

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## ELEC GRANTED APPROVAL TO JOIN ELECTION CASE

The New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC) today has been permitted by an Atlantic County Superior Court judge to file an amicus brief in a case where it believes it has jurisdiction.

Judge Michael J. Blee has approved a motion for the four-member, bipartisan commission to enter as an amicus filer in a case entitled New Jesey Republican State Committee et al. v. Jersey Freedom et al.

The amicus brief states in part:

"Clearly, the Legislature intended that the Commission adjudicate potential violations of the Reporting Act, as it authorized the Commission to impose various penalties and sanctions upon violators of the Act.... The Commission respectfully requests this Court to abstain from considering Plaintiff's claims of violations of the Act. Those alleged violations are presently under review by the Commission."

A unanimous Commission decided to move to file an amicus brief at its December 19, 2023 monthly meeting. The Commission has two Democratic and two Republican members.

Joe Donohue, acting Executive Director, said while the Commission wants to take part in the case to uphold its statutory prerogatives, it is not taking sides in the matter.

Parties in the case have until January 19 to file a position on ELEC's amicus brief. ELEC will have until January 26 to respond to any filings. The court intends to hold an oral argument February 1 in Atlantic City.

The Commission is being represented in the case by its counsel, Edwin R. Matthews of Bourne, Noll and Kenyon.

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