

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)
IN THE MATTER OF:)
Complaint 2014-012)
Patrick B. Haddon,)
Respondent.)
State Ethics Commission,)
Complainant.)

BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

CONSENT ORDER

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This matter comes before the State Ethics Commission by virtue of a complaint filed by the Commission on August 5, 2013. The complaint against the Respondent, Patrick B. Haddon, was considered by the Commission on November 19, 2013 and probable cause found to warrant an evidentiary hearing.

Prior to the call of the case Respondent agreed to entry of the following statements of fact, conclusions of law, admission, discussion, and disposition in this matter as follows.

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STATEMENT OF FACTS

1. The Respondent, Patrick B. Haddon, is an elected member of the Parker Sewer and Fire District in Greenville County.

2. Respondent stated that prior to becoming a Commission Member he was a mechanic at the Parker Sewer and Fire District (the District) maintenance shop. Respondent said it was common practice for mechanics to work on private vehicles in the shop on breaks or after hours.

3. Respondent stated that during the summer of 2011, he did have repair work done on his personal pick-up truck at the District maintenance shop. Respondent said that he assisted Blake Harmon, the District's maintenance supervisor, fabricate and install a front bumper and 'Tommy Lift' on his truck. Respondent said that repairs took place on

two occasions in the late afternoon. Respondent advised that each repair took about two hours. Respondent said that he provided all the metal and supplies for the repair.

4. Respondent stated that sometime in 2011, he also took his utility trailer to the maintenance shop for repair. Respondent reported that he assisted Mr. Harmon weld a fender and repair the tail gate on the trailer. Respondent said the repair work took place at about 4:00 PM and he provided all of the materials.

5. Respondent advised that in 2012, he did meet with Daniel Haddon, the District's mechanic, at the maintenance shop because he had problem with the engine in his pick-up truck. Respondent said that he assisted Mr. Haddon replace a fuel injector on his truck. Respondent said the repair work did take place during the work day. He stated that the repair work took more than two hours but was not sure about how long the repair work lasted. Respondent said that he paid for all the parts required for the repair work. Respondent said that the engine problem was not resolved and he had to take his vehicle to a privately owned diesel engine shop.

6. A review of the Parker Sewer and Fire District policy manual revealed that in Section 21.15 district equipment and tools, (but not materials) may be used by District personnel or commissioners either at District facilities, or at home.

7. Staff interviewed Mr. Blake Harmon Mr. Daniel Haddon. They both provided written statements in regard to repair work they completed for Parker Sewer and Fire District commission members including Respondent.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based upon the foregoing Statement of Facts, the Commission concludes, as a matter of law:

1. During all times relevant, the Respondent, Patrick B. Haddon, was a public official, as defined by S.C. Code Ann. § 8-13-100(27)(Supp. 2012).
2. The State Ethics Commission has personal and subject matter jurisdiction.
3. Section 8-13-700(A) prohibits a public official from using his official position to obtain an economic interest for himself.

ADMISSIONS

The Respondent, Patrick B. Haddon, admits he violated Section 8-13-700(A) of the Ethics Reform Act.

DISPOSITION

The State Ethics Commission hereby finds Patrick B. Haddon in violation of Section 8-13-700(A) of the Ethics Reform Act and hereby adopts the Statement of Facts, Conclusions of Law, Admissions, Discussion, and Disposition as agreed upon by the Respondent.

THEREFORE, the State Ethics Commission hereby issues a public reprimand to Patrick B. Haddon for his violation of Section 8-13-700(A) of the Ethics Reform Act,

AND, orders Respondent to pay an administrative fee of \$1,000.00 within 60 days of receipt of the signed order,

AND IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 24 DAY OF September 2014.

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION



JAMES H. BURNS
CHAIR



Patrick B. Haddon
Respondent