



**Borough of Hasbrouck Heights**  
**320 Boulevard**  
**Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604**  
**201-288-0195      Fax: 201-288-6408**  
**E-Mail: [rmsees@bergen.org](mailto:rmsees@bergen.org)**

*Rose Marie Sees, RMC*  
*Borough Clerk*

September 15, 2009

To:            Local Government Officer

From:         Rose Marie Sees

Subject:      Ethics Board Resolution

With regard to the letter of complaint dated June 2, 2009 from John Paff of the New Jersey Libertarian Party sent to the Ethical Standards Board, the attached resolution was approved at the special meeting of the Ethics Board on September 14, 2009.

If you have any questions, please call me at 201-288-0195.

Attach.

C.      Ethical Standards Board  
         Mayor and Council  
         John Paff

**ETHICAL STANDARD BOARD**  
**BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**

**RESOLUTION NO.   2**

**September 14, 2009**

**WHEREAS**, on June 2, 2009, John Paff, Chairman of the New Jersey Libertarian Party, filed a complaint alleging that 26 officials of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights had failed to file a Financial Disclosure Statement in accordance with Chapter 74 of the Code of this Borough and in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.1, et seq., and

**WHEREAS**, this Board conducted an initial hearing upon the complaint on July 13, 2009, at which it was determined that, in fact, only 24 of those 26 officials named had failed to file as alleged, one having resigned and the name of the other being erroneously included on the complainant's list, and

**WHEREAS**, this Board caused there to be served upon each of its officials a notice of such failure and a further notice that this Board would conduct a hearing to determine the penalty to be imposed upon them for such violation, and

**WHEREAS**, thereafter, all of the 24 remaining named delinquent officials have since filed the required Financial Disclosure Statement; however, none of the said filings are timely, and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40:9-22.10 requires nevertheless that a fine of not less than \$100.00

be imposed for failure to file the said Financial Disclosure Statement within the time required.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that there be an is hereby imposed upon each of the 24 officials of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights whose names appear upon the attached certification of the Borough Clerk as being those who failed to file their Financial Disclosure Statements within the time required the fine of \$100.00, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the collection of the said fine be suspended as to all of those aforementioned officials who then served the Borough without compensation other than a mere stipend to reimburse expenses as in the case of the Fire Chief, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Financial Officer be and is hereby requested as authorized by law to collect the said fine of \$100.00 from each of the remaining officials who are compensated for their services; they being as follows: Ernest DelGuercio, Richard Vannatta, Thomas Mason and Mark Musella.

Motion by: Board Member Link

Second by: Board Member Burns

Roll Call: Ayes: Link, Deppert, Burns, Fuhro

Nayes: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: Pepe, Cotter

I, ROSE MARIE SEES, Borough Clerk of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution is a certified copy of Resolution No. 2 adopted by the Ethical Standards Board of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights on September 14, 2009.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Rose Marie Sees", positioned above a horizontal line.

Rose Marie Sees

Clerk's Certified List of those officers of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights in violation of Section 74-4 for failure to file a Financial Disclosure Statement in 2008 within the time required:

DelGuercio, Ernest -- Appraiser  
Ratkowski, Michael -- Fire Chief  
Vannatta, Richard -- Plumbing Inspector  
Mason, Thomas -- Public Defender  
Musella, Mark -- Public Defender Alternate  
Delcalzo, Mark -- Board of Health Member  
Lanzo, Douglas -- General Assessment Board  
Condal, Greg -- General Assessment Board  
Giaquinto, Leslie -- General Assessment Board  
Hampel, Kenneth -- Planning Board  
Searle, Robert -- Zoning Board  
DiPisa, Rosemarie -- Zoning Board  
Heisey, Andrew -- Zoning Board  
Traina, Lisa -- Free Public Library Trustee  
Eglow, Dr. Burnett -- Free Public Library Trustee  
Pepe, Suzette -- Rent Leveling Board  
Cannon, Marie -- Rent Leveling Board  
Horowitz, Brian -- Rent Leveling Board  
Pepe, Garrett R. -- Ethics Board & DPW Department Liaison  
Dates, Kathleen -- Environmental/Transportation  
Mastria, Arlene -- Environmental/Transportation  
Stavash, John -- Environmental/Transportation  
Lustberg, Ann -- Environmental/Transportation  
Pikowski, Steven -- Finance Department Liaison

*Rose Marie Heisey*  
*Sept. 14, 2009*

**BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS**

**ETHICAL STANDARDS BOARD**

**PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Ethical Standards Board of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights has scheduled a hearing on August 10, 2009, at Borough Hall, 320 Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey, commencing at 8:00 P.M. to determine the penalty that shall be imposed upon those who were charged with respect to violation of the 2008 Financial Disclosure Statement.

