

MICHAEL J. SULLIVAN
DIRECTOR

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN & POLITICAL FINANCE

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August 28, 2018

John Barrett
c/o Thomas Kiley, Esq.
Cosgrove Eisenberg and Kiley, P.C.
One International Place, Suite 1820
Boston, MA 02110

Re: CPF-18-73

Dear Mr. Barrett:

This office has completed its review of a complaint we received alleging that you solicited contributions for the Arrigo Committee's ("the Committee") June 5, 2018 event. The complaint alleged that as a public employee, you are prohibited from engaging in such political fundraising activities.

During our review, we learned that you are employed as the Chief Building Inspector in the Building Department/Inspectional Services by the Town of Winthrop. The campaign finance law states that public employees may not "... directly or indirectly solicit or receive any gift, payment, contribution ... or promise of money or other thing of value for the political campaign purpose of any candidate for public office ..." See M.G.L. c. 55, § 13.

As soon as OCPF notified the Committee of this complaint, the Committee chose not to accept any contributions at the June 5 event. Additionally, the Committee has returned all contributions received in connection with this event.

While the June 5 event did not ultimately raise funds for the Committee, you have stated that you have been present at a number of Arrigo fundraising events. You have, on occasion, sat at the welcome table, engaged with guests, and passed along checks that attendees handed to you to a member of the Arrigo Committee. Based upon our review, we have concluded that your actions at the fundraising events did not comply with Section 13.

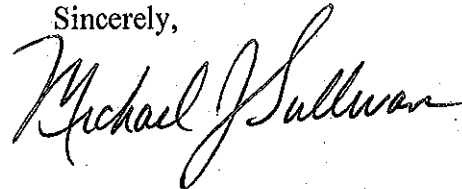
The complaint further alleged that you collected funds for the Committee from construction related trades while performing your building inspector duties. You have denied this allegation and the office has been provided no additional evidence to support this claim.



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Due to the Committee's cancellation of the June 5 fundraising aspect of the event and because we believe the guidance provided as a result of this review will ensure future compliance with the campaign finance law, this office considers this matter closed. In accordance with the opinion of the Supervisor of Public Records, this letter is a public record. A copy is being provided to the person(s) who brought this matter to our attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael J. Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "M".

Michael J. Sullivan
Director

MJS/sh
cc: Arrigo Committee