



NEWS RELEASE

N.J. Election Law Enforcement Commission

Contact: SCOTT A. WEINER
Executive Director
(609) 292-8700

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The Election Law Enforcement Commission has released the names of seven candidates and four treasurers who received reprimands or fines for failure to comply with the Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act. A listing of the candidates, treasurers and the Final Decisions adopted by the Commission is attached.

Three candidates and their treasurers from the 1979 general election were fined because they failed to file with the Commission final reports winding up their campaigns. One candidate and his treasurer from the 1981 primary election were fined because their reports for that election omitted information. The fine was suspended on the condition that the Respondents reimburse the Commission for bank charges imposed during the course of the Commission's review of the reports.

The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act requires that candidates and political committees spending more than \$1,000.00 file reports of their financial activities with the Commission 25 and 7 days prior to an election and 15 days after the election. Candidates spending \$1,000.00 or less are required to file an A-1 Form with the Commission 25 days prior to an election. Where candidates were required to file detailed campaign reports (Form R-1), reprimands and fines were imposed jointly on the candidates and their treasurers.

The penalties being announced today were adopted by the Commission at public meetings in May and June 1983. Final Decisions have been mailed to all candidates and treasurers. The publication of this list is part of revised Commission procedures, begun with the 1978 primary election, designed to foster compliance, enhance disclosure and make enforcement more effective.

All candidates are notified by the Election Law Enforcement Commission of their reporting obligations. Candidates that failed to timely report are again notified that reports have not been received. The Act gives the Commission broad authority to initiate enforcement actions against such committees, candidates and treasurers, including civil enforcement and imposition of monetary penalties.

Factors considered by the Commission in levying fines include the number of days the filing is late and any previous violations that are on record with the Commission. In some cases, the Commission has imposed fines with two figures, for example "\$50/\$25." This means that the Commission has imposed a fine of \$50, which fine will be reduced to \$25 if payment is received within 30 days after service of the Final Decision.

Copies of the Complaints and Commission Final Decisions are available at the Commission offices at the National State Bank Building, 28 West State Street, Suite 1215, Trenton, New Jersey.

NAME	COUNTY & MUNICIPALITY	OFFICE SOUGHT	PARTY	FILING	DAYS LATE	COMMISSION ACTION
William Battista	Camden Gibbsboro Borough	Municipal	R	A-1	14	Reprimand
Harrison Lee Pfeffer	Salem Carneys Point	Municipal	R	A-1	12	\$50/25 Prev Violation

ELECTION: 1982 PRIMARY

Elaine Bagdan	Livingston Township Essex County	Municipal	R	A-1	10	Reprimand
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ELECTION: 1981 PRIMARY

John E. Luby, Jr. (candidate) Ronald V. O'Keefe (treasurer)	Gloucester County	Freeholder	D	25 day R-1 7 day R-1	omitted information	\$150 Jointly suspended conditionally
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ELECTION: 1979 GENERAL

William J. Heckman (candidate) Patricia M. Pavlick (treasurer)	Egg Harbor Township Atlantic County	Municipal	R	No final report	--	\$100/50 Jointly
Thomas Walsh (candidate) Eugene N. Cavallo (treasurer)	Borough of Dumont Bergen County	Municipal	D	No final report	--	\$200/100 Jointly Prev violation
George Cerrato (candidate) Eugene N. Cavallo (treasurer)	Borough of Dumont Bergen County	Municipal	D	No final report	--	\$200/100 Jointly Prev Violation