



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

DRAFT MINUTES
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR TELEPHONIC MEETING

Via Teams

Additional Methods to Attend This Meeting Included:

For public access please click: Stream on Youtube (<https://youtube.com/@ctseec>)

Stream on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ctseec/live>)

May 6, 2026

9:30 A.M.

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Penny was present via Teams and called the meeting to order at 9:31 A.M. Commissioners Sonia Worell Asare, Shannon Bergquist and Greg Piecuch were present via Teams. Agency staff were also present and present via Teams.

II. Approval of the Minutes

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of April 15, 2026

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of *April 15, 2026*. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

III. Administrative Reports

1. Report of Executive Director and General Counsel Ryan Burns

Executive Director Burns provided an update on staffing. Sherida Shepherd has joined the agency on a temporary basis through the end of the summer to support the processing of applications. Her prior experience with the DPH/CEP team is expected to improve workflow efficiency.

Executive Director Burns reported that the 2026 legislative session concludes today. A full legislative report will be presented at the May 20, 2026 meeting. At this stage, the session has been largely successful, with no significant changes anticipated for the 2025–2026 election cycle. Bill 5001 passed the House earlier in the session and awaits action by the Senate.

Executive Director Burns advised that the state budget enacted on Saturday includes a \$3.5 million sweep from the Citizens' Election Fund. This reduction may create funding challenges, particularly given the increased grant amounts for the 2026 cycle, including gubernatorial grants. While statutory overdraft protection ensures continued administration of the program, the fund may reach a

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tight margin. Legislative leadership has been informed of these concerns. The Commission was briefed to ensure awareness as upcoming grant applications may place additional pressure on the fund.

Executive Director Burns reported that the agency currently has 193 active enforcement matters, comprising 50 non-filer cases, 35 criminal referrals, and 108 additional complaints, referrals, or SEEC-initiated matters. The recent increase is partly attributable to audit referrals issued at the previous meeting. Audit work is nearly current, with no significant audit batches anticipated until the next election cycle. Between 12 and 24 special election audits remain outstanding; staff will present a comprehensive plan for their completion in June.

Executive Director Burns updated that a total of 69 candidate committees are in some stage of pre-application review. Of these, 47 have been pre-qualified, including two gubernatorial committees. Despite unusually high grant activity for this point in the cycle, the agency has made substantial progress due to the significant efforts of staff. What could have been unmanageable has become manageable due to the team's exceptional effort. I want to acknowledge and thank the staff for their hard work.

IV. Pending Complaints, Investigations and Audits

A. Public Session

1. In the Matter of a Referral by ROV Suzanne Flynn, Meriden

File No. 2025-101

Proposed Consent Order & Agreement

Respondent:

Migdalia Alicea

Attorney:

Mario Borelli

Legal Investigator:

Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Attorney Mario Borelli summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2025-101. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2025-101 as follows: Respondent Migdalia Alicea shall henceforth and shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of Three Hundred dollars (\$300.00) to the Commission within ten (10) days of the Commission's adoption of this Agreement Containing a Consent Order. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

2. In the Matter of a Referral by Elisa Beckett-Flores, ROV, New Fairfield
File No. 2025-119
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Respondent: Jennifer Pappas
Attorney: Mario Borelli
Legal Investigator: Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Attorney Mario Borelli summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2025-119. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2025-119. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

3. In the Matter of Self-Initiated Investigation by SEEC “*Etan Hirsh for the 119th*”
File No. 2026-005
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Respondent: Bryan Anderson
Attorney: Mario Borelli
Legal Investigator: Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Attorney Mario Borelli summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2026-005. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2026-005. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

4. In the Matter of Self-Initiated Investigation “*JoAnn 2020*”
File No. 2023-079I
Proposed Notice of Dismissal
Attorney: Mario Borelli
Legal Investigator: Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Attorney Mario Borelli summarized the above referenced Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2023-079I. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch to adopt the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2023-079I. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

5. In the Matter of Self-Initiated Investigation “*Hoyt for Hamden 2020*”

File No. 2023-127

Proposed Notice of Dismissal

Attorney:

Mario Borelli

Legal Investigator:

Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Attorney Mario Borelli summarized the above referenced Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2023-127. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch to adopt the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2023-127. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

6. In the Matter of Self-Initiated Investigation “*State Rep district 126th*”

File No. 2023-129

Proposed Notice of Dismissal

Attorney:

Mario Borelli

Legal Investigator:

Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Attorney Mario Borelli summarized the above referenced Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2023-129. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch to adopt the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2023-129. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

7. In the Matter of Self-Initiated Investigation “*Felipe 2020*”

File No. 2024-031

Proposed Notice of Dismissal

Attorney:

Mario Borelli

Legal Investigator:

Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Attorney Mario Borelli summarized the above referenced Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2024-031. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch to adopt the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2024-031. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

8. In the Matter of Self-Initiated Investigation “*Statchen for Connecticut*”

File No. 2024-060

Proposed Notice of Dismissal

Attorney:

Mario Borelli

Legal Investigator:

Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Attorney Mario Borelli summarized the above referenced Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2024-060. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Picuch to adopt the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2024-060. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

9. In the Matter of Self-Initiated Investigation “*Re-elect B McGee*”

File No. 2024-061

Proposed Notice of Dismissal

Attorney:

Mario Borelli

Legal Investigator:

Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Attorney Mario Borelli summarized the above referenced Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2024-061. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Picuch to adopt the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2024-061. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

10. In the Matter of Self-Initiated Investigation “*Stephanie Thomas for CT*”

File No. 2023-079S

Proposed Notice of Dismissal

Attorney:

Mario Borelli

Legal Investigator:

Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Attorney Mario Borelli summarized the above referenced Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2023-079S. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Picuch to adopt the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2023-079S. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

11. In the Matter of Self-Initiated Investigation “*Coelho for Senate*”

File No. 2024-036C

Proposed Notice of Dismissal

Attorney:

Mario Borelli

Legal Investigator:

Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Attorney Mario Borelli summarized the above referenced Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2024-036C. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch to adopt the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2024-036C. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

12. In the Matter of Self-Initiated Investigation “*Eric Berthel for Senate*”

File No. 2024-036E

Proposed Notice of Dismissal

Attorney:

Mario Borelli

Legal Investigator:

Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Attorney Mario Borelli summarized the above referenced Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2024-036E. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch to adopt the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2024-036E. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

13. In the Matter of a Referral by New Fairfield Registrars of Voters

File No. 2025-113

Proposed Consent Order & Agreement

Respondent:

Patrick Hearty

Attorney:

Johnny Ross, III

Legal Investigator:

Stephanie Fish

Attorney Johnny Ross, III summarized the above referenced Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2025-113. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2025-113. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

14. In the Matter of a Complaint by Dawn Mattos, Griswold
In the Matter of a Complaint by Richard Canova, Griswold
In the Matter of a Complaint by Kim Coleman, Jewett City
In the Matter of a Complaint by Cathy Waselik, Jewett City
File Nos. 2025-078B, 2025-079, 2025-092 & 2025-097B
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement

Attorney:

Johnny Ross, III

Legal Investigator:

Ronald Perry

Attorney Johnny Ross, III summarized the above referenced Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File Nos. 2025-078B, 2025-079, 2025-092 & 2025-097B. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File Nos. 2025-078B, 2025-079, 2025-092 & 2025-097B. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

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

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch at 9:58 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 5-0-0.

Commissioners Penny, Asare, Bergquist and Piecuch were present via Teams. Staff members present via Teams were: Executive Director and General Counsel Ryan Burns, Senior Counsel, Joshua Foley, Legal Program Director Shannon Kief, Director of Campaign Disclosure & Audit Salman Munir, Associate Accounts Examiner Kysta Palozie, Enforcement Director William Smith, Staff Attorneys Mario Borelli, Johnny Ross, III, Zak Jazlowiecki, Maryam Bitar, Aaron Charney, Patricia Mwilwa, Legal Investigators Stephaie Fish, Ronald Perry, Scott Branhuftr, Elections Officer Kaitlin Flynn, Ashley Socquet, Information Technology, Information Technology Analyst Renata Rydzewski, Nathan Diaz-Rolon, Jonathan Ortiz, and Commission Clerks Sheri-Lyn Lagueux and Cynthia Ortiz.