Dated: July 21, 2009

---

Rose Marie Sees  
Borough Clerk, Borough of Hasbrouck Heights



# New Jersey Libertarian Party

Open Government Advocacy Project

*John Paff, Chairman*

*P.O. Box 5424*

*Somerset, NJ 08875-5424*

*Phone: 732-873-1251 - Fax: 908-325-0129*

*Email: [lpsmc@pobox.com](mailto:lpsmc@pobox.com)*

June 2, 2009

Hasbrouck Heights Ethical Standards Board

c/o Rose Marie Sees, Borough Clerk

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights

320 Boulevard

Hasbrouck Heights NJ 07604

(via e-mail to [rmsees@bergen.org](mailto:rmsees@bergen.org) )

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with Hasbrouck Heights Borough Code § 74-10A, please accept this letter as my “signed written complaint” that the conduct of the following twenty-six (26) Hasbrouck Heights officials “is in conflict with the Code of Ethics or financial disclosure requirements.”

DelGuercio, Ernest -- Appraiser  
Ratkowski, Michael -- Fire Chief  
Vannatta, Richard -- Plumbing Inspector  
Pomarico, Scott -- Electric Sub-Code Official  
Mason, Thomas -- Public Defender  
Musella, Mark -- Public Defender Alternate  
Delcalzo, Mark -- Board of Health Member  
Lanzo, Douglas -- General Assessment Board  
Condal, Greg -- General Assessment Board  
Giaquinto, Leslie -- General Assessment Board  
Hampel, Kenneth -- Planning Board  
Searle, Robert -- Zoning Board  
DiPisa, Rosemarie -- Zoning Board  
Heisey, Andrew -- Zoning Board  
Traina, Lisa -- Free Public Library Trustee  
Eglow, Dr. Burnett -- Free Public Library Trustee  
Pepe, Suzette -- Rent Leveling Board  
Cannon, Marie -- Rent Leveling Board  
Horowitz, Brian -- Rent Leveling Board  
Fitzgerald, Francesca -- Rent Leveling Board  
Pepe, Garrett R. -- Ethics Board & DPW Department Liaison  
Dates, Kathleen -- Environmental/Transportation  
Mastria, Arlene -- Environmental/Transportation  
Stavash, John -- Environmental/Transportation  
Lustberg, Ann -- Environmental/Transportation  
Pikowski, Steven -- Finance Department Liaison

My complaint is that each of the above named individuals had not, as of June 2, 2009<sup>1</sup>, filed a 2008 Financial Disclosure Statement as required by N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.1 et seq. These are the Statements that were due to have been filed on or before April 30, 2008, so the officials against whom I have complained are **over a year late** in filing.

Since the top of the first page of the "2008 Local Government Officer Roster" (copy attached) states that those listed upon it have already "been determined to be 'local governments officers' and must file the annual Financial Disclosure Statement," I included an individual within my complaint if a) he or she appeared on the Roster and b) the Roster indicated that a filing had not been made. In other words, my decision to include a particular individual within my complaint involved no deeper an analysis than just reading names off the Borough's Roster.

Also, I want to let you know why I am filing this complaint.

The Legislature passed the Local Government Ethics Law because "[t]he vitality and stability of representative democracy depend upon the public's confidence in the integrity of its elected and appointed representatives." N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.2(b). One of the law's objects is to require local officials to report their income sources so that the public can detect possible conflicts of interest.

Suppose, hypothetically, that Planning Board member Hampel's spouse works for a company owned by an applicant before the Planning Board. Had Hampel filled out his Financial Disclosure Statement, the public, having been put on notice of the sources of his family's income, would realize that it would be a possible conflict for Hampel to vote on or participate in this zoning application. By not filing his Statement, Hampel is depriving the public of this important knowledge and thus undermining the Legislature's intent.

