

**Report on actions taken by the Rhode Island Ethics Commission
in Executive Session held on September 24, 2024:**

1. Voted (6-0) to approve the minutes of the Executive Session held on August 20, 2024.
[Reporter's Note: The vote was as follows:

AYES: Lauren E. Jones; Frank J. Cenerini; Emma L. Peterson; Hugo L. Ricci, Jr.; Matthew D. Strauss; and Holly J. Susi.

ABSTENTIONS: Jill Harrison and Scott P. Rabideau.]

2. Voted (4-4) to approve a proposed Informal Resolution and Settlement in the matter of **In re: Santos Javier**, Complaint No. 2024-10.
[Reporter's Note: The vote was as follows:

AYES: Lauren E. Jones; Emma L. Peterson; Matthew D. Strauss; and Holly J. Susi.

NOES: Frank J. Cenerini; Jill Harrison; Scott P. Rabideau; and Hugo L. Ricci, Jr.]

The motion failed.

Voted (6-2) to approve a proposed Informal Resolution and Settlement in the matter of **In re: Santos Javier**, Complaint No. 2024-10, by which the Ethics Commission imposed no civil penalty for a violation of the Financial Disclosure mandate.

[Reporter's Note: The vote was as follows:

AYES: Frank J. Cenerini; Jill Harrison; Scott P. Rabideau; Hugo L. Ricci, Jr.; Matthew D. Strauss; and Holly J. Susi.

NOES: Lauren E. Jones and Emma L. Peterson.]

Copies of the Informal Resolution & Settlement will be available at the conclusion of the meeting.

3. The Commission took no action in the matter of **In re: Anastasia Williams**, Complaint No. 2024-11, which was withdrawn from the agenda.
4. Unanimously voted (8-0) in the matter of **In re: Olivia DeFrancesco**, Complaint No. 2024-7, to find that probable cause does not exist to believe that the Respondent, Olivia DeFrancesco, a member of the Exeter Town Council, violated R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-5(a) or (d) by her participation in the Town Council's May 6, 2024 discussion related to reducing the portion of permit fees payable to the Town's building, electrical, and mechanical/plumbing inspectors.

Unanimously voted (8-0) that probable cause does not exist to believe that the Respondent, Olivia DeFrancesco, a member of the Exeter Town Council, violated 520-

RICR-00-00-1.3.1 Prohibited Activities – Nepotism (36-14-5004) or 520-RICR-00-00-1.2.1(A)(1) Additional Circumstances Warranting Recusal (36-14-5002) by her participation in the Town Council’s May 6, 2024 discussion related to reducing the portion of permit fees payable to the Town’s building, electrical, and mechanical/plumbing inspectors.

The Complaint was dismissed with prejudice. Copies of the Investigative Report will be available at the conclusion of the meeting. The Commission will prepare and issue a written Decision & Order explaining the bases of its vote.

5. Unanimously voted (8-0) to return to Open Session.