

PRESS RELEASE

Connecticut Judicial Department Employee, Carrie Parker, Enters into \$500 Settlement for Ethics Violation

November 9, 2009

Carrie Parker of Fairfield, CT, agreed to pay a \$500 civil penalty for using her state position to obtain financial gain.

According to a consent order finalized with the Office of State Ethics (OSE), Parker is a court monitor for the Connecticut Judicial Department at the Stamford Court Reporters Office. In her position, she records and transcribes court proceedings in the Connecticut superior courts. Despite the existence of a mandatory price schedule, Parker overcharged a member of the public for the reproduction of a transcript.

Connecticut law prohibits a state employee from using her public office or position to obtain financial gain for herself. By overcharging a requestor in excess of the amount allowed by the mandatory price schedule, Parker used her state position to obtain financial gain.

In addition to the civil penalty, Parker also agreed to reimburse the member of the public \$307.75, the amount of the overcharge. As further part of the settlement, Parker will provide a detailed invoice to all future requestors, specifying the per page rate charged, the total number of pages, and the total amount due.

“The Code of Ethics seeks, first and foremost, to prevent public officials from using their positions for personal, financial gain, beyond what the law allows,” said OSE Executive Director, Carol Carson. “State employees must have an acute awareness that public office is for the public’s benefit, not their personal benefit.”

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