



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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October 21, 2008  
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FINDINGS IN THE COMPLAINT OF  
Mark Blanchfield v. George Amedore Jr.  
Complaint 2008-7

Fair Campaign Practices For The Capital Region Inc. (FCP) held a hearing on October 20, 2008 to consider a complaint made by Mark Blanchfield against George Amedore Jr. Both are candidates for the New York State Assembly in the 105<sup>th</sup> Assembly District. Both appeared through their representatives, with David Cabaniss representing Mr. Blanchfield and Michael Cuevas representing Mr. Amedore. Present were hearing panel members: Jim Miller (Chair), Harriet Warnock-Graham, Mick Drown, Helen MacDonald and Robert Turner. Also present was Coordinator Betsey Swan. Thomas Buchanan, Schenectady County Republican Party chairperson, sat as an *ex officio* representative.

Mr. Blanchfield complained about a flyer sent on his opponent's behalf by the New York Republican State Committee, which said, among other things that, "As a Councilman, Blanchfield drove up the average Schenectady homeowner's property tax bill a whopping 75%."

FINDING: NO UNFAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICE

Although Mr. Blanchfield made a number of arguments in support of his position, the committee did not find any of them to be persuasive that Mr. Amedore's contention of a 75% increase for the average Schenectady taxpayer during Mr. Blanchfield's tenure on the Schenectady City Council is incorrect.

FCP also believes the flyer that was the subject of this complaint was also the subject of Complaint No 2008-3. Although this issue was not raised at the hearing, candidates are advised that they must raise related claims as part of a single complaint. To split such claims into multiple complaints, without a rational reason, is to risk a finding of abusing the FCP process, in violation of Principle Six.

***Candidates are advised not to misrepresent these findings. Misleading quotation or misrepresentation of FCP Findings constitute an unfair campaign practice.***

Fair Campaign Practices For The Capital Region, Inc.

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