



## STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
September 22, 2021

**CONTACT:** Nancy S. Nicolescu  
(860) 263-2397  
[nancy.nicolescu@ct.gov](mailto:nancy.nicolescu@ct.gov)

### **Former Capital Region Development Authority Board Member Settles Ethics Case for Violation of Revolving Door Provisions**

**Hartford** – Erik Johnson of New Haven paid a \$2,500 civil penalty for violating the Code of Ethics revolving door provisions.

Section 1-84b (g), one of several provisions of the Code of Ethics known as “revolving door” provisions, prohibits members of a quasi-public agency from seeking, accepting, or holding employment with a party to a contract valued at \$50,000 or more for a period of one year after the signing of the contract, where the member participated substantially in the negotiation or award of the contract.

In late 2019, as a Capitol Region Development Authority (“CRDA”) board member, Mr. Johnson deliberated on and voted on a resolution to permit the CRDA to enter into a contract to restructure an existing state development loan and to create a new entity in which the CRDA would have an equity interest. The contract, which was valued at more than \$50,000, was executed in December 2019. Mr. Johnson’s role in the negotiation and award of this contract constituted “substantial participation.”

In July of 2020, Mr. Johnson ended his term as a CRDA board member.

In September of 2020 - still within a year of the signing of the contract – Mr. Johnson entered into a consulting agreement with one of the parties to that contract. Mr. Johnson did seek advice from the Legal Division upon being made aware of the revolving door provisions; and he terminated the consulting agreement prior to any payment being made under the agreement.

“When public officials leave state service it is critical for them to understand that there are very specific revolving door provisions, which ban particular actions,” said Dena Castricone, Chair of the Citizen’s Ethics Advisory Board. “If you are covered by the Code of Ethics because of your position in state government, never hesitate to contact the legal division for advice.”

View: [Stipulation and Consent Order Docket No. 2021-24](#) - In the Matter of Erik Johnson

###

*The mission of the Connecticut Office of State Ethics is to ensure honesty, integrity and accountability in state government through education, interpretation and enforcement of the State of Connecticut Code of Ethics. To contact us please visit our website at [www.ct.gov/ethics](http://www.ct.gov/ethics) or call us at (860) 263-2400.*