



NEWS RELEASE

N.J. Election Law Enforcement Commission

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For Release: IMMEDIATELY
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The Election Law Enforcement Commission has released the names of the following candidates, treasurers, and political committees which the Commission reprimanded or fined for failure to comply with the Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act: Two candidates, one treasurer and one political committee in the 1983 primary election; three candidates and one treasurer in the 1983 municipal election; one candidate and one treasurer in the 1982 general election; one candidate in the 1982 special election; one candidate and one treasurer in the 1982 primary election; one political committee which was required to file a 1982 annual report; and one political committee in the 1981 general election.

Summary sheets are attached for the candidates and treasurers fined in connection with these elections. The summary sheets give the names of the candidates and, where applicable, their treasurers, the public offices they were seeking, the type of reports filed, the number of days the reports were late, and Commission actions. In regard to Commission action, "default" was entered in those cases where no responses were received after service of the Complaint. Where the Final Decision included assessment of fees, they are sheriff's fees for service. Also, when a candidate has been fined as a previous violator of the Reporting Act, the summary sheets indicate it.

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In addition to the candidates and treasurers, the Commission fined three political committees for failing to comply with the Act:

- (1) The New Jersey Pro-Life PAC supported candidates in the 1983 primary election. The committee filed its 15-day post-election report 21 days late. The Commission imposed a fine of \$50/25.
- (2) The Republican Municipal Committee of Scotch Plains is the municipal Republican political party committee in Scotch Plains. The committee filed its 1982 annual report information 51 days late. The Commission imposed a fine of \$50/25.
- (3) The New Jersey Mortgage Bankers PAC supported candidates in the 1981 general election. The committee filed its 7-day preelection report six days late. The Commission imposed a fine of \$100/50. The fine of \$50 was paid.

The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act prior to being amended in January, 1984, required that during these elections 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. 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 are now required to file quarterly reports instead of annual reports. Candidates spending \$1,000.00 or less were required to file a certified statement

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(Form A-1) 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.

Final Decisions have been mailed to all candidates, treasurers and the political committees. 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 who failed to report in a timely manner 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. In cases where candidates or treasurers have not filed reports as of the date of the Final Decision, the Commission has ordered that the filing be made and the notation "plus filing" appears in such cases.

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.

COUNTY & MUNICIPALITY	OFFICIAL SOUGHT	PARTY	FILING	DAYS LATE	COMMISSION ACTION
ROSSO, ANTHONY E.	21TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT	D	A-1	24	\$200/100
PETERS, HARRY D.	HUDSON COUNTY	R	A-1	372	\$200/100 Plus \$13.64 in fees

ELECTION: MUNICIPAL 1983

FAISON, GWENDOLYN A. - C EPPS, BRAXTON L. - T	CAMDEN CAMDEN COUNTY	MUNICIPAL	Non-Partisan	25-day	13	\$50/25 JOINTLY
WEBSTER, ARNOLD W. - C EPPS, BRAXTON L. - T	CAMDEN CAMDEN COUNTY	MUNICIPAL	Non-Partisan	25-day	13	\$50/25 JOINTLY
RUIS, RONALD	PASSAIC PASSAIC COUNTY	MUNICIPAL	Non-Partisan	7-day	8	Default - \$200/100 Plus \$16.00 in fees

ELECTION: GENERAL 1982

HARRIS, DAVID - C LEWIS, CYNTHIA M. - T	NEW BRUNSWICK MIDDLESEX COUNTY	MUNICIPAL	Independent	7-day	2	Reprimand Plus \$1.00 in fees JOINTLY
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ELECTION: SPECIAL ELECTION 1982

NORWOOD, WILLIE	2ND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT	STATE SENATE	Independent Non-filer	-	-	Default - \$300/175 plus filing Previous violator
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