

State Elections Enforcement Commission

Citizens' Election Program



Press Release

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HEAD OF SEEC TO SPEAK AT CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING IN WASHINGTON THIS WEEK

HARTFORD, CT – January 20, 2015– Executive Director and General Counsel Michael J. Brandi of the State Elections Enforcement Commission will speak this Thursday, January 22, at a Congressional briefing in Washington D.C. The subject of the briefing is *Outside Spending, Coordination and Corruption After Citizens United*. The briefing, organized by the Brennan Center for Justice will be hosted by Representative Mike Honda (D-CA 17). Along with Mr. Brandi, the panel will feature Ann Ravel, the Chair of the Federal Elections Commission, Jared DeMarinis, Director of Candidacy and Campaign Finance for the Maryland Board of Elections and Chisun Lee, Counsel for the Brennan Center. Paul Ryan of the Campaign Legal Center and Fred Wertheimer of Democracy 21 are also scheduled to appear and speak.

“Five years after Citizens United, outside spending in elections at all levels has skyrocketed, and unlimited spenders are working hand-in-glove with candidates who have every incentive to look after their interests if elected,” says the invitation to the briefing, to be held at the U.S. Capitol Building, Visitors Center, HVC 201, at 10:00 a.m.

The panel will discuss the challenges of preventing corruption and suggest ideas for the path forward. Mr. Brandi will speak on the effects of Citizens United on Connecticut’s landmark public financing program, the Citizens’ Election Program, as well as issues related to the enforcement of independent expenditure laws and the rise of dark money in elections. Other subjects will include the role of new technology in elections and proposals for campaign finance reform in federal and state law.

For more information on the event, please contact Brennan Center Events Coordinator, Jafreen Uddin, at jafreen.uddin@nyu.edu or 646.292.8345.

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