45 A.M. to proceed into Executive Session pursuant to General Statutes §§ 1-200(6)(B) and (E), and 1-210(b)(1), (3),(4),(10) to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims and exempt records. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

Commissioners Penny, Bergquist, Asare and Ajello were present via Webex. Staff members present via Webex were: Executive Director & General Counsel Michael Brandi, Legal Program Director Shannon Clark Kief, Disclosure and Audit Supervisor Krysta Palozie, Staff Attorneys William Smith, Zachary Jazlowiecki, Johnny Ross, III, Joshua Foley, Patricia Mwilwa, Aaron Charney, Maryam Bitar, Legal Investigators Scott Branfuhr, Ron Perry, Stephanie Fish, Information Technology Analyst Renata Rydzewski, Election Officer Evelyn Dillon and Commission Clerks Sheri-Lyn Lagueux and Stephen Palmer.

The Commission returned to public session at 10:36 A.M.

Returning to public session, the Commission took the following action:

1. Recommendation of Counsel: Necessary to Investigate Determination pursuant to General Statutes §9-7a, as amended by Public Act 11-48 §300

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the Recommendation of Counsel dated November 1, 2024 and requested that nine (9) matters be moved to investigate.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to make a determination that it is necessary to investigate violations relating to nine (9) complaints, File No. 2024-100; File No. 2024-101; File No. 2024-102; File No. 2024-103; File No. 2024-104; File No. 2024-106; File No. 2024-107; File No. 2024-108 and File No. 2024-109. So approved by the Commission, 4-0-0. So voted.

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the Recommendation of Counsel dated November 1, 2024 and requested that one (1) matter be moved to not investigate.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to make a determination that it is not necessary to investigate violations relating to one (1) complaint, File No. 2024-105. So approved by the Commission, 4-0-0. So voted.

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the Recommendation of Counsel dated November 1, 2024 and requested that Counsel respectfully requests that the Commission after making a determination on the record that it is necessary to further investigate File No. 2024-109, refer this matter to the Chief State's Attorney pursuant to General Statutes § 9-7b (a) (8). Counsel respectfully requests that the following motion be made and adopted on the record:

Pursuant to its authority under General Statutes § 9-7b (a) (8), the Commission authorizes counsel to refer this matter for consultation to the Office of the Chief State's Attorney and forward any evidence of possible criminal violations related to potential elections law violations into the matter docketed as 2024-109.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to make a determination on the record that it is necessary to further investigate File No. 2024-109, refer this matter to the Chief State's Attorney pursuant to General Statutes § 9-7b (a) (8). So approved by the Commission, 4-0-0. So voted.

2. In the Matter of a Complaint by Ben Proto, Middletown

File No. 2024-103

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

William B. Smith

Legal Investigator:

Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions as to a dismissal in File No. 2024-103. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to adopt the Findings & Conclusions as to a dismissal in File No. 2024-103. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by Robert Thomas, Hartford

File No. 2024-010

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

William B. Smith

Legal Investigator:

Scott Branfuhr .

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and in File No. 2024-010. He recommended that: Pursuant to its authority under General Statutes § 9-7b (a) (8), the Commission authorizes counsel to refer this matter for consultation to the Office of the Chief State's Attorney and forward any evidence of possible criminal violations related to potential elections law violations discovered in the course of the Commission's investigation into the matter docketed as File No. 2024-010.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to refer this matter File No. 2024-010 to the Chief State's Attorney pursuant to General Statutes § 9-7b (a) (8). So approved by the Commission, 4-0-0. So voted

4. In re: a Referral by the Secretary of the State, Hartford

File No. 2024-064

Attorney:

William B. Smith

Legal Investigator:

Scott Branfuhr

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and in File No. 2024-064. He recommended that: Pursuant to its authority under General Statutes § 9-7b (a) (8), the Commission authorizes counsel to refer this matter for consultation to the Office of the Chief State's Attorney and forward

any evidence of possible criminal violations related to potential elections law violations discovered in the course of the Commission's investigation into the matter docketed as File No. 2024-064.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to refer this matter File 2024-064 to the Chief State's Attorney pursuant to General Statutes § 9-7b (a) (8). So approved by the Commission, 4-0-0. So voted

5. In re: a Referral by East Haven Registrar of Voters Alberta Vitale  
File No. 2022-048

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

William B. Smith

Legal Investigator:

Scott Branfuhr

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions as to a dismissal in File No. 2022-048. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to adopt the Findings & Conclusions as to a dismissal in File No. 2022-048. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

6. In the Matter of a Complaint by Alida Cella, Wallingford  
File No. 2023-086

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

William B. Smith

Legal Investigator:

Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions as to a dismissal with no further action in File No. 2023-086. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to adopt the Findings & Conclusions as to a dismissal with no further action in File No. 2023-086. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

7. In the Matter of a Complaint by Alida Cella, Wallingford  
File No. 2023-087

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

William B. Smith

Legal Investigator:

Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions as to a dismissal in File No. 2023-087. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to adopt the Findings & Conclusions as to a dismissal in File No. 2023-087. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

8. In the Matter of a Complaint by Erin Cowles, Southington  
File No. 2023-014  
Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: Johnny Ross, III  
Legal Investigator: Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Attorney Johnny Ross, III summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement as to Respondent Stephen Kalkowski in File No. 2023-014. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to adopt the Consent Order & Agreement as to Respondent Stephen Kalkowski in File No. 2023-014. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

9. In the Matter of a Complaint by Anthony Camposano, East Haven  
File No. 2023-085  
Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: Johnny Ross, III  
Legal Investigator: Stephanie Fish

Attorney Johnny Ross, III summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2023-085. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to adopt the Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2023-085. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

10. In the Matter of a Complaint by Karen Jackson, Waterbury  
File No. 2023-101  
Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney: Johnny Ross, III  
Legal Investigator: Stephanie Fish

Attorney Johnny Ross, III summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions as to a dismissal in File No. 2023-101. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to adopt the Findings & Conclusions as to a dismissal in File No. 2023-101. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

11. In the Matter of a Complaint by Elizabeth MacGillivray, Greenwich  
File No. 2023-128

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

Johnny Ross, III

Legal Investigator:

Stephanie Fish

Attorney Johnny Ross, III summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions as to a dismissal in File No. 2023-128. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to adopt the Findings & Conclusions as to a dismissal in File No. 2023-128. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

12. In the Matter of a Complaint by Roger W. Rosendahl, Greenwich  
File No. 2024-006

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

Johny Ross, III

Legal Investigator:

Stephanie Fish

Attorney Johnny Ross, III summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions as to a dismissal in File No. 2024-006. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to adopt the Findings & Conclusions as to a dismissal in File No. 2024-006. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

13. In the Matter of a Complaint by Roger W. Rosendahl, Greenwich  
File No. 2024-007

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

Johnny Ross, III

Legal Investigator:

Stephanie Fish

Attorney Johnny Ross, III summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions as to a dismissal in File No. 2024-007. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to adopt the Findings & Conclusions as to a dismissal in File No. 2024-007. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

***VI. Consideration of Matters Discussed in Executive Session***

***VII. Adjournment***

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare at 11:07 A.M. to adjourn the meeting. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0. Unless otherwise noted, all votes of the Commission are unanimous.

  
Sheri-Lyn Laguerx

Clerk of the State Elections Enforcement Commission

**November 20, 2024**

Date approved

(By the State Elections Enforcement Commission)