

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

In the Matter of a Complaint by
Gloria Crucetts, Hartford

File No. 2012-126

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Complainant Gloria Crucetts brings this complaint pursuant to General Statutes § 9-7b alleging that the candidate committee for Victor Luna attributed qualifying contributions to her that she never contributed. After the investigation of the Complainant's allegations, the Commission makes the following findings and conclusions:

1. Victor M. Luna established a candidate committee for the 3rd General Assembly district on June 13, 2012. *See* SEEC Form 1 – Registration by Candidate (*Luna for State Representative 2012*, June 13, 2012) (reflecting Victor M. Luna's registration of candidate committee). The candidate committee was vying for the nomination in the August 14, 2012 Democratic Party primary.
2. On July 10, 2012, the *Luna for State Representative 2012* became a participating candidate committee when Luna, the candidate, and Aleja Rosario, the committee treasurer, executed SEEC Form CEP 10, thereby evincing their intention to abide by the voluntary expenditure limits and other restrictions imposed on participants in the state's Citizens' Election Program. *See* SEEC Form CEP 10 - Affidavit of Intent to Abide by Expenditure Limits and Other Citizens' Election Program Requirements (*Luna for State Representative 2012*, July 10, 2012) (affirming candidate committee's status as "participating" candidate committee for 2012 election cycle).
3. The Luna candidate committee applied for a grant from the Citizens' Election Fund on July 18, 2012, and the Commission awarded the committee a grant on July 25, 2012. *See* SEEC Form CEP 15 – Citizens' Election Program Application for Public Grant Dollars (*Luna for State Representative 2012*, July 18, 2012) (applying for grant from Citizens' Election Program); Minutes, State Elections Enforcement Comm'n (July 25, 2012) (reflecting Commission's approval of grant application).
4. In order to qualify for the grant, the Luna candidate committee had to collect qualifying contributions totaling \$15,000, in amounts between \$5 and \$100 with at least 150 of those contributions coming from individuals who lived in towns represented by the district. In the Luna committee's case, 150 contributions had to come from Hartford residents.

5. Complainant filed this complaint on September 10, 2012, alleging that she never made a contribution to *Luna for State Representative 2012*. See Affidavit of Complaint (Gloria Crucetts, September 10, 2012).
6. The Luna candidate committee's application for a grant counted a \$10 contribution from Crucetts as one of its qualifying contributions. See SEEC Form 30 – Itemized Campaign Finance Disclosure Statement (*Luna for State Representative 2012*, July 19, 2012) (identifying Crucetts' contribution of \$10 on June 24, 2012).
7. Commission investigators spoke with the Complainant and her son, Luis Perez-Crucett, who also filed a complaint regarding this matter. See In the Matter of a Complaint by Luis Perez-Crucett, Hartford, SEEC File No. 2012-125. Mr. Perez-Crucett told investigators that he had signed the qualifying contribution card for his mother when solicitors came to the door asking for contributions to the Luna campaign. The Complainant was unable to verify the allegations in the complaint.
8. Given the fact that the Complainant in this matter did not execute the underlying qualifying contribution form to manifest her intent to contribute to the candidate committee as well as a lack of substantiation of fundamental elements of the allegations, the Commission will dismiss the matter.

ORDER

The following Order is recommended on the basis of the aforementioned findings:

That the complaint be dismissed.

Adopted this 15th day of January of 2014 at Hartford, Connecticut.


Anthony J. Castagno
By Order of the Commission