



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

*In the Matter of a Referral by Hon. Stephanie Thomas, Secretary  
of the State, Hartford, File No. 2024-014*

**NOTICE OF CASE CLOSURE**

The State Elections Enforcement Commission docketed this referral based on information provided by the referring official regarding potential election law violations within its jurisdiction.

At its February 21, 2024 meeting, after preliminary investigation, the Commission determined on the record that it was not necessary to further investigate this matter pursuant to General Statutes § 9-7b (a) (1).

This referral was based on information provided to the Office of the Secretary of the State ("SOTS") by the office of the Bridgeport Registrars of Voters and the Chairman of the Bridgeport Independent Party, which raised concerns regarding the sufficiency of that party's endorsement of John Gomes for the office of mayor.

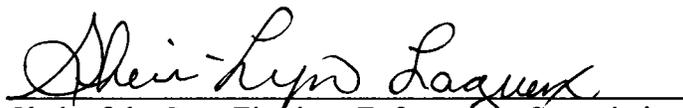
Upon preliminary investigation, it was determined that the Bridgeport Town Clerk's office accepted a September 1, 2023 Certification of Party Endorsement from the Independent Party nominating John Gomes for mayor at the November 7, 2023 election. Further, the SOTS on September 7, 2023 approved that nominating petition and qualified him to appear on the ballot on the Independent Party line.

Pursuant to General Statutes § 9-328, election contests and complaints regarding the status of municipal candidates certified to appear on a ballot is for the Superior Court to determine. Based on the facts and the law, there appears to be limited jurisdictional grounds upon which the Commission could provide relief or remedy in this instance after investigation.

The Commission therefore administratively closes this matter.

Reflected in the record this 21<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2024, at  
Hartford, Connecticut.

Respectfully,

  
Clerk of the State Elections Enforcement Commission

February 21, 2024  
(By the State Elections Enforcement Commission)