

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

**In Re: Florida Surety Agents Association  
Political Action Committee**

**Case No.: FEC 15-141**

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**TO:** Florida Surety Agents Association Political  
Action Committee  
Laurie K. Huebsch, Chair  
P.O. Box 511104  
Punta Gorda, FL 33951

Division of Elections  
500 S Bronough Street, Room 316  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

**NOTICE OF HEARING (INFORMAL HEARING)**

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, **May 18, 2016 at 9:00 am**, *or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard*, at the following location: **Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Room 110-S, Tallahassee, Florida 32399**

Failure to appear in accordance with this notice will constitute a waiver of your right to participate in the hearing. Continuances will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

This hearing will be conducted pursuant to Section 106.25, Florida Statutes, which governs your participation as follows:

**If you are the Respondent**, you may attend the hearing, and you or your attorney will have *5 minutes* to present your case to the Commission. However, some cases (including those in which consent orders or recommendations for no probable cause are being considered) may be decided by an *en masse* vote and, unless you request to be heard or the Commission requests that your case be considered separately on the day of the hearing, your case will *not* be individually heard.

**If you are the Complainant**, you may attend the hearing, but you will *not* be permitted to address the Commission. In addition, some cases (including those in which consent orders or recommendations for no probable cause are being considered) may be decided by an *en masse* vote and, unless the Respondent requests to be heard or the Commission requests that the case be considered separately on the day of the hearing, the case will *not* be individually heard.

**If you are an Appellant**, and you have requested a hearing, you may attend the hearing, and you or your attorney will have *5 minutes* to present your case to the Commission.

Please be advised that both confidential and public cases are scheduled to be heard by the Florida Elections Commission on this date. As an Appellant, Respondent or Complainant in one case, you will *not* be permitted to attend the hearings on other confidential cases.

The Commission will electronically record the meeting. Although the Commission's recording is considered the official record of the hearing, the Respondent may provide, at his own expense, a certified court reporter to also record the hearing.

If you require an accommodation due to a disability, contact Donna Ann Malphurs at (850) 922-4539 or by mail at 107 West Gaines Street, The Collins Building, Suite 224, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, at least 5 days before the hearing.

**See further instructions on the reverse side.**

*Amy McKeever Toman*  
Executive Director  
Florida Elections Commission  
May 3, 2016

Please refer to the information below for further instructions related to your particular hearing:

If this is a hearing to consider **an appeal from an automatic fine**, the Filing Officer has imposed a fine on you for your failure to file a campaign treasurer's report on the designated due date and, by filing an appeal, you have asked the Commission to consider either (1) that the report was in fact timely filed; or (2) that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure to file the report timely. You are required to prove your case. If the Commission finds that the report was filed timely or that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure, it may waive the fine, in whole or in part. The Commission may reduce a fine after considering the factors in Section 106.265, Florida Statutes. If the Commission finds that the report was not timely filed and there were no unusual circumstances, the fine will be upheld.

If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order before a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed and become public. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the case will remain confidential, unless confidentiality has been waived.

If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order after a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the Respondent will be entitled to another hearing to determine if the Respondent committed the violation(s) alleged.

If this is a **probable cause hearing**, the Commission will decide if there is probable cause to believe that the Respondent committed a violation of Florida's election laws. Respondent should be prepared to explain how the staff in its recommendation incorrectly applied the law to the facts of the case. *Respondent may not testify, call others to testify, or introduce any documentary or other evidence at the probable cause hearing.* The Commission will only decide whether Respondent should be *charged* with a violation and, before the Commission determines whether a violation has occurred or a fine should be imposed, Respondent will have an opportunity for another hearing at which evidence may be introduced.

If this is an **informal hearing**, it will be conducted pursuant Sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes; Chapter 28 and Commission Rule 2B-1.004, Florida Administrative Code. At the hearing, the Commission will decide whether the Respondent committed the violation(s) charged in the Order of Probable Cause. The Respondent will be permitted to testify. However the Respondent may not call witnesses to testify.

Respondent may argue why the established facts in the Staff Recommendation do not support the violations charged in the Order of Probable Cause. At Respondent's request, the Commission may determine whether Respondent's actions in the case were willful. The Respondent may also address the appropriateness of the recommended fine. If Respondent claims that his limited resources make him unable to pay the statutory fine, *he must provide the Commission with written proof of his financial resources* at the hearing. A financial affidavit form is available from the Commission Clerk.

