



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Last Thursday, the Superior Court ordered the LePage administration to release the funds owed to candidates in the Clean Elections program. The governor and the Department of Administrative and Financial Services have until 5:00 p.m. today to comply with that court order. It appears that they have decided not to appeal the judge's ruling.

However, as of this morning, it was not clear whether the administration would fully comply. MCCE has been closely monitoring the situation and communicated our insistence on full compliance. Despite some initial foot-dragging, the administration now appears willing to help the Ethics Commission distribute funds on an expedited basis today.

"We are satisfied that defendants are on a path to full compliance with the law, to conclude this episode of unnecessary delay and obstruction. The candidates and the voters can be assured that this important democracy initiative will continue to be in effect through the 2018 election cycle," said John Brautigam, attorney for MCCE.

MCCE is satisfied with the most recent commitments by the defendants and continues to monitor this situation through the 5:00 p.m. deadline. If necessary, we and our plaintiffs are prepared to seek whatever remedies are available to ensure full compliance with the law and the courts.