

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
BEFORE THE RHODE ISLAND ETHICS COMMISSION**

**In re: William Reichert,
Respondent**

Complaint No. 2014-1

ORDER

This matter having been heard before the Rhode Island Ethics Commission on October 21, 2014, pursuant to Commission Regulation 1011, and the Commission having considered the Complaint herein, the arguments of the parties, and the proposed Information Resolution and Settlement, which is incorporated by reference herein, it is hereby

ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED

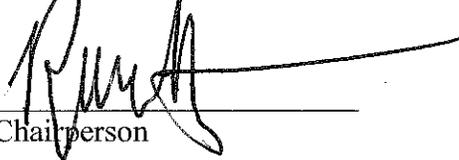
THAT, the Commission approves the Informal Resolution and Settlement as submitted; and

THAT, the Commission incorporates by reference herein the Findings of Fact and Admissions, and the Conclusions of Law, set forth in the Informal Resolution and Settlement; and

THAT, the Respondent failed to make required disclosures on his 2008-2013 Financial Disclosure Statements filed with the Commission, in violation of R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-16; and

THAT, the Respondent is ordered to pay a civil penalty in the amount of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000).

ENTERED as an Order of this Commission,



Chairperson

Dated: 10/21/2014

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
BEFORE THE RHODE ISLAND ETHICS COMMISSION**

In re: William Reichert,
Respondent

Complaint No. 2014-1

INFORMAL RESOLUTION AND SETTLEMENT

The Respondent, William Reichert, and the Rhode Island Ethics Commission (“Commission”) hereby agree to a resolution of the above-referenced matters as follows:

I. FINDINGS OF FACT & ADMISSIONS

1. The Respondent was first elected to the Gloucester Town Council (“Council”) in November 1998 and served continuously in said capacity through December 2008.

Subsequently, he was re-elected to the Council and has served continuously in said capacity since January 2011.

2. The Respondent was elected to the West Gloucester Fire District Board of Directors in August 1998 and has served continuously in said capacity.

3. As a municipal elected official during calendar years 2008 through 2013, the Respondent was required to file annual Financial Disclosure Statements with the Commission on or before the last Friday in April of each year.

4. At all times hereto relevant, the Respondent has been the President of Reichert & Son Fuel Oil, Inc.

5. At all times hereto relevant, the Respondent’s spouse, Donna Reichert, has been the President of Reichert & Son Trucking, Inc.

6. The Respondent failed to disclose his spouse's position as President of Reichert & Son Trucking, Inc. in response to Question #9 on his Financial Disclosure Statements for calendar years 2008 through 2013, as required by R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-17(b)(6).

7. The Respondent failed to disclose his spouse's ownership interest in Reichert & Son Trucking, Inc. in response to Question #11 on his Financial Disclosure Statements for calendar years 2008 through 2013, as required by R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-17(b)(7).

8. In each of the calendar years from 2008 through 2013, Reichert & Sons Fuel Oil, Inc. did business with the Town of Glocester in excess of \$250.

9. The Respondent failed to disclose that Reichert & Sons Fuel Oil, Inc. did business with the Town of Glocester in excess of \$250 in response to Question #12 on his 2009 Financial Disclosure Statement, as required by R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-17(b)(1) and Commission Regulation 36-14-17006.

10. In calendar years 2010 and 2011, Reichert & Son Trucking, Inc. did business with the Town of Glocester in excess of \$250.

11. The Respondent failed to disclose that Reichert & Son Trucking, Inc. did business with the Town of Glocester in excess of \$250 in response to Question #12 on his Financial Disclosure Statements for calendar years 2010 and 2011, as required by R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-17(b)(1) and Commission Regulation 36-14-17006.

12. In calendar years 2008 through 2013, Reichert & Son Fuel Oil, Inc. did business with the West Glocester Fire District in excess of \$250.

13. The Respondent failed to disclose that Reichert & Son Fuel Oil, Inc. did business with the West Glocester Fire District in excess of \$250 in response to Question #12 on his

Financial Disclosure Statements for calendar years 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013, as required by R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-17(b)(1) and Commission Regulation 36-14-17006.

14. On October 8 and 9, 2014, the Respondent filed amended Financial Disclosure Statements with the Commission for calendar years 2008 through 2013.

II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. As an elected member of both the Gloucester Town Council and the West Gloucester Fire District Board, the Respondent was at all relevant times subject to the financial disclosure mandate of R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-16.

2. The Respondent failed to disclose his spouse's position as President of Reichert & Son Trucking, Inc. on his Financial Disclosure Statements for calendar years 2008 through 2013, in violation of R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-16.

3. The Respondent failed to disclose his spouse's ownership interest in Reichert & Son Trucking, Inc. on his Financial Disclosure Statements for calendar years 2008 through 2013, in violation of R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-16.

4. The Respondent failed to disclose that his company, Reichert & Son Fuel Oil, Inc., did business with the Town of Gloucester in excess of \$250 on his 2009 Financial Disclosure Statement, in violation of R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-16.

5. The Respondent failed to disclose that his company, Reichert & Son Fuel Oil, Inc. did business with the West Gloucester Fire District excess of \$250 on his Financial Disclosure Statements for calendar years 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013, in violation of R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-16.

6. The Respondent failed to disclose that his spouse's company, Reichert & Son Trucking, Inc., did business with the Town of Gloucester in excess of \$250 on his Financial

Disclosure Statements for calendar years 2010 and 2011, in violation of R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-16.

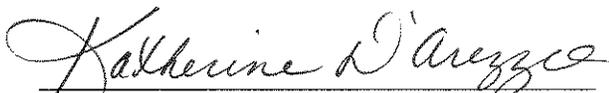
III. SETTLEMENT

Pursuant to the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the parties hereby agree, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-13(d) and Commission Regulation 1011, to the following:

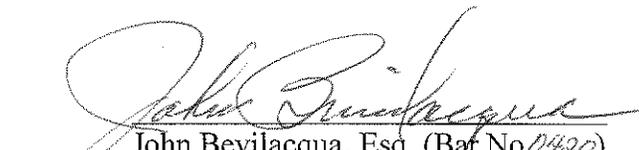
1. The Commission shall enter an Order and Judgment that the Respondent violated R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-16 by failing to make the required disclosures on his Financial Disclosure Statements filed with the Commission.

2. The Respondent agrees that, pursuant to the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Prosecution will recommend, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-13(d), the imposition of a civil penalty in the amount of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000). The Respondent agrees to the payment of said civil penalty.

3. The above terms represent the full and complete Informal Resolution and Settlement for Complaint No. 2014-1.


Katherine D'Arezzo, Esq. (Bar No. 5710)
Commission Prosecutor
Dated: 10/21/14


William E. Reichert
Respondent
Dated: 10/21/14


John Bevilacqua, Esq. (Bar No. 0420)
Respondent's Counsel
Dated: 10/21/14