

State Elections Enforcement Commission

Citizens' Election Program



Press Release

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STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION ANNOUNCES SEVENTH PUBLIC GRANTS OF SEASON

HARTFORD, CT – July 11, 2014 – The State Elections Enforcement Commission (the “Commission”) announced that it will make its seventh public grant payments under the Citizens’ Election Program for the August 12, 2014 primaries and the November 4, 2014 general election. The Commission, at its July 10 meeting, determined that state representative candidates David Arconti (D – 109th District), Gennaro Bizzaro (R – 24th District), Dennis Bradley (D – 128th District), Aundre Bumgardner (R – 41st District), Jeffrey Currey (D – 11th District), Christopher Davis (R – 57th District), Henry Genga (D – 10th District), Victoria Lanier (R – 23rd District), Russell Morin (D – 28th District), Bruce Morris (D – 140th District), Hilda Santiago (D – 84th District), J.P. Sredzinski (R – 112th District), Patty Stoddard (R – 21st District), David Watts (D – 137th District), and David Yaccarino (R – 87th District) were eligible to receive Program grants. The Commission also determined that state senate candidates Eric Coleman (D – 2nd District), Joseph Crisco (D – 17th District), Henri Martin (R – 31st District), Betsy Ritter (D – 20th District), Len Suzio (R – 13th District), and Shawn Wooden (D – 2nd District) were eligible to receive a Program 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. 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. 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.