## ***FAX TRANSMITTAL***

***To:*** Donna Malphurs ***Fax Number:*** 850-921-0783

***From:*** Laurie Huebsch

***Date:*** 04/01/16 ***Pages (incl. cover):*** 2

***Message:***

*Donna,*

*Attached is the letter pertinent to the disbandment of the Florida Surety Agents Association PAC.*

*Also, this will serve to let you know I am no longer employed by the Association and therefore should not be considered the point of contact for any matters concerning the PAC.*

*Thank you again for your time and attention today during our telephone conversation.*

2016 APR -1 A 10:57  
RECEIVED  
COMMUNICATIONS



**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT of STATE**

**RICK SCOTT**  
Governor

**KEN DETZNER**  
Secretary of State

February 16, 2016

Laurie K. Huebsch, Chairperson  
Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee (60022)  
P.O. Box 1358  
Eustis, Florida 32727

2016 APR -1 11 A 10:58  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Dear Ms. Huebsch:

This will acknowledge receipt of your committee's letter informing us of the disbandment of Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee as a political committee. This information has been placed on file in our office. Your final report (2016 M2) may be filed at any time but is due no later than **March 10, 2016**. This report must be filed via the Division's Electronic Filing system. If you have no activity to report, you are still required to file a waiver. Should you need to file amendments after the final report has been filed, please contact our office to have your account activated.

If you have any questions, or if we may be of further assistance to you at any time, please do not hesitate to call (850) 245-6280.

Sincerely,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief  
Bureau of Election Records

KRB/jq

cc: James D. Ellrodt, Treasurer



FILED

16 MAR -3 PM 1:35

STATE OF FLORIDA  
ELECTIONS COMMISSION

STATE OF FLORIDA  
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Florida Elections Commission,  
Petitioner,

Case No.: FEC 15-141

v.

Florida Surety Agents Association  
Political Action Committee,  
Respondent.

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**ORDER OF PROBABLE CAUSE**

**THIS MATTER** was heard by the Florida Elections Commission (Commission) at its regularly scheduled meeting on February 18, 2016, in Tallahassee, Florida.

Based on the Complaint, Report of Investigation, Staff's Recommendation, and oral statements made at the probable cause hearing, the Commission finds that there is **probable cause** to charge Respondent with the following violations:

**Count 1:**

On or about November 12, 2013, Respondent violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when Mr. Ellrodt failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because the committee had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2013 M10 Report

**Count 2:**

On or about June 27, 2014, Respondent violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when Mr. Ellrodt failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because the committee had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2014 P1

Report.

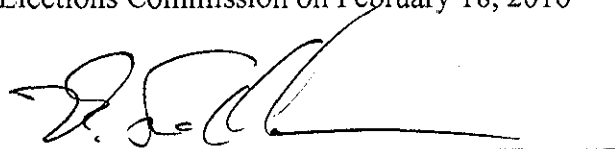
**Count 3:**

On or about July 4, 2014, Respondent violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when Mr. Ellrodt failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because he had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2014 P1A Report.

**Count 4:**

On or about October 17, 2014, Respondent violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when Mr. Ellrodt failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because he had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2014 G5 Report.

**DONE AND ORDERED** by the Florida Elections Commission on February 18, 2016



M. Scott Thomas, Chairman  
Florida Elections Commission

Copies furnished to:

Jaakan A Williams, Assistant General Counsel  
Laurie K Huebsch, Respondent's Chairperson  
Division of Elections, Complainant

## NOTICE OF RIGHT TO A HEARING

As the Respondent, you may elect to resolve this case in several ways. First, you may elect to resolve this case by consent order where you and Commission staff agree to resolve the violation(s) and agree to the amount of the fine. The consent order is then presented to the Commission for its approval. To discuss a consent order, contact the FEC attorney identified in the Order of Probable Cause.

Second, you may request an informal hearing held before the Commission, if you do not dispute any material fact in the Staff Recommendation. You have 30 days from the date the Order of Probable Cause is filed with the Commission to request such a hearing. The date this order was filed appears in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of the order. At the hearing, you will have the right to make written or oral arguments to the Commission concerning the legal issues related to the violation(s) and the potential fine. At the request of Respondent, the Commission will consider and determine willfulness at an informal hearing. Otherwise, live witness testimony is unnecessary.

