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Probable Cause Found in Alleged Ethics Violation by John Tricarico Former State Contractor Hired by DOT

Hartford – Judge John L. Langenbach, the judge trial referee for a confidential hearing held at the Office of State Ethics, today ruled from the bench that there was probable cause to believe that John Tricarico violated the Code of Ethics by soliciting gifts and favors from a subcontractor while employed by a contractor of the state.

Tricarico, a former employee of a state contractor, allegedly used his authority over a subcontractor to solicit free or discounted gifts, services and other items of value, which included lunch and dinners, tickets to Red Sox and Yankee baseball games, tickets to concerts, the use of subcontractor vehicles for personal use and job interviews for relatives.

Section 1-86(e) of the Code of Ethics prohibits a person hired by the state as a consultant or independent contractor to use the authority provided to the person under the contract "... to obtain financial gain for the person, an employee of the person or a member of the immediate family of any such person or employee..."

Tricarico, despite having accepted service of subpoena and having received the Notice of Hearing, did not attend the confidential hearing.

A public hearing before the Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board, presided over by a judge trial referee who has not yet been appointed, will be set in the next thirty days. The maximum penalty for a violation of the Code of Ethics is \$10,000 per violation.

View: Complaint for <u>Docket No.: 2011-69</u> in the Matter of John Tricarico.