

In the Matter of:

Mark McLaurin

Respondent

Before the State Ethics Commission

Complaint No.: C-40-12

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SEP 13 2013

STATE ETHICS
COMMISSION

STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

On the 13 day of September, 2013, between Mark McLaurin, Respondent and William J. Colquhoun, Staff Counsel, agreed as follows:

STIPULATIONS

1. The State Ethics Commission (“the Commission”) is the executive agency of the State of Maryland established by Chapter 513, Acts of 1979 for the purpose of enforcing the Maryland Public Ethics Law (State Government Article, Title 15, Annotated Code of Maryland, hereinafter the Public Ethics Law) including the provisions of Subtitle 7, the lobbying disclosure program.
2. The Respondent is an individual whose lobbying activities on behalf of SEIU Local 500 (“the employer”) during the period of November 1, 2011 to October 31, 2012 required him to register as a lobbyist with the State Ethics Commission as required by § 15-703(d)(1) of the Public Ethics Law.
3. The Respondent was required to submit a Lobbying Activity Report by May 31, 2012 for the period of November 1, 2011 through April 30, 2012, as required by § 15-704(a)(i) of the Public Ethics Law, and failed to submit the required report in a timely manner.
4. On June 12, 2012, the Respondent submitted the delinquent Lobbying Activity Report for the period of November 1, 2011 through April 30, 2012.
5. On October 25, 2012, the Commission issued a complaint against the Respondent alleging the failure to file, by May 31, 2012, a Lobbying Activity Report for the period of November 1, 2011 through April 30, 2012.
6. The Respondent is voluntarily entering into this Stipulation of Settlement Agreement to admit his failure to timely file the Lobbying Activity Report for the period of November 1, 2011 through April 30, 2012 and to pay a sum of money in lieu of potential late filing fees and fines that could be assessed pursuant to § 15-405 of the Public Ethics Law.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the agreements herein contained and effective on the Commission’s acceptance of the terms of this Stipulation of Settlement Agreement, Mark McLaurin, Respondent, and William J. Colquhoun, Staff Counsel agree as follows:

- A. The Respondent admits that he did not timely file his Lobbying Activity Report on behalf of the employer for the period November 1, 2011 through April 30, 2012 by May 31, 2012, in violation of § 15-704(a)(i) of

the Public Ethics Law.

- B. The Respondent subsequently filed the required Lobbying Activity Report with the Commission (a copy of which has been attached hereto and made a part hereof).
- C. The Respondent understands that failure to comply with the lobbying disclosure provisions of the Public Ethics Law may subject him to the possibility of late fees, civil fines, reprimand, a suspension of his ability to lobby for compensation and other penalties. The Respondent acknowledges that he has been advised that the filing deadlines for activity reports are May 31st for the period of November 1st to April 30th and November 30th for the period May 1st through October 31st if he is registered in those reporting periods. The Respondent also acknowledges that future late filed activity reports could be viewed as knowing and willful violations of the Ethics Law.
- D. Based on the facts stated in this Stipulation of Settlement Agreement, the Respondent agrees to pay as settlement, the amount of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) at the time of the execution of this Stipulation of Settlement Agreement in lieu of potential late fees and in lieu of civil fines for the above admitted late activity report (paragraph A).
- E. The Respondent waives a formal hearing on this matter and agrees that acceptance of the Stipulation of Settlement Agreement by the Commission would constitute, based on his admission of violations of the Public Ethics Law, a final action and finding of violation by the Commission, and that, pursuant to § 15-407 of the Ethics Law, this Stipulation of Settlement Agreement and materials relating to this matter are not subject to the confidentiality provisions of the Public Ethics Law and will be public information unless otherwise protected.
- F. Staff Counsel, upon execution of this Stipulation of Settlement Agreement by the Respondent, will recommend that the Commission suspend further proceedings against the Respondent and recommend further that the Commission issue a Final Order in accordance with the terms of this Stipulation of Settlement Agreement.
- F. The Stipulation of Settlement Agreement, including any documents incorporated herein, and the Final Order will be transmitted to the employer.
- G. The Respondent and Staff Counsel have entered into this Stipulation of Settlement Agreement for the sole purpose of resolving the late submission of the Lobbying Activity Report, to resolve the complaint now pending, and for no other purpose.

IN WITNESS WHEREFORE, Mark McLaurin, Respondent, and William J. Colquhoun, Staff Counsel for the State Ethics Commission, have signed below.



William J. Colquhoun, Staff Counsel
State Ethics Commission
45 Calvert Street, 3rd Floor
Annapolis, MD 21401
(410) 260-7770



Mark McLaurin
Lobbyist
SEIU Local 500

State of Maryland

County of: Anne Arundel, to wit:

Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared Mark McLaurin, who made oath on this 13 day of September, 2013, in due form of law that the matters and facts hereinabove set forth are true to the best of his knowledge, information and belief, and are his voluntary act, and that he executed this document for the purpose set forth herein.

[Redacted Signature]

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:



State of Maryland

County of: Anne Arundel, to wit:

Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared William J. Colquhoun, Staff Counsel to the State Ethics Commission, who made oath on this 13 day of September, 2013, in due form of law, and that he executed this agreement for the purposes set forth herein.

[Redacted Signature]

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:



Accepted by the Commission

[Redacted Signature]

Paul M. Vettori, Chairman
for the Commission

Date: October 24, 2013