Third, you may request a formal hearing held before an administrative law judge in the Division of Administrative Hearings (DOAH), if you dispute any material fact in the Staff Recommendation. You have 30 days from the date the Order of Probable Cause is filed with the Commission to request such a hearing. The date this order was filed appears in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of the order. At the hearing, you will have the right to present evidence relevant to the violation(s) listed in this order, to cross-examine opposing witnesses, to impeach any witness, and to rebut the evidence presented against you.

If you do not elect to resolve the case by consent order or request a formal hearing at the DOAH or an informal hearing before the Commission within 30 days of the date this Order of Probable Cause is filed with the Commission, the case will be sent to the Commission for a formal or informal hearing, depending on whether the facts are in dispute. The date this order was filed appears in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of the order.

To request a hearing, please send a written request to the Commission Clerk, Donna Ann Malphurs. The address of the Commission Clerk is 107 W. Gaines Street, Collins Building, Suite 224, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050. The telephone number is (850) 922-4539. The Clerk will provide you with a copy of Chapter 28-106, *Florida Administrative Code*, and other applicable rules upon request. No mediation is available.

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

**In Re: Florida Surety Agents Association  
Political Action Committee**

**Case No.: FEC 15-141**

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**TO:** Florida Surety Agents Association Political  
Action Committee  
Laurie K. Huebsch, Chair  
511 West Main Street  
Tavares, FL 32778

Division of Elections  
500 S Bronough Street, Room 316  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

**NOTICE OF HEARING (PROBABLE CAUSE DETERMINATION)**

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, **February 18, 2016 at 8:30 am, or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard**, at the following location: **Florida State Conference Center, 555 West Pensacola Street, Room #108, Tallahassee, Florida 32306.**

Failure to appear in accordance with this notice will constitute a waiver of your right to participate in the hearing. Continuances will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

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**See further instructions on the reverse side.**

*Amy McKeever Toman*  
Executive Director  
Florida Elections Commission  
February 2, 2016



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**STATE OF FLORIDA  
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

**In Re: Florida Surety Agents Assoc.  
Political Action Committee**

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**Case No.: FEC 15-141**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOLLOWING INVESTIGATION**

Pursuant to section 106.25(4)(c), Florida Statutes, undersigned staff counsel files this written recommendation for disposition of the referral in this case recommending that there is **probable cause** to charge Respondent with violating **Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes**. Based upon a thorough review of the Report of Investigation submitted on July 24, 2015, the following facts and law support this staff recommendation:

1. On January 20, 2015, the Florida Elections Commission (“Commission”) received a referral from the Department of State, Division of Elections, alleging that Florida Surety Agents Association PAC (“Respondent”) violated Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.

2. Respondent is a political committee currently registered with the Division of Elections, and Laurie K. Huebsch is listed as the committee’s chairperson James D. Ellrodt is listed as the committee’s treasurer (ROI Exhibit 1)<sup>1</sup>

3. Complainant alleged that Respondent failed to notify his filing officer in writing that no reports would be filed on the applicable reporting date for the following reports: 2013 M10, 2014 P1, 2014 P1A, and the 2014 G5 Reports

4. By letter dated May 29, 2015, the Executive Director notified Respondent that Commission staff would investigate the following statutory provision:

**Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes:** As alleged in the complaint, for each of the following reporting periods, Respondent failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because it had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the reporting periods:

- 2013 M10
- 2014 P1
- 2014 P1A
- 2014 G5

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<sup>1</sup> The Report of Investigation is referred to herein as “ROI.”

