

Thomas A. Abbott

277 Griggs Avenue

Teaneck, NJ 07666

April 3, 2016

An Open Letter to the Teaneck Ethics Board

Leonard Fuld
779 Washburn Street
Teaneck, NJ 07666

Heidi Fuchs
1247 Trafalgar Street
Teaneck, NJ 07666

Angela Barker
150 Manhattan Avenue
Teaneck, NJ 07666

To the Teaneck Ethics Board:

Attached you will find Ethics Complaints against Local Government Officers who were required to file Financial Disclosure Statements but failed to do so and against one who failed to properly disclose his assets. This should not have been necessary as one of the primary responsibilities of a municipal ethics board is to ensure that local government officers file Financial Disclosure Statements in accordance with NJ code.

NJ State Code, **40A:9-22.22** says:

A municipal ethics board shall have the following powers: (e) To enforce the provisions of the municipal code of ethics and financial disclosure requirements with regard to local government officers or employees serving the municipality and to impose penalties for the violation thereof as are authorized by this act.

If there were no local ethics board, the Local Government Services Division of the Department of Community Affairs would routinely enforce these. As Teaneck has an Ethics Board it is its responsibility - a responsibility that it has ignored.

In addition, as members of the Ethics Board, you should ensure that the board members are appointed in accordance with code. Teaneck code says, "The members of the Ethics Board shall be appointed by the governing body and shall be chosen by virtue of their known and consistent reputation for integrity and their knowledge of local government affairs." Instead the township manager is appointing members. He has even knowingly appointed a non-resident when the code says, "It shall consist of six members who shall be residents of the Township ... "

You have also allowed the council to appoint officers when the code states, "The members of the Ethics Board shall annually elect a Chairperson from among the membership ..."

More than any other board one would expect the members Ethics Board to take their responsibilities seriously and to be above reproach. Instead, the board by its inaction acts as an impediment to enforcement of the financial disclosure requirements. Hopefully in the future, the Ethics Boards will fulfill their role without the need for complaints.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Abbott

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277 Griggs Avenue

Teaneck, NJ 07666

April 3, 2016

To the Ethics Board:

I herewith file complaints against the following Local Government Officers who have not filed the legally required Financial Disclosure Statements (FDS) in 2015 per the NJ Financial Disclosure website.

Anne Sentner, Board of Adjustment – Chairperson
Jerry Barta, Board of Adjustment – Member
Monica Honis, Board of Adjustment – Member
Edward Mulligan, Board of Adjustment – Member
Michelle Cooper, Board of Adjustment - Alternate Member
Atif Rehman, Board of Adjustment - Alternate Member

Joseph Bodner, Planning Board – Chairperson
Eric Brauer, Planning Board – Member
Kimberly Jones, Planning Board – Member
Howard Thompson, Planning Board – Member
Kenneth Croonquist, Planning Board - Class II Member

Joy Charles, Library Board – Member
Sharon Crewes - Whitney, Library Board - Mayor's Representative
Patricia Dent, Library Board – Member

Rebecca Williams, Confidential Secretary

In addition for the following Local Government Officers the complaint extends to their failure to file the required Financial Disclosure Statement for 2014 per the NJ Financial Disclosure website as well.

Jerry Barta, Board of Adjustment – Member
Edward Mulligan, Board of Adjustment – Member
Howard Thompson, Planning Board – Member

This failure to properly file concerns me as a complainant only in so far as I am a resident of Teaneck Township and as such I believe all Local Government Officers who represent Teaneck and hence its residents should be held to the highest standards of ethical and legal conduct.

I have brought this to the attention of both the Teaneck council and administration publicly at open public meetings and been ignored. I have contacted the NJ Local Finance Board and been informed that because Teaneck has an Ethics Board it is not in their jurisdiction but rather it is the responsibility of the Teaneck Ethics Board.

Thank you,



Thomas A. Abbott

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277 Griggs Avenue

Teaneck, NJ 07666

April 3, 2016

To the Ethics Board:

I herewith file a complaint against the following Local Government Official Council Member/Deputy Mayor Elie Katz for failure to properly fill out his Financial Disclosure Statements for 2014 and 2015 - attached.

In both 2014 and 2015, section A, item 3 and section D, item 2 lists "Various Real Estate LLC's". Similarly, section D, item 3 lists "Various NY Restaurants". He is required to list each Real Estate LLC and each NY Restaurant individually.

Also under section E various properties are listed in which he holds from 23% to 51% ownership. As Mr. Katz as a council person, deputy mayor and member of the sub-committee on zoning, is involved in his official capacity with zoning as well as other aspects of Teaneck governance that may involve his partners such as business licenses and appointments to both statutory boards and advisory boards, he is required to disclose who these partners are.

