



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR TELEPHONIC MEETING

Via Webex

Additional Methods to Attend This Meeting Include:

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

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

January 7, 2026

9:30 A.M.

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Penny was present via Webex and called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. Commissioners Michael Ajello and Shannon Bergquist were present via Webex. Agency staff were also present via Webex

II. Approval of the Minutes

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of December 17, 2025

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of December 17, 2025. So voted by a vote of 2-0-1 with Commissioner Bergquist abstaining.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of December 23, 2025

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of December 23, 2025. So voted by a vote of 3-0-0.

III. Administrative Reports

1. Report of Executive Director and General Counsel Ryan Burns

Executive Director and General Counsel, Ryan Burns reported that the SEEC had an introductory meeting with the Office of the Chief States Attorney. It appears that this relationship is strong and that they are working diligently on the referrals we made.

Director Burns advised that he has made contact with appointing authorities for each of the commissioner positions and looks forward to those meetings in the coming months.

Director Burns updated that in the packet materials is the enforcement docket report; pending grants and pending audits report which will be a regular part of the packet.

2. *SEEC Public Act 25-26 Report*

Director Burns reported that included in the packet materials, is a report that was delivered to the General Assembly as required by Public Act 25-26. The report was delivered timely with Special Thanks to Joshua Foley, Salman Munir and Shannon Kief.

IV. *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)*

1. Recommendation of Counsel: Discussion of Candidate Committee Validation Memoranda

Executive Session was not convened.

V. *Consideration of Application for Public Grants from the Citizens' Election Fund*

A. *New Applications*

1. *"ERIN FOR CONNECTICUT," Erin E. Stewart*

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the grant applications for *"ERIN FOR CONNECTICUT," Erin E. Stewart*. So voted by a vote of 3-0-0.

VI. *Pending Complaints, Investigations and Audits*

A. *Public Session*

1. In the Matter of a Complaint by Robert Corson, Clinton
File No. 2025-085
Proposed Consent Order & Agreement
Respondent:
Attorney:
Legal Investigator:

Michael Rossi
Patricia Mwilwa
Scott Branfuhr

Attorney Patricia Mwilwa summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2025-085. She recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2025-085. So voted by a vote of 3-0-0.

2. Audit Reports

2022

1. "*Arnone for Enfield*," Thomas Arnone
Accounts Examiner: Patrick Dotse
2. "*Alex in 22*," Alexander Burns
Accounts Examiner: Ergys Guni
3. "*Ned for CT*," Edward Lamont
Accounts Examiner: Rhonda Salvatore
4. "*Erick Russell for State Treasurer*," Erick Russell
Accounts Examiner: Patrick Dotse
5. "*Smith for the 118th*," Frank Smith
Accounts Examiner: Rhonda Salvatore

2024

6. "*Lopes 2024*," Rick Lopes
Accounts Examiner: Saadah Junood
7. "*Geoff 2024*," Geoff Luxenberg
Accounts Examiner: Rhonda Salvatore
8. "*Nolan4NL*," Anthony Nolan
Accounts Examiner: Rhonda Salvatore
9. "*Rojas2024*," Jason Rojas
Accounts Examiner: Saadah Junood
10. "*Mike Schultz for Simsbury*," Michael O. Schultz
Accounts Examiner: Nicole Duffany

Director of Campaign Disclosure and Audit Salman Munir provided an overview of the draft audit reports and recommended that the Commission make final items numbers 1 through 10. Acceptance of the audit results was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist.

So voted by a vote of 3-0-0.

The record reflects that Commissioner Worell-Asare joined the meeting at 9:41 AM.

VII. *Executive Session per General Statutes §§ 1-200(6)(B),(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 Bergquist at 9:42 a.m. to proceed into Executive Session pursuant to General Statutes §§ 1-200(6)(B),(E), and 1-210(b)(1) and (10) to discuss exempt records. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

Commissioners Penny, Ajello, Asare and Bergquist were present via Webex. Staff members present via Webex were: Executive Director Ryan Burns, Legal Program Director Shannon Clark Kief, Director of Campaign Disclosure and Audit Salman Munir, Associate Accounts Examiner Krysta Palozie, Information Technology Director Irene Jeremic; Enforcement Director William B. Smith, Staff Attorneys, Johnny Ross, III, Mario Borelli, Joshua Foley, Aaron Charney, Maryam Bitar, Patricia Mwilwa; Legal Investigators Scott Branfuhr, Ronald Perry; Elections Officer Kaitlin Flynn; Ashley Socquet; Administrative Assistant Cynthia Ortiz and Clerks Stephen Palmer and Sheri-Lyn Lagueux.