5. Respondent filed its amended State of Florida Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Political Committees form (“DS-DE 6”), on September 4, 2012, and appointed Laurie K. Huebsch as its chairperson. James D. Ellrodt accepted appointment as the committee’s treasurer. (ROI Exhibit 1, page 2)

6. By letter September 7, 2012, the Division acknowledged receipt of Respondent’s DS-DE 6 form, and indicated that Respondent’s organization had been placed on the active committee list as a political committee that supports both candidates and issues. The letter also provided Respondent with its initial password and sign-on credentials for the electronic filing system (EFS). (ROI Exhibit 2)

7. Ms Bronson’s letter informed Respondent that all of the Division’s publications and reporting forms are available on its website. The letter instructed Respondent to print a copy of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, *2012 Calendar of Reporting Dates*, and the *2012 Political Committee Handbook*. *Id.*

8. The *2012 Political Committee Handbook* explained the requirement of filing a waiver-of-report when the committee has no financial activity to disclose. (ROI Exhibit 3, pages 2 and 4)

9. The *Political Committee EFS User’s Guide* explained the process of filing a waiver-of-report using the electronic filing system (EFS). Listed on page 13 are specific instructions about checking the box next to “waiver” when there is no financial activity to disclose. (ROI Exhibit 4, pages 4, 5, and 6)

**Alleged Violation: Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes**

10. In pertinent part, Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, state:

[A]ny candidate or political committee not reporting by virtue of this subsection on dates prescribed elsewhere in this chapter **shall notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that no report is being filed on that date.** (emphasis added)

11 The table below reflects Respondent’s untimely written notifications to the Division:

Report	Report Cover Period	Date Notification Due	Date Notification Filed	No. of Days Late
2013 M10	10/1/13 – 10/31/13	11/12/13	11/18/13	6
2014 P1	6/1/14 – 6/20/14	6/27/14	7/7/14	10
2014 P1A	6/21/14 – 6/27/14	7/4/14	7/7/14	3
2014 G5	10/4/14 – 10/10/14	10/17/14	10/20/14	3

12. During a telephone interview with Commission staff on July 23, 2015, Ms. Huebsch stated, "I just missed the day to file the reports. It was a human clerical error," when explaining the reason why Respondent failed to timely notify the Division that no reports would be filed on the prescribed reporting dates. (See Attachment "A," phone log entry # 3)

13. Despite having access to read and/or print the *2012 Political Committee Handbook* and the *Political Committee EFS User's Guide*, Respondent failed to timely notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting dates that no reports would be filed for the 2013 M10, 2014 P1, 2014 P1A, and the 2014 G5 Report (ROI Exhibit 5)

14. "Probable Cause" is defined as reasonable grounds of suspicion supported by circumstances sufficiently strong to warrant a cautious person in the belief that the person has committed the offense charged. *Schmitt v. State*, 590 So.2d 404, 409 (Fla. 1991). Probable cause exists where the facts and circumstances, of which an [investigator] has reasonably trustworthy information, are sufficient in themselves for a reasonable man to reach the conclusion that an offense has been committed. *Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles v Favino*, 667 So.2d 305, 309 (Fla. 1<sup>st</sup> DCA 1995).

15. The facts set forth above show that Respondent is a political committee currently registered with the Division of Elections, and James D. Ellrodt is the committee's treasurer. During the 2014 election cycle, Mr. Ellrodt failed to timely notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting dates that no report would be filed for the 2013 M10, 2014 P1, 2014 P1A, and the 2014 G5 Reports.

Based upon these facts and circumstances, I recommend that the Commission find probable cause to charge Respondent with violating the following statutory provision:

**Count 1:**

On or about November 12, 2013, Respondent violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when Mr. Ellrodt failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because the committee had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2013 M10 Report.

**Count 2:**

On or about June 27, 2014, Respondent violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when Mr. Ellrodt failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because the committee had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2014 P1 Report.

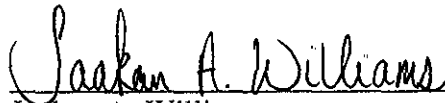
**Count 3:**

On or about July 4, 2014, Respondent violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when Mr. Ellrodt failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because the committee had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2014 P1A Report.

**Count 4:**

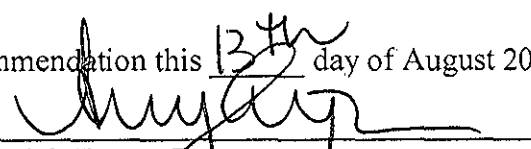
On or about October 17, 2014, Respondent violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when Mr. Ellrodt failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because the committee had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2014 G5 Report.

Respectfully submitted on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015



Jaakan A. Williams  
Assistant General Counsel

I reviewed this Staff Recommendation this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August 2015.