VI. Consideration of Matters Discussed in the above Executive Session

At 10:11 A.M., the Commissioners came out of Executive Session and noted that no matters were decided and no vote was taken during Executive Session. The Commissioners then considered the following matters discussed in Executive Session.

1. Recommendation of Counsel: Necessary to Investigate Determination pursuant to General Statutes §9-7a

Attorney William B Smith summarized the Recommendation of Counsel dated April 30, 2026 and requested that eight (8) matters be moved to be investigated.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch to make a determination that it is necessary to investigate violations relating to eight (8) complaints, File No. 2026-021, 2026-022, 2026-023, 2026-024, 2026-025, 2026-026, 2026-027 & 2026-044. So approved by the Commission. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

Attorney William B Smith summarized the Recommendation of Counsel dated May 5, 2026 and requested that one (1) matter not be moved to be investigated.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch to make determination that it is not necessary to investigate violation relating to one (1) complaint, File No. 2026-020. So approved by the Commission. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

2. In the Matter of a Self-Initiated Investigation by SEEC “*Re-Elect Trenee’ McGee*”
File No. 2025-060B

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

William B. Smith

Legal Investigator:

Sheri-Lyn Lagueur

Attorney William B. Smith summarized the above referenced complaint and Recommendation of Counsel in File No. 2025-060B. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch to adopt the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No.2025-060B. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

3. In the Matter of a Complaint by Daniel Hally, Branford
File No. 2025-126

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

Johnny Ross, III

Legal Investigator:

Ron Perry

Attorney Johnny Ross, III summarized the above referenced complaint and Recommendation of Counsel in File No. 2025-126. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch to adopt the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2025-126. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

4. In the Matter of a Referral by the Secretary of the State
File No. 2025-142
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney:
Legal Investigator:

Mario Borelli
Stephanie Fish

The matter is continued.

5. In the Matter of a Referral by Democratic Registrar of Voters Town of Madison
File No. 2023-113A
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney:
Legal Investigator:

Zak Jazlowiecki
Ron Perry

Attorney Mario Borelli summarized the above referenced complaint and Recommendation of Counsel in File No.2023-113A. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Picuch to adopt the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2023-113A. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

6. In the Matter of a Referral by Democratic Registrar of Voters Town of Madison
File No. 2023-113B
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney:
Legal Investigator:

Zak Jazlowiecki
Ron Perry

Attorney Zak Jzalowiecki summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2023-113B. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Picuch to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2023-113B as follows: Respondent Alexander S. Fuller shall henceforth and shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of Fifteen Hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) to the Commission within ten (10) days of the Commission's adoption of this Agreement Containing a Consent Order. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

7. In the Matter of a Complaint by Troy Mitchell, Bloomfield
File No. 2025-080
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney:
Legal Investigator:

Zak Jazlowiecki
Ron Perry

Attorney Zak Jazlowiecki summarized the above referenced complaint and Recommendation of Counsel in File No.2025-080. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch to adopt the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File No. 2025-080. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

8. In the Matter of a Complaint by Audra Ricci, Manchester
File No. 2025-094 & 2026-009

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

Zak Jazlowiecki

Legal Investigator:

Stephanie Fish

Attorney Zak Jazlowiecki summarized the above referenced complaint and Recommendation of Counsel in File Nos. 2025-094 & 2026-009. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch to adopt the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File Nos. 2025-094 & 2026-009. So voted by a vote of 3-0-0.

Commissioner Penny recused himself from this discussion and voting on the matter.

9. In the Matter of a Complaint by John C. Storino, Oakville
File No. 2025-087 & 2025-139

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

Zak Jazlowiecki

Legal Investigator:

Scott Branfuhr

Attorney Zak Jazlowiecki summarized the above referenced complaint and Recommendation of Counsel in File Nos. 2025-087 & 2025-139. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch to adopt the Proposed Notice of Dismissal in File Nos. 2025-087 & 2025-139. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

VII. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Bergquist and seconded by Commissioner Piecuch at 10:33 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.

The next regular scheduled meeting is May 20, 2026, at 9:30 A.M.