Finally, I'd like to offer a recommendation on how the Hasbrouck Heights Ethics Board can achieve a better rate of compliance with Financial Disclosure Statement filing requirements. I have placed on the Internet<sup>2</sup> some minutes of the Mount Olive Township (Morris County) Ethics Committee and Mount Olive's 2008 Local Government Officer Roster.

As you can see from the July 3, 2007 minutes, one of Mount Olive's Ethics Committee members--Scott Ireland--"took care of the financial disclosure for everyone in the township." Apparently, Mr. Ireland monitored the filings periodically and made sure that everyone complied. As you can see from Mount Olive's 2008 roster, Mr. Ireland's efforts helped the Board achieve 100% filing compliance.

Would the Hasbrouck Heights Ethics Board consider adopting Mount Olive's procedure so as to gain better filing compliance in the future?

---

<sup>1</sup> Municipal Clerk Sees sent me the attached Roster on June 2, 2009, in response to my Open Public Records Act request. It is possible that some of those listed have filed their overdue Financial Disclosure Statements after June 2, 2009.

<sup>2</sup> See <http://www.lpcnj.org/OGTF/MtOliveEthics.pdf>

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I ask that you please acknowledge your receipt of this complaint within 30 days, as required by Hasbrouck Heights Borough Code § 74-10A.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Paff', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

John Paff

Updated to 6/25/08

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights/Bergen County

Page 1 of 4

**2008 LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICER ROSTER****Name of Municipality/County HASBROUCK HEIGHTS/BERGEN**

Below list the names of all individuals in your local government agency who have been determined to be "local government officers" and must file the annual Financial Disclosure Statement.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Did they file?</u>	
Rose Heck	Mayor	yes	no
Justin A. DiPisa	Councilman	yes	no
Maryetta Saccomano	Councilman	yes	no
✓ Anthony DiNanno	Councilman	yes	no
Stephen Altobelli	Councilman	yes	no
Sonya Buckman	Councilman	yes	no
✓ David Gonzalez	Councilman	yes	no
Ralph W. Chandless, Jr.	Borough Attorney	yes	no
Kenneth G.B. Job, P.E.	Borough Engineer	yes	no
Mark Ruderman	Labor Attorney	yes	no
Cameron Arabi	IT Specialist	yes	no
✓ Ernest DelGuercio	Appraiser	yes	no
Michael Kronyak	CFO/Administrator/Treasurer	yes	no
Rose Marie Sees	Borough Clerk	yes	no
✓ Michael Colaneri	Chief of Police	yes	no
✓ Michael Ratkowski	Fire Chief	yes	no
William Spindler	Supt. of D.P.W.	yes	no
Nicholas Melfi	Construction Code Official	yes	no
Nicholas Melfi	Property Maintenance/Zoning	yes	no
✓ Arthur Jackson	Fire Sub-Code Official/Fire Off.	yes	no
✓ Richard Vanatta	Plumbing Inspector	yes	no
✓ Scott Pomarico	Electric Sub-Code Official	yes	no
Edmund Carter Jr.	Property Maintenance	yes	no
George Reggo	Tax Assessor	yes	no

## Borough of Hasbrouck Heights/Bergen County

Page 2 of 4

Conchita Parker.	Tax Collector	yes	no
Carol Palmieri	Deputy Registrar	yes	no
<del>Susan Paul</del>	<del>Court Administrator</del>	<del>yes</del>	<del>no</del>
<del>Kathy Halpin</del>	<del>Deputy Court Administrator</del>	<del>yes</del>	<del>no</del>
Joseph Jones	Judge	yes	no
✓ Thomas Mason	Public Defender	yes	no
✓ Mark Musella	Public Defender Alternate	yes	no
Rosario Presti	Prosecutor	yes	no
Thomas Flinn	Prosecutor Alternate	yes	no
Laura French	Board of Health Secretary/Registrar	yes	no
Carol Palmieri	Board of Health Deputy Registrar	yes	no
✓ Louis Castellitto	Board of Health Member	yes	no
Coleen Jarvis	Board of Health Member	yes	no
Constance Doheny	Board of Health Member	yes	no
Pam Link	Board of Health Member	yes	no
Barbara Smith	Board of Health Member	yes	no
Robert Corso	Board of Health Member	yes	no
✓ Mark Delcalzo	Board of Health Member	yes	no
Gary Van Hook	Board of Health Alternate	yes	no
Tina-Louise Dowd	Board of Health Alternate	yes	no
✓ Douglas Lanzo	General Assessment Board	yes	no
✓ Greg Condal	General Assessment Board	yes	no
✓ Leslie Giaquinto	General Assessment Board	yes	no
Dorothy Bernice	Plan Bd Clerk/Sec.	yes	no
Mayor Rose Heck	Planning Board	yes	no
Nicholas Melfi	Planning Board	yes	no
Sonya Buckman	Planning Board	yes	no
✓ Henry Dobbelaar	Planning Board	yes	no

