



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN & POLITICAL FINANCE

ONE ASHBURTON PLACE, ROOM 411  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108

MICHAEL J. SULLIVAN  
DIRECTOR

TEL: (617) 727-8352  
(800) 462-OCPF  
FAX: (617) 727-6549  
CONTACT: Brad Balzer  
617-979-8300

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## **OCPF, Rep. John Rogers Committee Sign Agreement Concerning Campaign Finance Issues**

State Representative John H. Rogers, D-Norwood, has made a \$30,000 payment from his campaign account to the Commonwealth as part of a disposition agreement with the Office of Campaign and Political Finance (OCPF).

The settlement stems from an OCPF review of the consulting expenditures of the Rogers campaign committee from 2004 to 2006, which disclosed payments by the Rogers Committee of \$196,600 to Bay State Consulting of Wrentham, a consulting business owned by Philip Filosa, the candidate's former law partner. The committee was BSC's only client.

As the Rogers Committee made payments to the consulting company, BSC retained Thomas Drummey, the candidate's friend and political advisor. During the time Drummey was employed, BSC paid Drummey \$96,300 to provide consulting services to the Rogers Committee.

During the course of OCPF's review, the candidate voluntarily disclosed to OCPF that he and Drummey had a joint interest in a house in East Falmouth. Rogers made a down payment for the house in 2004 from his personal funds and Drummey then paid the first 22 mortgage payments.

The timing and amounts of the payments by Rogers' campaign committee to BSC, the consulting company's payments to Drummey, and Drummey's payments on the mortgage, led OCPF to question whether the expenditures were made primarily for the candidate's personal use, and as such, were not used in a manner consistent with Section 6 of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 55. Section 6 states that campaign funds may not be used "primarily for the candidate's or any other person's personal use."

The payments to BSC from the candidate's campaign account occurred from August 2004 to November 2006. The East Falmouth house was sold in April 2008.

During the course of OCPF's review, OCPF interviewed Drummey and others who worked for BSC and determined that substantial services were provided by Drummey to the Rogers' campaign committee, including reviewing and signing-off on committee expenditures, planning and attending fundraisers, supervising BSC and committee staff and communicating extensively by e-mail, telephone and in person with Rogers and his campaign staff.

The candidate's position is that campaign funds were used in a manner consistent with state law.



To resolve the matter, the Rogers Committee has reimbursed the Commonwealth \$30,000, the amount OCPF has projected as the costs of its review. Rogers also agreed to inform OCPF when his campaign committee exceeds payments of \$10,000 in a calendar year for political consulting services, and will keep records for services it receives from consultants. The records will include time sheets, contracts and invoices, among other documents, and Rogers will make the records available for inspection by OCPF within seven days if requested.

OCPF agreed that it will take no further action on the issues referenced in the agreement. The six-page agreement, which is a public record, was signed by Rogers and OCPF Director Michael J. Sullivan.

OCPF is an independent state agency responsible for administering MGL Chapter 55, the campaign finance law. The agency's Web site is [www.mass.gov/ocpf](http://www.mass.gov/ocpf).