At 10:23 a.m., the Commissioners came out of Executive Session and noted that no matters were decided and no vote was taken during Executive Session.

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

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 December 30, 2025 and requested that two (2) matters be moved to investigate.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to make a determination that it is necessary to investigate violations relating to two (2) complaints, File No. 2025-132 as to the two individuals identified by the complainant as allegedly remaining on voter rolls despite ineligibility and also File No. 2025-133. So approved by the Commission 4-0-0. So voted

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

The matter is continued.

3. In re. SEEC Initiated Post Election Review “April for CT Senate”
File No. 2023-078A
Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

Mario Borelli

Legal Investigator:

Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

The matter is continued.

4. In re. SEEC Initiated Post Election Review “Kate 2020”
File No. 2023-079L
Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

Mario Borelli

Legal Investigator:

Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Attorney Mario Borelli summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2023-079L. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2023-079L. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

5. In re. SEEC Initiated Investigation “2022 DAC HOUSE 114”
File No. 2024-036A
Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

Mario Borelli

Legal Investigator:

Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

The matter is continued.

6. In the Matter of a Referral by Lucian Pawlak and Peter Gostin, New Britain
File No. 2024-054
Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

Mario Borelli

Legal Investigator:

Stephanie Fish

Attorney Mario Borelli summarized the above referenced complaint and Withdrawal in File No. 2024-054. He recommended adoption of the Withdrawal in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to adopt the Withdrawal in File No. 2024-054. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

7. In the Matter of a Complaint by Anthony Guerrero, Waterbury
File No. 2025-072
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: Mario Borelli
Legal Investigator: Scott Branfuhr

Attorney Mario Borelli summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2025-072. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in this matter upon receipt within 14 days.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2025-072 upon receipt in 14 days. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

8. In the Matter of a Complaint by Anthony Guerrero, Waterbury
File No. 2025-104
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: Mario Borelli
Legal Investigator: Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

The matter is continued.

9. In the Matter of a Complaint by Joshua S. Kelly, Waterford
File No. 2025-105
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: Mario Borelli
Legal Investigator: Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

Attorney Mario Borelli summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2025-105. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2025-105. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

10. In the Matter of a Complaint by Joshua Curry, Clinton
File No. 2025-117
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: Mario Borelli
Legal Investigator: Ronald Perry

Attorney Mario Borelli summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2025-117. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to adopt the Proposed Consent Order & Agreement in File No. 2025-117. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

11. In the Matter of a Referral by Alberta Vitale, RoV, East Haven
File No. 2024-133
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: Mario Borelli
Legal Investigator: Stephanie Fish

The matter is continued.

12. In the Matter of a Referral by an Elections Officer of the SEEC
File Nos. 2021-139, 2021-210, 2022-010, 2022-032 & 2022-078
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: Johnny Ross, III

Attorney Johnny Ross, III summarized the above referenced complaint and recommended adoption of the following motion:

Pursuant to its authority under General Statutes § 9-7b (a) (9), the Commission authorizes Counsel to refer this matter for consultation to the Office of the Attorney General towards securing from Respondent Duprau payment of the \$1,250 civil penalty ordered by the Commission on August 7, 2024, pertaining into the matters docketed as In the Matter of a Referral by an Elections Officer of the State Elections Enforcement Commission SEEC File Nos. 2021-139, 2021-210, 2022-010, 2022-032, and 2022-078.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to refer to the Office of the Attorney General File Nos. 2021-139, 2021-210, 2022-010, 2022-032, and 2022-078 for collections. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

13. In the Matter of a referral by the Town Clerk, Bloomfield
File No. 2025-115
Recommendation of Counsel
Attorney: Johnny Ross, III

Attorney Johnny Ross, III summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2025-115. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2025-115. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

14. In the Matter of a referral by the Town Clerk, New Milford
File No. 2025-118

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

Johnny Ross, III

Attorney Johnny Ross, III summarized the above referenced complaint and Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2025-118. He recommended adoption of the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in this matter.

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist to adopt the Proposed Findings & Conclusions in File No. 2025-118. So voted by a vote of 4-0-0.

15. In the Matter of a SEEC Campaign Disclosure and Audit Unit Referral, "*Re-Elect Zullo 2020*"

File No. 2023-126

Recommendation of Counsel

Attorney:

William B. Smith

Legal Investigator:

Sheri-Lyn Lagueux

The matter is continued.

IX. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Ajello and seconded by Commissioner Bergquist at 10:46 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 Lagueux

Clerk of the State Elections Enforcement Commission

January 21, 2026

Date approved

(By the State Elections Enforcement Commission)