



NEWS RELEASE

N.J. Election Law Enforcement Commission

Contact: WILLIAM R. SCHMIDT
Assistant Executive Director
(609) 292-8700

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The Election Law Enforcement Commission has released the names of four political committees that the Commission fined for failure to comply with the Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act.

The Howell Township County Democratic Executive Committee is the municipal Democratic political party committee in Howell Township. The Committee supported a candidate for municipal office in the 1982 general election. The Committee failed to file a timely 7 day pre-election report and a 15 day post-election report in the election to disclose its activities. Specifically, the Committee filed its 7 day report 237 days late and filed its 15 day report 215 days late. The Committee also failed to file a timely 1982 annual report. The Committee filed its report 65 days late. The Commission imposed a fine of \$450/\$225.

The Cherry Hill Democratic Party, Inc. is the municipal Democratic political party committee in Cherry Hill. The Committee failed to file timely annual reports concerning its activities in 1981 and 1982. Specifically, the Committee filed its 1981 annual report 513 days late and filed its 1982 annual report 258 days late. The Commission imposed a fine of \$300/\$150 which has been paid.

The Passaic County Republican Organization is the County Republican political party committee in Passaic County. The Organization failed to file a complete and accurate 1981 annual report. Specifically, the annual report omitted information on contributions received and disbursements made by the

Organization through several of the bank accounts it maintained in 1981. The Commission imposed a fine of \$300/\$150 which has been paid.

Eight Proven Leaders - The Greenwald Team was a political committee in the 1981 municipal election in Cherry Hill, Camden County. The Committee supported eight candidates in the municipal election. The Committee failed to file a complete 7 day pre-election report. Specifically, the 7 day report failed to timely disclose the receipt of a \$250 contribution. The Committee disclosed the contribution 22 days late in its 15 day post-election report. The Commission imposed a penalty of a reprimand.

The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act required that during these elections 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 an election. In addition to campaign reports, certain committees including county and municipal committees of a political party were required to file annual reports. Pursuant to the recent amendments in the Act, these committees will now be required to file quarterly reports instead of annual reports.

Final Decisions have been mailed to all of the political committees. The publication of this list is part of revised Commission procedures, begun in the 1978 primary election, designed to foster compliance, enhance disclosure and make enforcement more effective.

The Act gives the Commission broad authority to initiate enforcement actions against such political committees, including civil enforcement and imposition of monetary penalties.

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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. The Commission also considers the amount of information not disclosed when considering cases where reports are filed with omitted information. 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.

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