



State of New Jersey

THOMAS H. PROL
Chairman

RYAN PETERS
Commissioner

NORMA R. EVANS
Commissioner

JON-HENRY BARR
Commissioner

ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

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AMANDA S. HAINES
Executive Director

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THERESA J. LELINSKI
Legal Director

AUREA VAZQUEZ-ALEXANDER
Compliance Director

EDWIN R. MATTHEWS
Legal Counsel

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

March 18, 2025

Chairman Thomas H. Prol, Commissioner Ryan Peters, 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, Deputy Legal Director Scott Miccio, Compliance Director Aurea Vazquez-Alexander, Review and Investigation Director Shreve Marshall, Information Technology (IT) Director Anthony Giancarli, IT Specialist Lou Solimeo, Christine Clevenger, Finance & Administration and Legal Secretary Maureen Tilbury were present. IT Specialists Elias Amaya and Ken Colandrea participated via Zoom.

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 11:02 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 February 18, 2025

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Peters, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission approved the Public Session Minutes for February 18, 2025.

4. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Haines presented the Executive Director's Report.

Next Commission Meeting

April 8, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.

5. Report on 2025 Gubernatorial Public Financing Program

Compliance Director Vazquez-Alexander reported to the Commission the status of any public matching funds submissions received.

6. Advisory Opinion Request No. 01-2025

Legal Director Lelinski briefly described the request on behalf of One Giant Leap PAC.

7. Advisory Opinion Request No. 02-2025

Legal Director Lelinski described the request on behalf of Ciattarelli for Governor. Chairman Prol acknowledged the receipt of a written submission on behalf of Spadea for Governor in response to the Advisory Opinion Request.

8. Public Comments

Chairman Prol opened the meeting to public comments.

- Ronald Gravino

Chairman Prol closed the meeting to public comments.

9. 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 February 18, 2025;
- Advisory Opinion Request 01-2025;
- Advisory Opinion Request 02-2025;
- Update on Emergent Litigation at the OAL;
- Final Decision Recommendations for Non-Filer Complaints;
- Report Review and Compliance Proposal;
- Complaint Recommendations/Enforcement Actions;
- Consent Order and Final Decision Recommendation, and
- 2025 Gubernatorial Public Financing Program.

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 4-0, the Commission resolved to enter Executive Session to discuss current litigation, that is Final Decision Recommendations and Consent Order and Final Decision Recommendations, 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.

10. Return to Public Session

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission returned to public session.

11. Approval of Executive Session Minutes for February 18, 2025

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission approved the Executive Session Minutes for February 18, 2025.

12. Advisory Opinion No. 01-2025

Legal Director Lelinski summarized the recommended Commission response. On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Peters, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission approved Advisory Opinion No. 01-2025.

13. Advisory Opinion No. 02-2025

Legal Director Lelinski summarized the recommended Commission response. On a motion by Commissioner Evans, seconded by Commissioner Barr, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission approved Advisory Opinion No. 02-2025.

14. Final Decision Recommendations for Non-Filer Complaints

On a motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Peters, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission approved the Final Decision Recommendations for Non-Filer Complaints as follows:

- 2022 General Election: 1. Penney;

- 2023 Primary Election: 2. Mielarczyk, 3. Dos Santos, 4. Scott; and
- 2023 General Election: 5. Cherry, 6. Olivera, 7. Walker, 8. Freedman, 9. Santana.

At this time Commissioner Barr left the room.

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

- 2022 Primary Election: Valdivia.

Commissioner Barr returned to the meeting.

15. Complaint Recommendation

On a motion by Commissioner Peters, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission approved the Complaint Recommendation:

Item 1. ELEC v. Tom Mastrangelo and Michael W. Gutwetter (Treasurer)
C-1 0026 02 02-P2023 (Single Candidate Committee).

On a motion by Commissioner Peters, seconded by Commissioner Barr, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission approved the following Complaint Recommendations:

Item 1. ELEC v. New Jersey Libertarian Party and Carole L. Acton, (Treasurer)
C-Q 0000 0007 33-Q2023 (State Political Party Committee)

Item 2. ELEC v. Edward R. Durr, Jr. and William Myshkoff, (Treasurer)
C-1 0003 02 02-P2023 (Single Candidate Committee)

Item 3. ELEC v. Fort Lee Action Committee and Ioulia Liapes, (Organizational Treasurer)
C-Y 0219 0001 44-Q2023 (Continuing Political Committee).

16. Consent Order and Final Decision Recommendation

On a motion by Commissioner Peters, seconded by Commissioner Evans, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission approved the Consent Order and Final Decision.

Item 1. ELEC v. Somerset County Republican Organization and Robert Damiano

17. Public Comments

Chairman Prol opened the meeting to public comments.

No other public comments.

Chairman Prol closed the meeting to public comments.

18. Adjournment

On a motion by Commissioner Peters, seconded by Commissioner Barr, and passed by a vote of 4-0, the Commission resolved to adjourn the meeting at 12:43 p.m.

Public Session Minutes

March 18, 2025

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Respectfully submitted as true
and correct,

Amanda S. Haines
Executive Director

ASH/mat