



*State of New Jersey*

## **ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION**

THOMAS H. PROL  
Chairman

RYAN PETERS  
Commissioner

NORMA R. EVANS  
Commissioner

JON-HENRY BARR  
Commissioner

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EDWIN R. MATTHEWS  
Legal Counsel

### PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

September 17, 2024

Chairman Thomas H. Prol, Commissioner Norma R. Evans, Commissioner Jon-Henry Barr, Legal Counsel Edwin R. Matthews, Executive Director Amanda Haines, Deputy Director Joseph Donohue, Legal Director Theresa Lelinski, Review and Investigation Director Shreve Marshall, Information Technology (IT) Director Anthony Giancarli, IT Specialist Lou Solimeo, and Executive Secretarial Assistant Elbia Zeppetelli were present. IT Specialist Elias Amaya participated via Zoom. Commissioner Ryan Peters was absent.

A court reporter was available to record the proceedings.

The Public Session Minutes will be available online on the Commission's website at: <http://www.elec.state.nj.us>.

Chairman Prol convened the meeting at 11:05 a.m. in Trenton.

#### **1. Open Public Meetings Statement**

Chairman Prol called the meeting to order and announced that pursuant to the "Open Public Meetings Act," N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., adequate notice of the meeting of the Commission had been filed with the Secretary of State's Office and distributed to the entire State House Press Corps. It was also posted on the Commission's website.

#### **2. Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **3. Approval of Public Session Minutes for July 16, 2024**

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission approved the Public Session Minutes for July 16, 2024.

#### **4. Executive Director's Report**

Executive Director Haines presented the Executive Director's Report.

**5. Publication of Commission Regulations with a Time Line of Important Dates**

Chairman Prol remarked about two proposals concerning amendments to implement campaign cost-index adjustments for gubernatorial and non-gubernatorial candidates, and political party entities and new rules to implement independent expenditure committees, and important dates for the proposals.

**6. 2023 Municipal and Primary Election Non-Filer Complaints**

Chairman Prol stated that 69 non-filer complaints for the 2023 municipal and primary election were issued in July 17, 2024.

**7. Public Comments**

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission voted to open the meeting for public comments.

No public comments.

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission voted to close public comments.

**8. Chairman Prol Read Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session**

Whereas, there exists a need to hold an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the following matter/matters, which fall within the exceptions to the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 et seq. to wit.

**Matter/Matters (OPMA Exception)**

- Discussion of Executive Session Minutes for July 16, 2024;
- Final Decision Recommendations for Non-Filer Complaints;
- Complaint Recommendations; and,
- Consent Order and Final Decision Recommendation.

Whereas, it is unknown at this time when such discussion to take place in Executive Session may be disclosed to the public.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved by the Election Law Enforcement Commission as follows:

1. This Executive Session Meeting of the Election Law Enforcement Commission shall be closed to the public for discussion of the aforesaid referenced matters.
2. The matters discussed during this Executive Session Meeting shall be disclosed to the public at such time when reason for discussing and acting on same in Executive Session shall no longer exist.

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission resolved to enter Executive Session to discuss anticipated litigation and current litigation, which will become public as follows:

- A. Final Decision Recommendations in complaint proceedings which will not become public. However, the Final Decisions resulting from those recommendations will become public not later than seven business days after mailing to the named respondents.
- B. Matters under current litigation, the substance of discussions of which will not become public in order to protect the attorney-client privilege and the deliberative process. However, any litigation in which the Commission is currently a party is a public matter and will become public subject to the above limitations and privileges.

### **Return to Public Session**

Chairman Prol stated that the following items were discussed in Executive Session:

- Discussion of Executive Session Minutes for July 16, 2024;
- Final Decision Recommendations for Non-Filer Complaints;
- Complaint Recommendation; and,
- Consent Order and Final Decision Recommendation.

### **9. Approval of Executive Session Minutes for July 16, 2024**

On a motion by Commissioner Evans, seconded by Commissioner Barr, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission approved the Executive Session Minutes for July 16, 2024.

### **10. Final Decision Recommendations for Non-Filer Complaints**

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission approved the Final Decision Recommendations for Non-Filer Complaints as follows:

- 2019 Primary Election: 1. Arnold;
- 2020 Primary Election: 2. Correa;
- 2022 Primary Election: 3. Lazzaro, 4. Hamburger, 5. Ferree;
- 2022 General Election: 6. Parker, 7. Sarabando, 8. Prozor, 9. Hale, 10. Burris, Jr.; and,
- 2023 Primary Election 11. Wolbert, Jr., 12. Quinn, 13. Rugg.

### **11. Complaint Recommendation**

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission approved the complaint recommendation as follows:

Item 1: ELEC v. Alex Cruz and Maria S. Aquirre (Treasurer)  
C-3 1600 02 02-G2022 (Single Candidate Committee)

**12. Consent Order and Final Decision Recommendation**

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission approved the consent order and final decision recommendation as follows:

Item 1: ELEC v. CWA NJ Political Education Committee and Christian Esteves, Treasurer  
C-T 0000 0005 33-Q2021 (Rev. 20-22)

**13. Public Comments**

On a motion by Commissioner Evans, seconded by Commissioner Barr, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission voted to open the meeting for public comments.

No public comments.

On a motion by Commissioner Evans, seconded by Commissioner Barr, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission voted to close public comments.

**14. Adjournment**

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 3-0, the Commission resolved to adjourn the meeting at 12:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted as true  
and correct,

Amanda S. Haines  
Executive Director

ASH/elz