The 2015 section B lists a source of "fees and honorarium" as "na" with an address and section C lists a gift from "unk" with an address that doesn't exist in Teaneck. In both cases the source is required.

This failure to properly file concerns me as a complainant only in so far as I am a resident of Teaneck Township and as such I believe all Local Government Officers who represent Teaneck and hence its residents should be held to the highest standards of ethical and legal conduct.

I have contacted the NJ Local Finance Board and been informed that because Teaneck has an Ethics Board it is not in their jurisdiction but rather it is the responsibility of the Teaneck Ethics Board.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas A. Abbott", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Thomas A. Abbott

Local Government Ethics Law
 Financial Disclosure Statement

Year of Service:
 2014

This Financial Disclosure Statement is required annually of all local government officers in accordance with N.J.S. 40A:9-22.1 et seq., the Local Government Ethics Law.

Section I. Personal Information - Local Government Officer

First Name: Elie Middle: Y. Last Name: Katz Suffix: Katz
 Home Address: 1001 Phelps Rd Telephone Numbers: Home: (201)715-5179
 Teaneck 07666 Business: (201)715-5179
 Spouse (includes Civil Union partner).

Entity	Agency/Board	Position Held	Term Expires *
1 Teaneck Township - County of Bergen	Township of Teaneck	Councilmember	

* = if applicable

Section II. Financial Information

Provide the following information for yourself and *members of your immediate family* for the prior calendar year. If none, please indicate NONE in the space provided.

A. List the name and address of each source of income, earned and unearned, which you received in excess of \$2,000. If a publicly traded security is the source of income, the security need not be reported unless you or a member of your immediate family has an interest in the business organization.

Name	Address	Self/Spouse	Dependent Name
1 IDT	520 broad Street newark NJ 07601	Self	
2 Chopstix	172 West Englewood Ave Teaneck NJ 07666	Self	
3 Various Real Estate LLC"s	172 West Englewood Ave Teaneck NJ 07666	Self	

B. List the name and address of each source of fees and honorariums having an aggregate amount exceeding \$250 received from any single source for personal appearances, speeches, or writing.

Name	Address	Self/Spouse	Dependent Name
1 None			

C. List the name and address of each source of gifts, reimbursements or prepaid expenses having an aggregate value exceeding \$400 from any single source,

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Self/Spouse</i>	<i>Dependent Name</i>
1	None			

D. List the name and address of all business organizations in which an interest was held.

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Self/Spouse</i>	<i>Dependent Name</i>
1	Chopstix	172 West Englewood Ave Teaneck NJ 07666	Self	
2	Various Real Estate LLC"s	172 West Englewood Ave Teaneck NJ 07666	Self	
3	Various NY Restuarants	172 West Englewood Ave Teaneck NJ 07666	Self	

E. List the address and a brief description of all real property in the State of New Jersey in which an interest was held.

	<i>Municipality/County</i>	<i>Block</i>	<i>Lot</i>	<i>Qual.</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>% Own *</i>	<i>Self/Spouse</i>	<i>Dependent Name</i>
1	Teaneck (Bergen)	4905	9			50.00	Self	
2	Teaneck (Bergen)	4905	8		22 west Englewood	25.00	Self	
3	Teaneck (Bergen)	5003	12		47 West Englewood	50.00	Self	
4	Teaneck (Bergen)	4903	2		172 West Englewood	33.00	Self	
5	Teaneck (Bergen)	5008	7		185 West Englewood	42.00	Self	
6	Teaneck (Bergen)	4902	7		180 West Englewood	43.00	Self	
7	Teaneck (Bergen)	4902	5+6		190 West Englewood	33.00	Self	
8	Teaneck (Bergen)	5008	8		201 West Englewood	51.00	Self	
9	Teaneck (Bergen)	4902	3		202 West Englewood Avenue	23.00	Self	
10	Teaneck (Bergen)	4016	18		1001 phelps rd	100.00	Self	
11	Teaneck (Bergen)	3909	10		875 e lawn drive	24.00	Self	
12	Teaneck (Bergen)	0000	0		1377 Palisades Ave	50.00	Self	
13	Bergenfield (Bergen)	0000	0		43 S. glenwood dr	50.00	Self	
14	Passaic City (Passaic)	1297	1		54 Main St	50.00	Self	
15	Englewood City (Bergen)	2902	2		24 e forest	50.00	Self	
16	Hackensack (Bergen)	419	26		95 Anderson st	50.00	Self	
17	Passaic City (Passaic)	2152	7		107 grove st	50.00	Self	
18	Paterson (Passaic)	5504	1		2-8 Chadwick St	48.00	Self	

19	Paterson (Passaic)	2147	3	601 main St	48.00	Self
20	Passaic City (Passaic)	0000	0	73 Grove Street	49.00	Self
21	North Bergen (Hudson)	313.01	3	76-12 Park Ave	48.00	Self
22	Passaic City (Passaic)	2152	61	54 Irving Street	50.00	Self
23	Englewood City (Bergen)	2209	9	256 Epps Ave	50.00	Self

* = % of Ownership

F. Optional Comments:

Section III. Certification & online filing process

I hereby certify that this Financial Disclosure Statement contains no willful misstatement of fact or omission of material fact and, constitutes a full disclosure with respect to all matters required by N.J.S.A.40A:9-22.1 et seq., to the best of my knowledge. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to fines and possible disciplinary action.

