

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION**

In the Matter of a Referral from  
United States Attorney's Office

File No. 2007-417

**AGREEMENT CONTAINING CONSENT ORDER AND  
PAYMENT OF A CIVIL PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF  
CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES § 9-333x(10) (Rev. 2003).**

This Agreement, by and between Christopher K. Leonard ("Respondent"), of the Town of Ridgefield, County of Fairfield, State of Connecticut and the authorized representative of the State Elections Enforcement Commission is entered into in accordance with Section 9-7b-54 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies and Section 4-177(c) of the General Statutes of Connecticut. In accordance herewith, the parties agree that:

- 1) At all times relevant to this Agreement the Respondent was an attorney and junior partner in the law firm of Collins, Hannafin, Garamella, Jaber & Tuozzolo, P.C. located in Danbury, CT. Respondent joined the firm as an associate attorney in 1989 and became a junior partner in 1996.
- 2) Respondent is a resident of the town of Ridgefield, CT and before the events described in this Agreement was a member and one-time Chair of the Ridgefield Republican Town Committee.
- 3) On or about November 1, 2004, Attorney Jack D. Garamella, a named and senior partner in Respondent's law firm, asked Respondent to give a donation of \$500 to the "Cappiello for Senate" candidate committee, which was formed as the funding vehicle for the campaign of Sen. David Cappiello in his run for reelection to the Connecticut State Senate for the 24<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District, which election took place on November 2, 2004.
- 4) In exchange for the above mentioned donation, Mr. Garamella offered to pay Respondent the same amount in cash.
- 5) On or about November 1, 2004, Respondent accepted the above offer and in exchange, Mr. Garamella gave Respondent \$500 in cash.
- 6) That day, Respondent deposited the \$500 cash into his personal bank account and made a donation of \$500 in the form of a personal check dated November 2, 2004 to "Cappiello for Senate" out of the same bank account.
- 7) Connecticut General Statutes § 9-333x(7) (now 9-622(7)), provides in pertinent part:  
The following persons *shall be guilty of illegal practices and shall be punished in accordance with the provisions of section 9-333y* [now 9-623]:  
...

*(7) Any person who, directly or indirectly, individually or through another person, makes a payment or promise of payment to a campaign treasurer in a name other than the person's own, and any campaign treasurer who knowingly receives a payment or promise of payment, or enters or causes the same to be entered in the person's accounts in any other name than that of the person by whom such payment or promise of payment is made;*

...  
*(10) Any person who solicits, makes or receives a contribution that is otherwise prohibited by any provision of this chapter;*

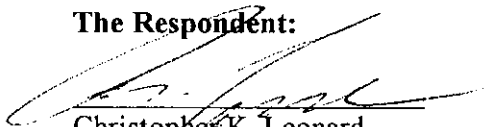
....  
[Emphasis added.]

- 8) Respondent knew or should have known that his actions constituted making a prohibited contribution in his own name for another person and resulted in the concealing of the true source of the funds, a violation of Connecticut election law and an obviation of the purpose behind the public disclosure of campaign contributions.
- 9) The Commission finds, and the Respondent agrees, that his actions constituted a violation of General Statutes § 9-333x(10) (Rev. 2003) (now 9-622(10)).
- 10) The Respondent admits all jurisdictional facts and agrees that this Agreement and Order shall have the same force and effect as a final decision and Order entered after a full hearing and shall become final when adopted by the Commission. The Respondent shall receive a copy hereof as provided in Section 9-7b-56 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.
- 11) It is understood and agreed that this Agreement will be submitted to the Commission at its next meeting and, if it is not accepted by the Commission, it is withdrawn by the Respondent and may not be used as an admission in any subsequent hearing, if the same becomes necessary.
- 12) The Respondent waives:
  - (a) Any further procedural steps;
  - (b) The requirement that the Commission's decision contain a statement of findings of fact and conclusions of law, separately stated; and
  - (c) All rights to seek judicial review or otherwise to challenge or contest the validity of the Order entered into pursuant to this Agreement.
- 13) Upon the Respondent's compliance with the Order hereinafter stated, the Commission shall not initiate any further proceedings against him pertaining to this matter.

**ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of two thousand dollars (\$2000.00) to the Commission on or before July 15, 2008 and that the Respondent shall henceforth strictly comply with the requirements of Connecticut General Statutes §§ 9-622(7) and 9-622(10).

**The Respondent:**



Christopher K. Leonard  
25 Mallory Hill Rd.  
Ridgefield, CT 06877

**For the State of Connecticut:**

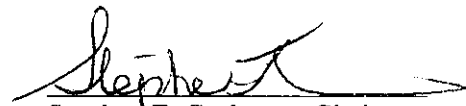
BY: 

Joan M. Andrews, Esq.  
Director of Legal Affairs & Enforcement  
& Authorized Representative of the  
State Elections Enforcement Commission  
20 Trinity St., Suite 101  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dated: 7/15/2008

Dated: 7/16/08

Adopted this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of July of 2008 at Hartford, Connecticut



Stephen F. Cashman, Chairman  
By Order of the Commission