## STATE OF CONNECTICUT



### STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

June 21, 1993

### PRESS RELEASE

On December 7, 1992, Ethics Commission Staff Attorney Brenda M. Bergeron filed a complaint against Charles D. Ray, Director of the Moot Court Interterm Program at the University of Connecticut School of Law, alleging that he had violated the Code of Ethics for Public Officials by hiring his wife as one of the moot court interterm instructors for the January, 1992 program.

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. This prohibition is intended to avoid the potential for nepotism which is present when a public offical or state employee has influence or authority which may be exercised for the financial benefit of a spouse or other close family member. Nothing in the Code prevents a spouse from working in the same department, but one may not take action, such as recommending a candidate for a teaching position, which results in financial benefit for one's spouse.

On June 7, 1993, the State Ethics Commission and the Respondent settled this matter by entering into a Stipulation and Order. Under the terms of the stipulation, the Respondent agreed to pay a civil penalty of \$500.00. Copies of the Complaint and Stipulation are attached.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL:

Brenda M. Bergeron Staff Attorney 566-4472

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# STATE OF CONNECTICUT



## STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

| DOCKET NUMBER 92-17 | ) | STATE ETHICS COMMISSION |
|---------------------|---|-------------------------|
| IN THE MATTER OF A  | ) | 97 ELM STREET (REAR)    |
| COMPLAINT AGAINST   | ) | HARTFORD, CT 06106      |
| CHARLES D. RAY      | ) | June 7, 1993            |

## STIPULATION AND ORDER

- 1. The Commission finds that the Respondent Charles D. Ray violated Conn. Gen. Stat. \$1-84(c) as alleged in the attached Complaint dated December 7, 1992. The Commission further finds that the Respondent did not intend to violate the Code of Ethics for Public Officials by his actions, and that he cooperated with the Commission's investigation of this matter.
- 2. The Respondent affirms that he did not intentionally violate the Code of Ethics: he states that his actions were motivated by a desire to serve the best interests of the University of Connecticut School of Law and not by a desire to obtain a financial benefit for his wife. The Respondent further states that the action in question was taken with the knowledge of the administration at the law school.
- 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.  $\S\S1-88(c)$ , 1-88(d), and 1-89.

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NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §4-177(c). the State Ethics Commission and the Respondent Charles D. Ray. agree to settle this matter in the following manner:

The Ethics Commission orders, and the Respondent agrees to pay to the Ethics Commission, a civil penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) within thirty days, and henceforth to commit no further violations of the Code of Ethics.

Charles D. Ray

Respondent

State Ethics Commission

1401P

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

### CONFIDENTIAL

| DOCKET NUMBER 92-17 | ) | STATE ETHICS COMMISSION |
|---------------------|---|-------------------------|
| IN THE MATTER OF A  | ) | 97 ELM STREET           |
| COMPLAINT AGAINST   | ) | HARTFORD, CT 06106      |
| CHARLES D. RAY      | ) | DECEMBER 7. 1992        |

### COMPLAINT

- 1. At all times relevant to the complaint herein, Charles Ray (the "Respondent") was a state employee as that term is defined in Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-79(q).
- 2. The Respondent was the director of the Moot Court Interterm program at the University of Connecticut School of Law in 1991 and 1992.
- 3. In his position as director, the Respondent hired his wife as one of the interterm moot court instructors for the January, 1992 program.
- 4. Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-84(c) prohibits a state employee from using his public office or position to obtain personal financial gain for his spouse.
- 5. The Respondent's exercise of his authority as director of the moot court program at the law school to hire his wife as an instructor constituted an improper use of office or position, in violation of Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-84(c).

Brenda M. Bergeron Staff Attorney

DATE: 12/7/92

Phone: (203) 566-4472