**Borough of Hasbrouck Heights/Bergen County**

Marlene Verrastro	Planning Board	yes	no
/ Kenneth Hampel	Planning Board	Yes	no
Gilbert Hunt	Planning Board	yes	no
Edward Sees	Planning Board	yes	no
Andrea Bocker	Planning Board	yes	no
/ Dr. Gerald Sternbach	Planning Board	yes	no
Eric K. Mason	Planning Board	yes	no
Edward Trawinski	Planning Board Attorney	yes	no
Stephen Boswell	Planning Board Engineer	yes	no
William Kremer	Zoning Board	yes	no
/ David Roche	Zoning Board	yes	no
/ Robert Searle	Zoning Board	yes	no
Anthony J. Niosi	Zoning Board	yes	no
Rosemarie DiPisa	Zoning Board	yes	no
Frank D'Amico	Zoning Board	yes	no
/ Andrew Heisey	Zoning Board	yes	no
John Mazza	Zoning Board	yes	no
Enrico Palummieri	Zoning Board	yes	no
<del>Edward Trawinski</del> Joseph J. Rotolo	Zoning Board Attorney	yes	no
Stephen Boswell	Planning Board Engineer	yes	no
Mimi Hui	Free Public Library Director	yes	no
Mayor Rose Heck	Free Public Library Trustee	yes	no
Joseph Luongo	Free Public Library Trustee	yes	no
/ Rose Ellen Lorber-Termaat	Free Public Library Trustee	yes	no
Tom Verrastro	Free Public Library Trustee	yes	no
Peter Gallo	Free Public Library Trustee	yes	no
/ Lisa Traina	Free Public Library Trustee	yes	no
Pat Link	Free Public Library Trustee	yes	no
/ Edwinna Carroll	Free Public Library Trustee	yes	no

Borough of Hasbrouck Heights/Bergen County

✓ Dr. Burnett Eglow	Free Public Library Trustee	yes	no
Ronald Monteleone	Rent Leveling Board	yes	no
✓ Suzette Pepe	Rent Leveling Board	yes	no
✓ Marie Cannon	Rent Leveling Board	yes	no
✓ Brian Horowitz	Rent Leveling Board	yes	no
Lois Hettel	Rent Leveling Board	yes	no
✓ Francesca Fitzgerald	Rent Leveling Board	yes	no
James Jarvis	Ethics Board	yes	no
Robert Burns	Ethics Board	yes	no
Andrew Link III	Ethics Board	yes	no
✓ Garrett R. Pepe	Ethics Board	yes	no
Peter Deppert	Ethics Board	yes	no
Ann Fuhro	Ethics Board	yes	no
✓ Kathleen Dates	Environmental/Transportation	yes	no
Gilbert Hunt	Environmental/Transportation	yes	no
Elizabeth Moser	Environmental/Transportation	yes	no
✓ Arlene Mastria	Environmental/Transportation	yes	no
✓ James Dressel	Environmental/Transportation	yes	no
✓ John Stavash	Environmental Transportation	yes	no
✓ Ann Lustberg	Environmental/Transportation	yes	no
Dr. Roger Szanto	EMC/Radio Comm. Officer	yes	no
Jesse D'Amore	Multiple Dwelling Inspector	yes	no
Thomas Meli	Fire Department Liaison	yes	no
✓ Steven Pikowski	Finance Department Liaison	yes	no
✓ Garrett R. Pepe	DPW Department Liaison	yes	no
DOROTHY PETROULIS	LOCAL ASSISTANCE BD	yes	no
MARY BRONE	LOCAL ASSISTANCE BD	yes	no