



May 7, 2015

Karen Nober, Executive Director  
State Ethics Commission  
One Ashburton Place, Room 609  
Boston, MA 02108

Michael Sullivan, Director  
Office of Campaign & Political Finance  
One Ashburton Place, Room 411  
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Ms. Nober and Mr. Sullivan:

Earlier this year, the Boston Globe reported on Senator Joyce's receipt of sunglasses retailing between \$235 and \$245 for a purchase price of only \$50, which he used as gifts for fellow legislators. Subsequently, when the purchases became public, Senator Joyce paid an additional \$25 for each purchased sunglass, an amount still much less than their retail price. At the time, I noted that any kind of special discount give to an elected official raises concerns.

More recently, in a May 3<sup>rd</sup> Boston Globe article a number of other actions by Senator Joyce were noted that raise serious concerns under the campaign finance and/or the conflict of interest law. These actions included using campaign funds to partially pay for his son's graduation party, an event that seems primarily, indeed inherently personal, and not political; representing clients before various state agencies, and sponsoring legislation favored by a client without disclosing his affiliation with the client. For example, the Globe reports that Joyce did not disclose his ties to Energi even as he sponsored a bill promoted by the company, gave speeches at conferences sponsored by the company, and served on the legislative committee that oversees the industry that the company insures. The May 3<sup>rd</sup> article mentions a number of other actions by Senator Joyce that also raise concerns under the campaign finance or ethics laws.

Many of the scenarios noted above and set forth in greater detail in the Boston Globe raise significant questions about whether Senator Joyce has complied with the ethics and campaign finance laws. Therefore, we request that your offices conduct a thorough investigation of these matters.

Very truly yours,

Pam Wilmot  
Executive Director

Peter Sturges  
Board Chair

