



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE EXECUTIVE AND
LEGISLATIVE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

January 25, 2011

**Anthony J. Castagno, Commissioner
State Elections Enforcement Commission**

Good Afternoon, Senator Looney and Representative Janowski and members of the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee. My name is Anthony Castagno. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to appear before you today regarding my nomination to the State Elections Enforcement Commission.

I am truly honored to be nominated by Speaker of the House Christopher Donovan to serve in this capacity. On August 11, 2010 I was appointed to be a member of the State Elections Enforcement Commission in an interim appointment subject to the consent and confirmation of the Connecticut General Assembly at the convening of the regular session in 2011.

It has been a privilege to serve the State Elections Enforcement Commission, and if approved by the General Assembly, I look forward to my continued involvement in matters regarding election laws.

My first few months on the Commission were very busy and provided me with significant exposure that I believe has prepared me to accept my duty to maintain the integrity of election laws for the citizens of Connecticut. For example, the 2010 elections were the first regularly scheduled election cycle in which candidates for Statewide office could apply for public financing from the Citizens' Election Program, which also included General Assembly candidates.

As for my personal history, I have lived in Connecticut most of my life and currently live in North Stonington. I am an adjunct professor at the University of Connecticut, Avery Point; president of The Rowe Group, which specializes in strategic business development and public relations; and a partner in an Ireland-based high tech company.

My prior experience includes more than 16 years with Northeast Utilities, the last 11 as manager of communications for the company's nuclear operations. I also have been published in more than 50 reference books and other publications. I earned my Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Trinity College in Hartford.

Previously I was a director of Middlesex County Literacy Volunteers and Middlesex County Special Olympics, and was active with the Portland (CT) Democratic Town Committee. I also served on the Portland Economic Development Commission and the Portland Charter Revision Commission. In 1990, I ran for State Senate in the 33rd district.

I appreciate your consideration and welcome the opportunity to answer any questions you may have.

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