



# **NEWS RELEASE**

**N.J. Election Law Enforcement Commission**

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**For Release:** IMMEDIATELY September 2, 1983

Earl Harris, candidate for the office of Mayor in the City of Newark in the 1982 Municipal Election has been fined a total of \$2,000 by the Election Law Enforcement Commission for failure to provide timely pre-election disclosure of information concerning contributions and disbursements from his 1982 campaign account. Harris' treasurer, Finney Alati, was also named in the Commission action and is subject to the penalty imposed by the Commission. Harris and Alati were cited by the Commission for their failure to provide pre-election disclosure of the names, addresses and contribution amounts received from 24 contributors totaling \$13,300. The Commission determined that the information should have been included in a 7 day pre-election report filed by Harris and Alati on May 4, 1983. The Commission also found that the May 4, 1983 report failed to disclose disbursements to 12 individuals and organizations totaling \$8,599.45. The information pertaining to the contributions and disbursements was included as part of the post-election report filed by Harris and Alati 15 days after the May 11, 1982 election.

The Commission also determined that Harris and Alati failed to provide complete pre-election disclosure with respect to their financial activity during the June 1982 mayoral runoff election. Specifically, the Commission determined that the 7 day pre-runoff election report filed by Harris and Alati failed to disclose the names, addresses and contribution amounts of 20 contributors totaling \$9,275. The report also failed to disclose information concerning 17 disbursements totaling

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\$13,190.44. The information which was omitted from the 7 day pre-runoff report was eventually disclosed as part of a post-election report filed by Harris and Alati 15 days after the June 15, 1982 runoff election.

The Commission imposed a fine of \$1,000 for each delinquent report resulting in a total fine of \$2,000. The penalty was imposed upon Harris and Alati jointly.

Copies of the complaint and final decision, which includes the names, addresses and amounts of the contributions and disbursements which were the subject of the enforcement action, are available at the Commission office.

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