



**OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON**

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CHIEF OF INVESTIGATIONS

November 25, 2014

Via e-mail and regular mail

John Paff, Chairman
New Jersey Libertarian Party's
Open Government Advocacy Project
P.O. Box 5424
Somerset, New Jersey 08875

RE: Local Government Ethics Law/Wrightstown Mayor Thomas Harper

Dear Mr. Paff:

I am in receipt of your e-mail communication dated November 22, 2014 regarding your formal complaint alleging violations of the Local Government Ethics Law by the Borough of Wrightstown Mayor Thomas Harper. As you correctly indicate in your e-mail, I previously deferred the initiation of a criminal investigation until such time as the Local Finance Board had entered a determination regarding this matter. Specifically, you alleged that Mayor Harper had an apparent financial interest in Tom's Service Center and that the Borough of Wrightstown used this establishment to obtain fuel and vehicle repairs in 2010 and 2011.

I have reviewed both the State of New Jersey Local Finance Board Notice of Violation and the November 17, 2014 letter of Local Finance Board Chair Thomas H. Neff directed to Mayor Harper. These documents collectively indicate that the Notice of Violation is not a final determination and that Mayor Harper can request an administrative hearing in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.12 within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the Notice. If Mayor Harper requests a hearing, the Board cannot issue a final decision until the completion of the administrative hearing process. Mr. Neff also noted that the Board's review of your complaint resulted in the discovery of various discrepancies among Mayor Harper's financial disclosure statements from 2010 through 2014. Mr. Neff directed Mayor Harper to explain these apparent discrepancies to the Board.

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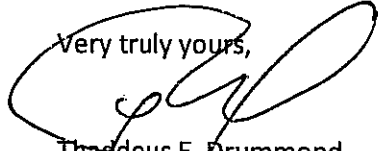
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FAX (609) 265-5145

In so far as Mayor Harper is entitled to an administrative hearing to contest the findings contained in the Notice of Violation, this Office will exercise its discretion and continue to defer the initiation of a criminal investigation until such time as a final determination has been made in connection with this matter. Furthermore, by copy of this letter I am asking Mr. Neff to advise this Office as to any explanation offered by Mayor Harper regarding various discrepancies among his 2010 to 2014 final disclosure statements.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TED', is written over the text 'Very truly yours,'.

Thaddeus E. Drummond
Assistant County Prosecutor
Special Investigations Unit Supervisor

TED:db

cc: Thomas Neff