OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

DOCKET NUMBER 2023-28	:	**165 CAPITOL AVENUE**
	:	
IN THE MATTER OF A	:	**SUITE 1200**
	:	
COMPLAINT AGAINST	:	**HARTFORD, CT 06106**
	:	
PAUL LAPIERRE	:	**SEPTEMBER 22, 2025**

STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

Pursuant to the Code of Ethics, General Statutes §§ 1-79, *et seq.*, Mark Wasielewski, Ethics Enforcement Officer, issued an Amended Complaint against Paul Lapierre (hereinafter "Lapierre" or "Respondent"), alleging violations of the Code of Ethics. Based on the investigation by the Enforcement Division of the Office of State Ethics ("OSE"), the Ethics Enforcement Officer finds that there is probable cause to believe that Respondent violated General Statutes § 1-84 (c) of the Code of Ethics, as further set forth herein.

The Parties have entered into this Consent Order following the issuance of the Amended Complaint, but without any adjudication of any issue of fact or law herein.

I. STIPULATION

The Ethics Enforcement Officer and Respondent stipulate to the following facts:

1. At all times relevant hereto, Respondent was employed as the Director of Food

Services at the State of Connecticut, Department of Veterans Affairs (hereinafter "DVA").

2. At all times relevant hereto, Respondent was a "state employee" as that term is defined in General Statutes § 1-79 (13).

3. At all times relevant hereto, and in addition to his state employment, Respondent was employed by a car sales business located in Middletown, Connecticut (hereinafter "Middletown Business"), and was compensated for this work.

4. The work that Respondent performed for the Middletown Business was not related to Respondent's state job duties.

5. From 2020 through 2023, on multiple occasions, Respondent performed work for the Middletown Business while on state time and was compensated by the state for such time.

6. From 2020 through 2023, on multiple occasions, Respondent submitted time sheets in order to be compensated by the state for time spent working for the Middletown Business.

7. General Statutes § 1-84 (c) states in pertinent part:

> No public official or state employee ... shall use his public office or position ... to obtain financial gain for himself[.]

8. Respondent, by using state time to work for his non-state employer and by submitting time sheets to be compensated by the state for time spent working for his non-state employer, used his public office or position to obtain financial gain for himself, in violation of General Statutes § 1-84 (c).

9. Each time Respondent used resources provided by virtue of his state position for outside work purposes as stated above constitutes a separate and distinct violation of General Statutes § 1-84 (c).

II. RESPONDENT'S POSITION

1. Respondent states that he received positive workplace reviews during his long service at the DVA.

2. Respondent states that as a supervisor he made himself available beyond his scheduled workday for DVA issues.

3. Respondent contends that any violation of the Code of Ethics was unintentional and technical in nature.

III. JURISDICTION

1. The Ethics Enforcement Officer is authorized to investigate Respondent's acts as set forth herein, and to enter into this Stipulation and Consent Order.

2. The provisions of this Stipulation and Consent Order apply to and are binding upon Respondent.

3. Respondent hereby waives all objections and defenses to the jurisdiction of the Ethics Enforcement Officer over matters addressed in this Stipulation and Consent Order.

4. Respondent waives any rights he may have under General Statutes §§ 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 Ethics Enforcement Officer to an informal disposition of this matter as authorized by General Statutes § 4-177 (c).

5. Respondent consents to jurisdiction and venue in the Connecticut Superior Court, Judicial District of Hartford, in the event that the State of Connecticut seeks to enforce this Stipulation and Consent Order. Respondent recognizes that the Connecticut Superior Court has the authority to specifically enforce the provisions of this Stipulation and Consent Order, including the authority to award equitable relief.

6. The terms set forth herein are in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other existing or future statutory, regulatory, or other legal obligation that may be applicable to Respondent.

7. Respondent understands that he has a right to counsel and has been represented by counsel during the OSE's investigation and in connection with this Stipulation and Consent Order.

IV. ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to General Statutes § 4-177 (c), the Office of State Ethics hereby ORDERS, and Respondent agrees, that:

1. Pursuant to General Statutes § 1-88 (a) (1), Respondent will cease and desist from any future violations of General Statutes § 1-84 (c).

2. Pursuant to General Statutes § 1-88 (a) (3), Respondent will pay a civil penalty to the State in the amount of five thousand dollars ($5,000.00) for his violations of General Statutes § 1-84 (c) as set forth in the Complaint and herein.

WHEREFORE, the Ethics Enforcement Officer and Respondent hereby execute this Stipulation and Consent Order dated September 22, 2025

Dated: 9/23/2025

Paul Lapierre

Dated: 9/26/25

Mark E. Wasielewski
Ethics Enforcement Officer
Juris No. 423766
Office of State Ethics
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