



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

**DANIEL J. HORWITZ
CHAIR**

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JCOPE.NY.GOV

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**JCOPE FINES REGISTERED LOBBYIST MORE THAN \$60,000 FOR
REPEATED LOBBYING ACT VIOLATIONS**

Failed to File Required Reports, Pay Registration Fees Over 5-year Period

ALBANY, NY (May 5, 2016) – The Joint Commission on Public Ethics (“Commission”) today announced that it has reached a settlement agreement with registered lobbyist State Advisers, LLC for failing to file required reports about its lobbying activities and failing to pay related registration fees over a five-year period.

State Advisers, through its principal, Keith Sernick, has agreed to pay \$62,000 in fines to settle violations of failing to file Statements of Registration, Lobbyist Bi-Monthly Reports, and other authorizations on time, or in some cases at all, between 2011 and 2016.

“Mr. Sernick knew his legal obligations to the Commission and the public, but purposely ignored them,” said Commission Executive Director Seth H. Agata. “While Mr. Sernick can decide to be a paid lobbyist, he cannot decide what law applies to him; he is subject to the requirements and standards of New York’s Lobbying Act”

If Mr. Sernick breaches any of the terms of the settlement agreement, the Commission may take further action and impose additional sanctions.

A copy of the settlement agreement can be found [here](#).