  
Amy McKeever Toman  
Executive Director

**FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**  
**PHONE LOG**  
**Case No.: FEC 15-141**

**Respondent:** Fl. Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee

**Complainant:** Division of Elections

- 1 **Date and time:** June 15, 2015 @ 8:00 am  
**Name:** Laurie K. Huebsch—Chair  
**Phone #:** (352) 253-2253  
**Summary:** I attempted telephone contact to make initial contact. I left a message to return my call.  
**Memo to File?** No  
**Entered by:** CKO
  
- 2 **Date and time:** July 7, 2015 @ 3:12 pm  
**Name:** Laurie K. Huebsch—Chair  
**Phone #:** (352) 253-2253  
**Summary:** I attempted telephone contact to make initial contact. I left a message to return my call.  
**Memo to File?** No  
**Entered by:** CKO
  
- 3 **Date and time:** July 23, 2015 @ 1:45 pm  
**Name:** Laurie K. Huebsch—Chair  
**Phone #:** (352) 253-2253  
**Summary:** I had telephone contact to inquire about the reasons why Respondent filed 4 reports untimely. Ms. Huebsch verified that she is the chair of the political committee. She advised me that she has read Florida Statutes, Chapter 106, and she has a current 2015 calendar of reporting dates printed in her office. Ms. Huebsch expressed concerns with being able to understand the DOE's calendar of reporting dates. She states that "it's very confusing and makes you easily frustrated" when trying to ensure that all of her reports are timely filed. Ms. Huebsch told me that she did not intentionally violate any of the election laws and was by no means trying to be deceptive in any way. She states that "I just missed the day to file the reports. It was a human clerical error. We're not very active with our PAC anyways. No monies were spent or collected during any of those reporting periods. Not saying that I didn't miss filing the reports by their deadlines, because I did do that, however DOE's website is very confusing". She further stated that she calls the DOE with any questions she may have and she usually speaks with Malcolm Chellham. Ms. Huebsch states that all of the waivers have since been filed and she will try to ensure that all reports are filed timely for now on.  
**Memo to File?** No  
**Entered by:** CKO

**ATTACHMENT "A"**

## FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

### Report of Investigation for Failure to Notify Filing Officer

**Case Number** FEC 15-141

Section 106 07(7), Florida Statutes, failure of a political committee that did not receive any contributions or make any expenditures during a reporting period to notify timely the filing officer, in writing, that no report is being filed

**Respondent:** Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee

**Complainant:** Division of Elections

**Respondent Type:**

- Candidate  
 Political Committee

#### I. Preliminary Information:

1 A current appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository (DS-DE 6) was filed on September 4, 2012. (Ex. 1)

2. An acknowledgement letter was mailed to the address provided on Respondent's DS-DE 6 on September 7, 2012 advising Respondent that all of the Division's publications and reporting forms are available on their website, including Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, the *2012 Political Committee Handbook*, and the Calendar of Reporting Dates. (Ex. 2)

3 The acknowledgement letter also states, "An online instruction guide is available to you on the EFS to assist with navigation, data entry, and submission of reports" and provides the telephone number for the Division's EFS Help Desk

4 The *2012 Political Committee Handbook*, discusses filing a waiver when there is no activity to disclose on page 29 (Ex. 3)

5 Pages 12, 13, 45, and 46 of the *Political Committee EFS User's Guide* discuss how to notify the Division on the prescribed reporting date that no report will be filed using the EFS. Specifically, page 13 instructs the user to click the box next to "waiver" if there is no activity to disclose. (Ex. 4)

6 In a telephone interview on April 2, 2015, Kristi Reid-Bronson clarified that once the waiver box is chosen and a new report is opened as shown on Page 12, the only available option on the report summary screen will be "Go To File Report" as shown on Page 13. Choosing "Go To File Report" will take the user directly to the screens where the chairman/treasurer PINS are entered as shown on Pages 45 and 46

#### II. Alleged Violation of Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes:

7. Respondent's filing history reflects the untimely filed notifications summarized below. (Ex. 5)

Report	Report Cover Period	Date Notification Due	Date Notification Filed	No. of Days Late
2013 M10	10/1/13 – 10/31/13	11/12/13	11/18/13	6
2014 P1	6/1/14 – 6/20/14	6/27/14	7/7/14	10
2014 P1A	6/21/14 – 6/27/14	7/4/14	7/7/14	3
2014 G5	10/4/14 – 10/10/14	10/17/14	10/20/14	3

8. Respondent did not provide a written response to the referral

9. Respondent was interviewed by telephone on July 23, 2015 in which she stated that it was a "human, clerical error" that caused the reports to be untimely filed. Respondent advised me that she was not being "deceptive" by any means. She further stressed that the calendar of reporting dates can be very confusing and has also caused some of her reports to be untimely filed. She told me that she did not intentionally violate any of the election laws.

