

State Elections Enforcement Commission

Citizens' Election Program



Press Release

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STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION ANNOUNCES FOURTH PUBLIC GRANTS OF SEASON

HARTFORD, CT – June 18, 2014 – The State Elections Enforcement Commission (the “Commission”) announced that it will make its fourth public grant payments under the Citizens’ Election Program for the August 12, 2014 primaries and the November 4, 2014 general election. The Commission determined that state representative candidates Sam Belsito (R – 53rd District), Christie Carpino (R – 32nd District), Dan Fox (D – 148th District), Andy Garfunkel (D – 142nd District), Rick Lopes (D – 24th District), and James Maroney (D – 119th District) were eligible to receive Program grants. The Commission also determined that Lieutenant Governor candidate Penny Bacchiochi (R), State Treasurer candidate Timothy Herbst (R), State Comptroller candidate Kevin Lembo (D), Governor and Lieutenant Governor candidates Dannel Malloy (D) and Nancy Wyman (D), and state senate candidate Marilyn Moore (R – 22nd District) were eligible to receive grants.

The Citizens’ Election Program is a voluntary program which allows qualifying candidates for General Assembly and statewide offices to receive full public financing. To qualify for public campaign financing, candidates must demonstrate they have adequate support from the public. Candidates for state representative accomplish this by raising \$5,000 from at least 150 individuals residing in municipalities in their district. Candidates for state senate accomplish this by raising \$15,000 from at least 300 individuals residing in municipalities in their district. Candidates for Governor accomplish this by raising \$250,000 of which \$225,000 must be from individuals residing in the state. Candidates for Lieutenant Governor, State Comptroller, and State Treasurer accomplish this by raising \$75,000 of which \$67,500 must be from individuals residing in the state. Participating candidates may only accept small dollar contributions from certain individuals—the maximum contribution is \$100—and no contributions from state contractors or PACs.

Grant amounts vary. Typically, primary grant amounts are \$11,140 for state representative candidates and \$38,990 for state senate candidates, but amounts are higher if the candidates run in districts where one major party has a large advantage in the number of electors registered with that party. In most races, general election grant amounts are \$27,850 for state representative candidates and \$94,690 for state senate candidates. Grants for qualified CEP candidates for Governor that are participating in primaries will be \$1,354,250. Grants for such candidates in the general election will be \$6,500,400. Grants for qualified CEP candidates for Lieutenant Governor, State Comptroller, and State Treasurer will be \$406,275. Grants for such candidates in the general election will be \$812,550, excluding Lieutenant Governor. When it is not known whether a candidate will face a primary, then the lesser applicable grant amount is awarded and later supplemented, if need be. The Commission will be accepting applications from candidates in primaries until July 18th and, for candidates in the general election, until October 10th.

For more information please contact Joshua Foley at joshua.foley@ct.gov.