



**NEWS FROM:
THE JOINT COMMISSION ON PUBLIC ETHICS**

**DANIEL J. HORWITZ
CHAIR**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JCOPE IMPOSES \$58,000 IN FINES FOR REPEATED LOBBYING ACT VIOLATIONS

Housing Works Fined For Same Reason in 2009

ALBANY, NY (October 22, 2015) The New York State Joint Commission on Public Ethics (“Commission”) today announced that it has reached settlement agreements with three groups – Housing Works, Inc., Mason Management (d/b/a Stellar Management), and IP Mortgage Borrower, LLC – for failing to file required reports about their lobbying activities.

Housing Works, Inc. has agreed to pay \$50,000 to settle violations committed between 2010 and 2015, as well as outstanding Lobbying Act penalties. Between 2010 and 2015, Housing Works, Inc. failed to file required statements of registration, bimonthly lobbyist reports, and semi-annual client reports disclosing its lobbying efforts. The Commission’s predecessor had previously assessed more than \$11,000 in fines against Housing Works, Inc. and its lobbying arm, Housing Works Albany Advocacy Center, for failing to file similar reports in 2009.

Mason Management, doing business as Stellar Management, a client of a registered lobbyist, failed to file semi-annual reports from July 2010 to June 2011. Mason Management has agreed to pay a \$6,000 fine to settle those Lobbying Act infractions.

IP Mortgage Borrower, LLC, failed to file three client semi-annual reports in 2014 and 2015. Under its agreement, it will pay \$2,000 to settle those violations.

Commission Chairman Daniel J. Horwitz said, “Lobbyists and clients who spend money to influence government have a responsibility to inform the public of these activities. Ignoring that responsibility does a disservice to the public, and violates the law.”

Copies of the settlement agreements may be obtained by clicking [here](#).