

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC SESSION OF THE
MAY 28, 2014
COMMISSION MEETING
OF THE JOINT COMMISSION ON PUBLIC ETHICS
HELD AT THE COMMISSION'S OFFICE LOCATED AT
540 BROADWAY
ALBANY, NEW YORK**

Chair: Daniel J. Horwitz

Members: David Arroyo (NYC)
Paul Casteleiro
Hon. Joseph Covello
Mitra Hormozi (NYC)
Marvin Jacob (NYC)
Seymour Knox, IV
Gary J. Lavine
Hon. Mary Lou Rath (BUF)
Hon. Renee R. Roth (*via Webex*)
David A. Renzi (*via Webex*)
Michael A. Romeo, Sr.
George Weissman

Staff: Letizia Tagliafierro, Executive Director
Monica J. Stamm, Chief of Staff and Deputy Counsel
Robert Cohen, Special Counsel and Director of Ethics and Lobbying Compliance
Martin L. Levine, Director of Audit and Review and Senior Counsel
John T. Milgrim, Director for External Affairs
Jeannine Clemente, Director of Administration
Pei Pei Cheng-deCastro, Senior Investigative Counsel
Shari Calnero, Senior Counsel and Manager of Training
Louis Manuta, Associate Counsel
Joanna Weiss, Associate Counsel
Deborah Novak, Executive Assistant
Patrick E. Coultry, Chief Investigator
Terence Mulderrig, Senior Investigator
Jack Patterson, Confidential Investigator
Peter Smith, Confidential Investigator

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Horwitz opened the Public Session. Commissioner Roth was not present during this portion of the meeting.

II. **MINUTES – PUBLIC SESSION – APRIL 29, 2014**

Upon motion made by Commissioner Arroyo, which was seconded by Commissioner Knox, the Minutes from the Public Session of the April 29, 2014 Commission Meeting were approved by unanimous vote.

III. **REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

FDS Filings

Executive Director Letizia Tagliaferro presented an update on the Annual Financial Disclosure Statements, which were due on May 15. The FDS unit has been working to process and review the approximately 20,000 filings that were submitted to the Commission. In addition, the FDS statements of the four statewide elected officials are now posted on JCOPE's website. The LEC is required to submit the filings of the legislative members and staff to JCOPE by June 30, and the filings of the members will be posted on JCOPE's website shortly thereafter.

IV. **REGULATIONS**

Update on Pending Regulations

Executive Director Tagliaferro reported that the public comment period has expired on the gift regulations for public officers and for lobbyists and clients. Those regulations, along with the amended honoraria regulations and the amended official activity expense regulations, will be finalized and will become effective upon publication in the State Register, which should happen in mid-June. In addition, JCOPE currently is accepting public comments on the Public Service Announcement regulations. The public comment period expires on June 28, and the regulations likely will be before the Commission at the July meeting.

V. **NEW AND OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no new or other business.

VI. **MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE LAW §94(19)(b)**

A motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Executive Law §94(19)(b) to consider confidential matters was made by Commissioner Jacob and seconded by Commissioner Romeo. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

VII. **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACTIONS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Roth was present during this portion of the meeting. Commissioners Arroyo, Hormozi, and Rath were not present during this portion of the meeting.

Chair Horwitz announced that, during the Executive Session, the Commission authorized some investigative steps, commenced a substantial basis investigation, issued some substantial basis investigation reports, approved a settlement agreement, and closed some matters.

VIII. **MOTION TO ADJOURN THE PUBLIC MEETING**

Upon motion made by Commissioner Roth, seconded by Commissioner Weissman, which was approved by unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned.