

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
BEFORE THE RHODE ISLAND ETHICS COMMISSION

IN RE: Lisa Baldelli-Hunt  
Respondent

Complaint No. 2014-13

RESPONDENT'S ANSWER

Respondent, Lisa Baldelli-Hunt 304 Prospect Street, Woonsocket RI 02895  
(Name and Address)

\_\_\_\_\_ in answer to the above-captioned Complaint

states:

(The Respondent here either admits or denies material allegations of the above-captioned Complaint in separately numbered paragraphs and sets forth all matters constituting a defense.)

See attached

Wherefore, the Respondent requests the following:

The complaint be dismissed upon the Respondent's reimbursement to the City of Woonsocket in the amount of \$880.00, the amount earned by her minor son during the relevant time period.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Complaint be dismissed or other appropriate request)

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Lisa Baldelli-Hunt, being duly sworn, deposes and states:

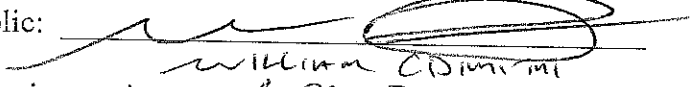
That s/he is the Respondent in the above-captioned matter before the Rhode Island Ethics Commission and has read the foregoing Answer and knows the contents thereof and that the same is true of his/her own knowledge except as to matters therein stated on information or belief and that as to those matters s/he believes it to be true.

Lisa Baldelli-Hunt  
Respondent's Signature

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

State of Rhode Island  
County of Providence

Subscribed and sworn to by Lisa Baldelli-Hunt  
at Providence before me this 7th day of  
November 2014.

Notary Public:   
My Commission expires: 6-26-17

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
BEFORE THE RHODE ISLAND ETHICS COMMISSION

IN RE: LISA BALDELLI-HUNT  
RESPONDENT

COMPLAINT NO. 2014-13

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ANSWER OF RESPONDENT, LISA BALDELLI-HUNT

The Respondent, Lisa Baldelli-Hunt, Mayor of the City of Woonsocket, has not denied that her minor son was employed by the City of Woonsocket for period from July 22, 2014 through August 30, 2014.

In conversation with the DPW Director of the City of Woonsocket, it was pointed out to Mayor Baldelli-Hunt that at one time there was a complement of approximately 40 employees and at the time, the workforce was down to approximately 20 employees.

Mayor Baldelli-Hunt discussed with the DPW Director the idea of bringing back seasonal employment for a brief time and see how it worked. The target work group would be and was teenagers from the city, and if their hiring proved to be more of a hindrance than a help to DPW, termination of the program would not be difficult to accomplish.

Following a baseball game, Mayor Baldelli-Hunt inquired of the players (Junior Legion League) whether they were working and told them that if not, they could apply to work part-time for the city for a few weeks. Five (5) of the youths expressed a willingness and she provided them with applications. Her son then indicated that he would like to work as well and while she had second thoughts about it, let him apply as well.

Thereafter, four (4) additional boys (who were not members of the baseball team) learned of the program and were also told to complete an application at City Hall. They, too, were hired

(there was one inquiry from a female, but due to commitment to her softball schedule, opted not to apply). No one that applied was rejected.

Ideally, the Respondent agrees that the positions should have been advertised, but it was mid-summer when the program had its genesis, and the planned duration was for several weeks. However, the non-advertising is somewhat of a collateral issue and the complaint focuses on Mayor Baldelli-Hunt's son gaining employment, admittedly through a program that was not widely known.

In hindsight, Mayor Baldelli-Hunt agrees that her son's employment was, strictly speaking, a violation of the Rhode Island Code of Ethics, Regulation 36-14-5004(a)(b) in that her minor son derived a monetary gain from the City of Woonsocket.

In mitigation to some degree, Mayor Baldelli-Hunt did not supervise her son (or anyone else hired for the summer youth program), and he was expected to perform all duties as directed by DPW (the job required the teenagers to sweep sidewalks, pull weeds and generally to clean up and "beautify" the sidewalks of the city).

Mayor Baldelli-Hunt is of the opinion that the program worked, that the summer youth employees were not a hindrance to DPW but were rather a benefit to DPW and hopes to better plan and expand the program for the Summer of 2015. Further, assuming the DPW's budget can easily absorb the summer youth program next year, Mayor Baldelli-Hunt would seek an advisory opinion (consistent with the provisions contained in Regulation 36-14-5004(b)(3)(B) should her son express a desire to continue in this worthwhile program.

