



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

July 13, 1993

P R E S S R E L E A S E

On May 27, 1993, Ethics Commission Staff Attorney Brenda M. Bergeron filed an Amended Complaint against Dr. Cleveland Donald, Jr., Director of the Waterbury Regional Campus of the University of Connecticut. The Amended Complaint alleged that Dr. Donald violated the Code of Ethics for Public Officials by taking steps to hire his wife as a minority recruiter at the Waterbury campus, at the rate of \$6000.00 for a one-month period from May 11, 1992 to June 11, 1992.

Under the Code of Ethics, a state employee may not use his public office or position to obtain financial gain for an immediate family member. If a potential conflict involving the financial interest of a spouse does arise, the state employee must disclose the conflict to his superior and may not take any official action to affect that interest. These laws are intended to avoid the potential for nepotism which is present when a public official or state employee has influence or authority which may be exercised for the financial benefit of a spouse or other close family member.

On July 12, 1993, the State Ethics Commission and Dr. Donald settled this matter by entering into a Stipulation and Order. Under the terms of the stipulation, Dr. Donald agreed to pay a civil penalty of \$2000.00. Copies of the Amended Complaint and Stipulation are attached.

With the settlement of this case, the Ethics Commission notes the disturbing number of nepotism cases arising among members of the higher education community. Through its staff, the Commission intends to continue its effort to emphasize the importance of compliance with the Code of Ethics by public officials and employees working in higher education, including the need to avoid conflicts of interest and to utilize open and public hiring processes.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL:

Brenda M. Bergeron
Staff Attorney
566-4472



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

DOCKET NUMBER 92-16) STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
IN THE MATTER OF A) 97 ELM STREET (REAR)
COMPLAINT AGAINST) HARTFORD, CT 06106
CLEVELAND DONALD) July 12, 1993

STIPULATION AND ORDER

1. The Commission finds that the Respondent violated Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-84(c), as alleged in the attached Amended Complaint dated May 27, 1993. The Commission further finds that the Respondent did not intend to violate the Code of Ethics for Public Officials by his actions.

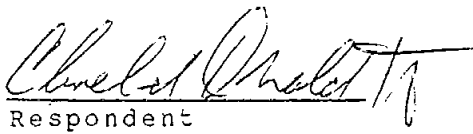
2. The Respondent affirms that he did not intentionally violate the Code of Ethics. Further, the Respondent states that he was never informed by the University of the existence and application of the Code of Ethics, and that his actions were motivated by a desire to help the University fill an urgently-needed position in a short time period. Finally, the Respondent states that the University knew or should have known that the name on the form submitted by the Respondent was that of his wife.

3. The Respondent waives any rights he may have under Conn. Gen. Stat. §§1-80, 1-82, 1-82a, 1-87 and 1-88, including the right to a hearing or appeal in this case, and agrees with the Commission to an informal disposition of this matter as authorized by Conn. Gen. Stat. §4-177(c).

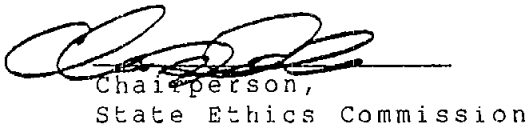
4. The Commission waives any rights it may have under Conn. Gen. Stat. §§1-88(c), 1-88(d), and 1-89.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-177(c), the State Ethics Commission and the Respondent Cleveland Donald, agree to settle this matter in the manner described below:

1. The Ethics Commission orders, and the Respondent agrees to pay to the Commission, a civil penalty of \$2000.00 within thirty days, and henceforth to commit no further violations of the Code of Ethics.


Respondent

7/12/93
Date


Chairperson,
State Ethics Commission

7/12/93
Date