



STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Office of State Ethics to Select Lobbyists for 2023 Audits

Hartford – On Thursday, November 17, 2022, the Citizen’s Ethics Advisory Board (“CEAB”) will randomly select 30 client lobbyists to be audited in 2023 by the Office of State Ethics (“OSE”). The selection will be conducted during the CEAB regular meeting to be held at 1:00 p.m., in Conference Room B on the Ground Floor of 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT. The meeting will be also accessible by videoconference.

The lobbyists to be audited will be selected from a pool of all client lobbyists who were registered at any time during the audit period: January 1, 2020 thru December 31, 2022.

A client lobbyist is the party paying for lobbying services on its behalf. A client lobbyist expends, or agrees to expend, \$3,000 or more for lobbying in a calendar year. A communicator lobbyist is the person being paid to lobby on behalf of the client lobbyist. In the course of auditing the selected client lobbyists, the OSE will also audit all associated communicator lobbyists.

Of interest, and based on our current lobbyist registrations, there are: 1,100 registered client lobbyists, 488 in-house communicators and 184 individual communicators. Further, based on our disclosure statements for the first two quarters of 2022 a total of \$27.6M was spent on lobbying, and of that total, \$25.9M went to compensation for lobbyists. The remaining lobbying disclosure reports for the third and fourth quarter of 2022 are due January 10, 2023.

To date, the top five issue areas lobbied are (1) Government - financing, taxation, revenue, budget, appropriations, bids, fees, funds, contracts; (2) Health and hospitals, health care systems, medical organizations; (3) Environment - recycling, packaging, pollution, waste; (4) Human Services - adult, families, and children; and (5) Economic and community development.

Connecticut’s lobbying laws are in place to prevent corruption and provide transparency by showing the citizens of the state who is spending money on lobbying, what issues are being targeted, and how the money is being spent.

A list of lobbyists selected to be audited will be available on the OSE web site, www.ct.gov/ethics, after the drawing. It is anticipated that all audits will be completed during the 2023 calendar year.

Members of the public including the lobbying community are welcome to attend the audit drawing in person or can join from their computer, tablet or smartphone. For more information, on how to access the audit drawing on GoToMeeting visit the [CEAB Meeting Schedule and Information](#) on the OSE website.

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The Connecticut Office of State Ethics mission 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 or call us at (860) 263-2400.