



STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

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Two Client Lobbyists fined \$5,000 Each by the Office of State Ethics *Failed to Report Reception Expenses at 2012 Democratic National Convention*

Hartford –Diageo North America, Inc. (“Diageo”) and Pfizer, Inc. (“Pfizer”), client lobbyist registrants, violated the Code of Ethics when each failed to report expenditures associated with receptions that each hosted during the 2012 Democratic National Convention. Each of the two companies agreed to pay a penalty of \$5,000 for its violations.

In 2012, Diageo and Pfizer hosted separate receptions in Charlotte, North Carolina during the 2012 Democratic National Convention. At each reception, multiple Connecticut state employees, public officials and/or members of a public official’s staff or immediate family attended. However, neither Diageo nor Pfizer reported the expenditures on their respective lobbyist financial reports.

According to the Stipulation and Consent Order Diageo and Pfizer each violated General Statutes §§ 1-96 (a) and (e) which mandates reporting of lobbying expenditures. Diageo also violated § 1-97 (d) which requires notification to public officials when a lobbyist has provided meals valued at more than \$10. Both companies have since submitted the proper filings and notifications.

“Lobbyist reports must fully disclose all expenses as required by the Code of Ethics,” said Carol Carson, Executive Director, Office of State Ethics. “It is worth noting that the public officials and employees that attended did not violate the Code, because the total cost per person did not exceed the \$50 limit.”

View: Stipulation and Consent Order [2013-23](#)
Stipulation and Consent Order [2013-24](#)

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The Connecticut Office of State Ethics mission is to ensure honesty, integrity and accountability in state government through education, interpretation and enforcement of the State of Connecticut Code of Ethics. To contact us please visit our website at www.ct.gov/ethics or call us at (860) 263-2400.