



TOWN OF SOUTHBURY

ETHICS COMMISSION

501 Main Street South
Southbury, Connecticut 06488
(203) 262-0647
Fax: (203) 264-9762

Complaint Case #24-001

Stipulation of Facts:

Mr. Robert LaFlamme, an elected member of the Town of Southbury Inland Wetlands Commission hereby stipulates to the following facts with regards to Ethics Complaint #24-001:

1. Section C of the existing Town of Southbury Code of Ethics/Conflict of Interest Ordinance (Effective on 2/2/2017) states in part as follows:

" Disclosure of conflict. (1) Any Public official or Town Employee who has a conflict or potential conflict of interest as defined herein, whether or not such conflict or potential conflict is material, shall disclose the interest causing such conflict or potential conflict in writing to the Board of Selectmen. (2) Any Public Official or Town Employee who is a member of any Town board, committee, commission or agency who has a conflict or potential conflict of interest as defined herein, whether or not such conflict or potential conflict is material, shall, in addition to the disclosure required by this ordinance, disclose the interest causing such conflict to such board, committee, commission, or agency and such disclosure shall be recorded in the board's, committee's, commission's or agency's minutes. "

2. In addition, Section G of the existing Town of Southbury Code of Ethics/Conflict of Interest Ordinance (Effective on 2/2/2017) states in part as follows:

"Gifts and favors: No Public Official or Town Employee shall accept or receive, directly or indirectly, anything of value (whether by rebate, gift, promise, obligation or contract for future reward or compensation or otherwise) for awarding or influencing the award of any decision, permit, license, contract or purchase order by the Town. Anything of value when in the form of a gift shall not be deemed relevant if the actual cost of that item is less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)."

3. On or about December 6, 2024, Darcel Peters (hereinafter, "Complainant"), submitted an Ethics Complaint to the Ethics Commission of the Town of Southbury alleging a violation of the Town's Code of Ethics/Conflict of Interest ordinance.
4. Mr. LaFlamme, on the advice of a licensed and bonded contractor he employed for a home improvement project in the Fall of 2024, did not initially apply for land use/building permit(s). He was advised by the contractor that permits would be unnecessary, as no earth would be disturbed, and the footprint of the home would remain unchanged.



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Conclusion:

The complaint alleged that Mr. LaFlamme did not submit the proper applications for permits required for work on his home. The Ethics Commission was concerned that if the permitting process was not properly followed it could result in an undisclosed potential conflict of interest and also be interpreted as a gift.

Due to a miscommunication between Mr. LaFlamme and his contractor and a slight expansion of the scope of the work being performed on his home, a permit for the work was not initially applied for as it was not originally viewed as being necessary. Upon notification of our concerns Mr. LaFlamme subsequently submitted the necessary applications for any permits for the work as appropriate and resolved any concerns about the matter.

Resolution:

Mr. LaFlamme has subsequently submitted all of the necessary permit application(s) and satisfied both the spirit and letter of the process in regards to the proper permitting for his home modifications alleviating any concerns that the commission had about any potential violations of the Code of Ethics/Conflict of Interest Ordinance. We consider the matter resolved.

FOR ROBERT LAFLAMME

Robert LaFlamme

Member, Town of Southbury, Inland Wetlands Commission

5/6/2025

Date

FOR THE TOWN OF SOUTHBURY ETHICS COMMISSION

Joseph R. Ruggiero

Joseph R. Ruggiero

Chairman, Southbury Ethics Commission

5/6/2025

Date