Lisa Baldelli Hunt  
Lisa Baldelli-Hunt, Mayor, City of Woonsocket

Subscribed and Sworn to before me this 7<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2014

William C. Dimina  
Notary Public  
my Comm expires 6-26-17

Terminations Since 7/1/2013

Last Name	First Name	Termination Date	Position	Employment Type	Employment Status	Hire Date
Lataille	Gary	9/1/2013	Fire Chief	Full-Time	Retired	10/7/1985
Labrecque	Francis	9/8/2013	Meter Reader	Full-Time	Retired	10/30/1989
Theroux	Joseph	9/15/2013	Fire Lieutenant	Full-Time	Retired	9/13/1987
Cyr	Henri	9/27/2013	Election Clerk	Full Time	Retired	11/27/2000
Tailion	Jonathan	9/30/2013	Temporary Laborer/Hwy.	Temporary	Terminated	8/23/2013
Costa	Brielle	11/13/2013	Library Page	Part-Time	Terminated	8/28/2013
Saechew	Aliwan	11/23/2013	Library Page	Part Time	Resigned	8/28/2013
Jarvis	Christopher	12/20/2013	Temporary Laborer/Hwy.	Temporary	Terminated	8/26/2013
Robin	Sean	12/20/2013	Temporary Laborer/Hwy.	Temporary	Terminated	9/5/2013
Connolly	Lucille	1/2/2014	Police Clerk	Full Time	Retired	7/24/2001
Theroux	Jonathan	1/3/2014	Police Officer	Full Time	Retired	4/25/1987
Hendrix	Kaycee	1/17/2014	Building Inspection/Planning	Temporary	Terminated	9/3/2013
Morin	Paul	1/22/2014	Temporary Laborer/Hwy.	Temporary	Terminated	1/21/2014
Pauhus	Kenneth	2/21/2014	Police Captain	Full Time	Retired	1/27/1992
Lefebvre	Paul	3/22/2014	Firefighter	Full Time	Retired	4/12/1993
Chianese	Chris	3/28/2014	Chief Building Inspector	Full Time	Terminated	3/12/2001
Lee	Edward	4/5/2014	Police Captain	Full Time	Retired	5/31/1988
Bruce	Thomas	4/17/2014	Finance Director	Full Time	Terminated	12/21/2009
Souza	David	5/24/2014	Fire Lieutenant	Full Time	Retired	10/6/1986
Plante	Jeannine	6/3/2014	Dispatcher-Fire	Part-Time	Resigned	6/3/2014
Botello, Jr.	John	6/3/2014	Dispatcher-Fire	Part-Time	Resigned	6/3/2014
Beaudoin	Raymond	6/19/2014	Temporary Laborer/Hwy.	Temporary	Terminated	1/29/2014
Celeste	Chris	7/18/2014	Tax Assessor	Full Time	Terminated	10/19/2009
Grassini	Glen	8/22/2014	Utility Person	Full-Time	Probationary Term.	7/21/2014
Ploughman	Nathan	8/29/2014	Intern-Engineering	Temporary	Terminated	5/12/2014
Wolny	Nicholas	8/30/2014	Student Wrk.-Hwy.	Seasonal	Terminated	7/22/2014
Unwin	Caden	8/30/2014	Student Wrk.-Hwy.	Seasonal	Terminated	7/22/2014
Mousseau	Joshua	8/30/2014	Student Wrk.-Hwy.	Seasonal	Terminated	7/22/2014
Lefourneau	Matthew	8/30/2014	Student Wrk.-Hwy.	Seasonal	Terminated	7/22/2014
Hunt	Sam	8/30/2014	Student Wrk.-Hwy.	Seasonal	Terminated	7/22/2014
Girard	Kyle	8/30/2014	Student Wrk.-Hwy.	Seasonal	Terminated	7/22/2014
Gince	Patrick	8/30/2014	Student Wrk.-Hwy.	Seasonal	Terminated	7/22/2014
Forget	Austin	8/30/2014	Student Wrk.-Hwy.	Seasonal	Terminated	7/22/2014
Brown	Aaron	8/30/2014	Student Wrk.-Hwy.	Seasonal	Terminated	7/22/2014
Ceballos	Manuel	8/30/2014	Student Wrk.-Hwy.	Seasonal	Terminated	7/29/2014
Pinkey	Margaret	9/9/2014	Planning Sec'y	Temporary	Terminated	5/1/2014
Kolkoski	Peter	9/15/2014	Utility Person	Full Time	Terminated	5/17/1994
McWhinnie	Thomas	10/18/2014	Light Equipment Operator	Full Time	Retired	8/30/1999
Groysman	Igor	10/24/2014	Treasurer-Finance	Full Time	Resigned	8/25/2014