

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION**

In the Matter of a Complaint by Shawn Wooden  
City of Hartford

File No. 2014-084

**AGREEMENT CONTAINING A CONSENT ORDER**

This Agreement by and between Martin John, Town of Windsor, State of Connecticut, hereinafter referred to as Respondent, and the undersigned authorized representative of the State Elections Enforcement Commission, is entered into in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 4-177 (c) and Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies § 9-7b-54. In accordance herewith, the parties agree that:

1. Shawn Wooden filed with this complaint with the Commission on July 24, 2014, alleging that the candidate committee of Eric D. Coleman had failed to disclose funds it had received and expenditures it had made in a reporting period shortly before the August 2014 primary.<sup>1</sup> Wooden was running against Coleman for the Democratic nomination for the 2<sup>nd</sup> State Senatorial Seat in 2014.
2. Coleman established this candidate committee on April 23, 2014, naming Respondent John as the committee's treasurer.<sup>2</sup> The committee was established to support his candidacy for nomination as the Democratic Party candidate for the election for the 2<sup>nd</sup> state senate district.<sup>3</sup> The committee opted to participate in the Citizens' Elections Program.<sup>4</sup> The Commission approved a grant from the Citizens Election Fund totaling \$86,180, which was received by the committee on July 1, 2014.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Affidavit of Complaint, Shawn T. Wooden, Hartford (Rec'd. July 28, 2014) (outlining allegations against Coleman candidate committee).

<sup>2</sup> See SEEC Form 1 – Registration of Candidate Committee (*The Committee to Re-Elect State Senator Eric D. Coleman*, April 23, 2014) (reflecting establishment of candidate committee by Eric D. Coleman and appointment of Martin John as treasurer).

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> See SEEC Form CEP 10 – Affidavit of Intent to Abide by Expenditure Limits and Other Citizens' Election Program Requirements (*The Committee to Re-Elect State Senator Eric D. Coleman*, April 23, 2014) (reflecting intent of candidate and treasurer to participate in Citizens' Election Program and follow voluntary program rules and restrictions).

<sup>5</sup> See SEEC Form 30 – Itemized Campaign Finance Disclosure Statement - First Weekly Supplemental Filing Primary (Amendment) (*The Committee To Re-Elect State Senator Eric D. Coleman*, August 3, 2014) (reflecting total receipts of \$87,070.04 and expenditures of \$21,738.86, leaving \$70,125.67 on hand).

3. In its July 24, 2014 report to the Commission, the Coleman candidate committee reported that it had \$6,642.14 on hand but that it had received \$0 in additional contributions or other funds during the period and that it had spent \$0.<sup>6</sup> That report was submitted by Respondent John in his capacity as the committee's treasurer.
4. After the initiation of this action, Respondent subsequently amended that initial report to reflect expenditures and monies received more accurately.
5. General Statutes § 9-608 requires treasurers of candidate committees to file periodic campaign finance disclosure statements. In addition, in election or primary contests where at least one of the candidate committees is participating in the Citizens' Election Program, the treasurers for all candidate committees in the race must file weekly supplemental reports. In the Democratic Party primary for the 2nd State Senatorial seat in 2014, those weekly reports began on July 24. General Statutes § 9-608 also demands that treasurers provide "an itemized accounting" of each contribution, each expenditure, and each expense incurred but not paid.
6. By failing to file complete and accurate reports of the financial transactions of the committee, Respondent John failed to satisfy the requirements imposed on him as treasurer of the Coleman candidate committee and violated General Statutes §§ 9-606 and 9-608.
7. 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 into after a full hearing and shall become final when adopted by the Commission.
8. Respondents waive:
  - 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.
9. It is understood and agreed that this Agreement will be submitted to the Commission for consideration at its next meeting and, if the Commission does not accept it, it is withdrawn

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<sup>6</sup> See SEEC Form 30 – Itemized Campaign Finance Disclosure Statement - First Weekly Supplemental Filing Primary (Original) (*The Committee To Re-Elect State Senator Eric D. Coleman*, July 24, 2014) (reflecting incoming and outgoing transactions from July 1 through July 22, 2014).

and may not be used as an admission by the Respondents in any subsequent hearing, if the same becomes necessary.

**ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the Respondent Martin John shall henceforth abide by the reporting requirements in General Statutes §§ 9-606 and 9-608 and shall agree not to serve as treasurer of a committee organized under chapter 155 of the Connecticut General Statutes in the future.

The Respondent

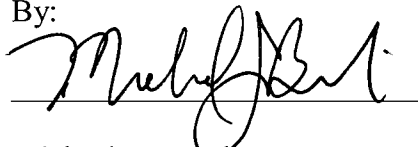
For the State of Connecticut

By:



Martin John  
8 Plumridge St  
Windsor, CT 06095

By:



Michael J. Brandi, Esq.  
Executive Director and General Counsel and  
Authorized Representative of the  
State Elections Enforcement Commission  
20 Trinity St., Suite 101  
Hartford, CT 06106


Dated:

5/21/2017

Dated:

5/31/17

Adopted this 21 day of June, 2017 at Hartford, Connecticut by vote of the Commission.



Anthony J. Castagno, Chairman  
By Order of the Commission