



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
June 25, 2026
3:30 PM

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Penny was present via Teams and called the meeting to order at 3:30 P.M. Commissioners Michael Ajello, Shannon Bergquist, Greg Picuch and Sonia Worell Asare were present via Teams. Agency staff were also present via Teams.

***II. 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 Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare at 3:31 P.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, Ajello, Asare, Bergquist and Picuch 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 Clark Kief, Director of Campaign Disclosure & Audit Salman Munir, Enforcement Director William Smith, Staff Attorneys Mario Borelli, Johny Ross, III, Zak Jazlowiecki, Maryam Bitar, Aaron Charney, Patricia Mwilwa, Elections Officer Kaitlin Flynn, Information Technology Manager Irene Jeremic, Information Technology Analyst Nathan Diaz-Rolon, and Commission Clerks Stephen Palmer and Sheri-Lyn Lagueux.

III. Consideration of Matters Discussed in the above Executive Session

At 3:42 P.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: Discussion of Candidate Committee Validation Memoranda

No action was taken.

IV. Consideration of Application for Public Grants from the Citizens' Election Fund
A. New Applications

1. *"Lumaj 2026," Peter Lumaj*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *"Lumaj 2026," Peter Lumaj*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

2. *"Kathy Kennedy for the 119th," Kathy Kennedy*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to continue without prejudice the grant application for *"Kathy Kennedy for the 119th," Kathy Kennedy*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

3. *"Mecca for State Rep 123," Bill Mecca*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *"Mecca for State Rep 123," Bill Mecca*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

4. *"Shannon for the 117th 2026," Michael Shannon*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *"Shannon for the 117th 2026," Michael Shannon*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

5. *"Jane Garibay For House," Jane Garibay*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *"Jane Garibay For House," Jane Garibay*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

6. *"Moirra Rader for Connecticut," Moirra Rader*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *"Moirra Rader for Connecticut," Moirra Rader*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

7. *"Amadasun for State Rep 2026," Harrison Amadasun*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *"Amadasun for State Rep 2026," Harrison Amadasun*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

8. *“Chris Saley for 118th,” Christopher Saley*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *“Chris Saley for 118th,” Christopher Saley*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

9. *“Friends of Eli Sabin,” Eli Sabin*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *“Friends of Eli Sabin,” Eli Sabin*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

10. *“Moise Carelus for Us,” Moise Carelus*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *“Moise Carelus for Us,” Moise Carelus*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

11. *“Canino for Torrington 2026,” Joseph Canino*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to continue without prejudice the grant application for *“Canino for Torrington 2026,” Joseph Canino*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

12. *“Dan for CT40 2026,” Daniel Gaiewski*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *“Dan for CT40 2026,” Daniel Gaiewski*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

13. *“Donna Veach for State Rep,” Donna Veach*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *“Donna Veach for State Rep,” Donna Veach*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

14. *“Karen Martin for State Representative,” Karen Martin*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *“Karen Martin for State Representative,” Karen Martin*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

15. *“Ku Is For You,” Michelle Embree Ku*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *“Ku Is For You,” Michelle Embree Ku*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

16. *"Linehan 26," Liz Linehan*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *"Linehan 26," Liz Linehan*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

17. *"Team Eleni for CT," Eleni Kavros DeGraw*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *"Team Eleni for CT," Eleni Kavros DeGraw*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

18. *"Zupkus 2026," Lezlye Zupkus*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *"Zupkus 2026," Lezlye Zupkus*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

19. *"Aundre 2026," Aundre Baumgardner*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *"Aundre 2026," Aundre Baumgardner*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

20. *"Criss for Senate," Michael Criss*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *"Criss for Senate," Michael Criss*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

21. *"ElectSuzanne66," Suzanne Lovig*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *"ElectSuzanne66," Suzanne Lovig*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

22. *"Fishbein for Connecticut," Craig Fishbein*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *"Fishbein for Connecticut," Craig Fishbein*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

23. *"Foncellofor107th," Martin Foncello*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *"Foncellofor107th," Martin Foncello*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

24. *“Harding 26,” Stephen Harding*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to continue without prejudice the grant application for *“Harding 26,” Stephen Harding*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

25. *“Harris 2026,” Tyron Harris*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *“Harris 2026,” Tyron Harris*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

26. *“McCrary for Senate 2026,” Douglas McCrary*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *“McCrary for Senate 2026,” Douglas McCrary*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

27. *“Tony Scott for State Rep,” Tony Scott*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *“Tony Scott for State Rep,” Tony Scott*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

28. *“VISCONTI 2026,” Steven Visconti*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *“VISCONTI 2026,” Steven Visconti*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

B. Continuation of Prior Applications Awaiting Additional Information to Qualify for a Grant

1. *“Jensen26,” Arnold Jensen*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *“Jensen26,” Arnold Jensen*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

2. *“PC108,” Patrick Callahan*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to approve the grant application for *“PC108,” Patrick Callahan*. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

V. *Executive Session*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare at 4:11 P.M. to proceed into Executive Session pursuant to General Statutes §§ 1-200(6)(B),(E), and 1-210(b)(1), (3),(4),(10) and General Statutes §9-7a to discuss preliminary draft and agency consideration of enforcement action and exempt records relative thereto and pursuant to General Statutes §§ 1-200 (6) (8) (9), 1-210 (b) (4), (10), and 1-225 (f) to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation to which the public agency or a member thereof.

Commissioners Penny, Ajello, 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 Clark Kief, Director of Campaign Disclosure & Audit Salman Munir, Enforcement Director William Smith, Staff Attorneys Mario Borelli, Johny Ross, III, Zak Jazlowiecki, Maryam Bitar, Aaron Charney, Patricia Mwilwa, Elections Officer Kaitlin Flynn, Information Technology Manager Irene Jeremic, Information Technology Analyst Nathan Diaz-Rolon, and Commission Clerks Stephen Palmer and Sheri-Lyn Lagueux.

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

At 4:16 P.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 June 17, 2026 and requested that two (2) matters be moved to be investigated.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare to make a determination that it is necessary to investigate violations relating to complaints, File Nos.2026-067 & 2026-069. So approved by the Commission. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

2. Discussion of Pending Litigation

No action was taken.

VII. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Asare at 4:19 P.M. to adjourn the meeting. So voted by a vote of 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted by,



Sheri-Lyn Lagueux
Clerk of the State Elections Enforcement Commission

July 1, 2026

Date approved

(By the State Elections Enforcement Commission)