


**DISCLOSURE OF APPEARANCE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST
AS REQUIRED BY G. L. c. 268A, § 23(b)(3)**

REDACTED

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE INFORMATION	
Name of public employee:	Gerard Tuoti
Title or Position:	Public Information Officer
Agency/Department:	State Ethics Commission
Agency address:	1 Ashburton Place, Room 619 Boston, MA 02108
Office Phone:	617-371-9500
Office E-mail:	Gerry.Tuoti@Mass.gov
	<p>In my capacity as a state, county or municipal employee, I am expected to take certain actions in the performance of my official duties. Under the circumstances, a reasonable person could conclude that a person or organization could unduly enjoy my favor or improperly influence me when I perform my official duties, or that I am likely to act or fail to act as a result of kinship, rank, position or undue influence of a party or person.</p> <p>I am filing this disclosure to disclose the facts about this relationship or affiliation and to dispel the appearance of a conflict of interest.</p>
APPEARANCE OF FAVORITISM OR INFLUENCE	
Describe the issue that is coming before you for action or decision.	Drafting and issuing a press release regarding a disposition agreement between the Commission and former [REDACTED].
What responsibility do you have for taking action or making a decision?	It is my responsibility to draft and issue a press release subject to the Executive Director's approval. It is also my responsibility to respond to any press inquiries the Commission may receive regarding the matter.
Explain your relationship or affiliation to the person or organization.	I have never met [REDACTED]. My wife is a teacher and taught the daughter of [REDACTED], who filed a confidential complaint with the Commission regarding [REDACTED]. My wife attended a youth sports event at the invitation of [REDACTED] daughter. The actions described in the disposition agreement involve a property approximately a half mile from my home.
How do your official actions or decision matter to the person or organization?	The press release and responses to press inquiries may affect press coverage and public perception of the matter, which is the subject of [REDACTED] confidential complaint.

Optional: Additional facts – e.g., why there is a low risk of undue favoritism or improper influence.	I have never met [REDACTED]. While my wife and I have briefly met [REDACTED], neither of us has a social relationship with [REDACTED] or knows [REDACTED] personally. I have no involvement in the Commission's actions relative to the complaint or the drafting or negotiation of the disposition agreement. The press release I draft is subject to the approval of the Executive Director.
If you cannot confirm this statement, you should recuse yourself.	WRITE AN X TO CONFIRM THE STATEMENT BELOW. _X_ Taking into account the facts that I have disclosed above, I feel that I can perform my official duties objectively and fairly.
Employee signature:	
Date:	3/10/20

Attach additional pages if necessary.

Not elected to your public position – file with your appointing authority.

Elected state or county employees – file with the State Ethics Commission.

Members of the General Court – file with the House or Senate clerk or the State Ethics Commission.

Elected municipal employee – file with the City Clerk or Town Clerk.

Elected regional school committee member – file with the clerk or secretary of the committee.