Date: 06/30/2014

Name: Elie

I further certify that I intend my electronic signature on this statement to be the legally binding equivalent of my traditional handwritten signature.

**Local Government Ethics Law
 Financial Disclosure Statement**

**Year of Service:
 2015**

*This Financial Disclosure Statement is required annually of all local government officers
 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.1 et seq., the Local Government Ethics Law.*

Section I. Personal Information - Local Government Officer

First Name: Elie Middle: Y. Last Name: Katz Suffix: Katz
 Home Address: Telephone Numbers: Home: Business:
 (Optional +) (Optional +)

Spouse (includes Civil Union partner).

First Name: Esther Middle: Last Name: Katz Suffix:
 + Optional information, if supplied, will not appear on the public search of the FDS.

Entity	Agency/Board	Position Held	Term Expires *
1 Teaneck Township - County of Bergen	Township of Teaneck	Councilmember	

* = if applicable

Section II. Financial Information

Provide the following information for yourself and *members of your immediate family* for the prior calendar year. If none, please indicate **NONE** in the space provided.

A. List the name and address of each source of income, earned and unearned, which you received in excess of \$2,000. If a publicly traded security is the source of income, the security need not be reported unless you or a member of your immediate family has an interest in the business organization.

Name	Address	Self/Spouse	Dependent Name
1 IDT	520 broad Street newark NJ 07601	Self	
2 Chopstix	172 West Englewood Ave Teaneck NJ 07666	Self	
3 Various Real Estate LLC"s	172 West Englewood Ave Teaneck NJ 07666	Self	

B. List the name and address of each source of fees and honorariums having an aggregate amount exceeding \$250 received from any single source for personal appearances, speeches, or writing.

Name	Address	Self/Spouse	Dependent Name
1 na	520 broad Street	Self	

C. List the name and address of each source of gifts, reimbursements or prepaid expenses having an aggregate value exceeding \$400 from any single source,

	Name	Address	Self/Spouse	Dependent Name
1	unk	655 Rutland Avenue- Teaneck	Self	

D. List the name and address of all business organizations in which an interest was held.

	Name	Address	Self/Spouse	Dependent Name
1	Chopstix	172 West Englewood Ave Teaneck NJ 07666	Self	
2	Various Real Estate LLC"s	172 West Englewood Ave Teaneck NJ 07666	Self	
3	Various NY Restuarants	172 West Englewood Ave Teaneck NJ 07666	Self	

E. List the address and a brief description of all real property in the State of New Jersey in which an interest was held.

Are you a law enforcement officer or retired law enforcement officer or is a member of your household a law enforcement officer pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1-17 ?

Yes, I qualify as a law enforcement officer for purposes of N.J.S.A. 47:1-17

No, I do not qualify as a law enforcement officer for purposes of N.J.S.A. 47:1-17

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1-17, the home addresses and unpublished telephone numbers of law enforcement officers are protected. If you or a member of your household, are a law enforcement officer/ retired law enforcement officer, you must answer YES to identify your home address as exempt from online disclosure. Please note that you must still provide the real property information under Section II.E. If you do not select the YES check box, you have waived protection under N.J.S.A. 47:1-17 and the provided real property information will be available on the Internet as part of your Financial Disclosure Statement.

	Municipality/County	Block	Lot	Qual.	Address	% Own *	Self/Spouse	Dependent Name
1	Teaneck (Bergen)	4905	9			50.00	Self	
2	Teaneck (Bergen)	4905	8		22 west Englewood	25.00	Self	
3	Teaneck (Bergen)	5003	12		47 West Englewood	50.00	Self	
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F. Optional Comments:

Section III. Certification & online filing process

I hereby certify that this Financial Disclosure Statement contains no willful misstatement of fact or omission of material fact and, constitutes a full disclosure with respect to all matters required by N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.1 et seq., to the best of my knowledge. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to fines and possible disciplinary action.

Date: 05/21/2015

Name: Elie Y. Katz

I further certify that I intend my electronic signature on this statement to be the legally binding equivalent of my traditional handwritten signature.