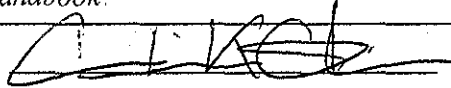
**III. FEC History:**

10. Respondent has had a prior case before the Commission. FEC 13-112 for the appeal of an automatic fine; FEC found no unusual circumstances/Respondent was fined \$687.50.

**Conclusion:**

11. Respondent stated during the telephone interview that she did read Chapter 106, Florida Statutes and/or the *Political Committee Handbook*.

SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATOR:



Date:

7/24/15



**FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**  
**REPORT OF INVESTIGATION**  
**Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee -- FEC 15-141**

<b>LIST OF EXHIBITS</b>	
<b>Exhibits #s</b>	<b>Description of Exhibits</b>
Exhibit 1	Respondent's DS-DE 9 Forms
Exhibit 2	Acknowledgement Letter
Exhibit 3	Relevant pages from the 2012 Political Committee Handbook
Exhibit 4	Relevant pages from the Political Committee EFS User's Guide
Exhibit 5	Respondent's Filing History


**APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER  
AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN  
DEPOSITORY FOR  
POLITICAL COMMITTEES**  
(Sections 106.011(1) and 106.021(1), F.S.)

12 SEP -4 AM 11:39  
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
SECRETARY OF STATE

CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Original Appointment of Treasurer       Reappointment of Treasurer       Deputy Treasurer

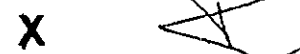
1. Committee or Organization Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee		2. Telephone (352 ) 253-2253	
3. Name of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer Frederick C. Belton		4. Email (optional) freddie@beltonbailbonds.com	
5. Telephone (optional) (352 ) 343-7775			
6. Mailing Address 511 W. Main Street, Tavares, FL 32778			
7. Street Address same			
8. The following bank has been designated as the <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary Depository <input type="checkbox"/> Secondary Depository			
9. Name of Bank Regions Bank		10. Street Address 17220 U.S. Highway 441	
11. City Mount Dora		12. State FL	13. Zip Code 32757
14. Signature of Chairman 		15. Name of Chairman (Print or Type) Laurie K. Huebsch	

**Campaign Treasurer's Acceptance of Appointment**

I, Frederick C. Belton, do hereby accept the appointment as  
(Please Print or Type)

treasurer or deputy treasurer for Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee  
(Committee or Organization)

UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, I DECLARE THAT I HAVE READ THE FOREGOING CAMPAIGN TREASURER'S  
ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT AND THAT THE FACTS STATED ARE TRUE.

8-29-12        
Date      Signature of Campaign Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer

**APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER  
AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN  
DEPOSITORY FOR  
POLITICAL COMMITTEES**  
(Sections 106.011(1) and 106.021(1), F.S.)

12 SEP -4 AM 11:39  
DIVISION OF COLLECTIONS  
SECRETARY OF STATE

CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Original Appointment of Treasurer       Reappointment of Treasurer       Deputy Treasurer

1 Committee or Organization Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee		2 Telephone (352 ) 253-2253
3 Name of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer James D. Ellrodt	4 Email (optional) ellrodt1@aol.com	5 Telephone (optional) (352 ) 343-2245

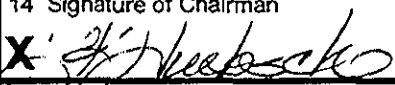
6 Mailing Address  
**511 W. Main Street, Tavares, FL 32778**

7 Street Address  
**same**

8 The following bank has been designated as the       Primary Depository       Secondary Depository

9 Name of Bank <b>Regions Bank</b>	10 Street Address <b>17220 U.S. Highway 441</b>
---------------------------------------	--

11 City <b>Mount Dora</b>	12 State <b>FL</b>	13 Zip Code <b>32757</b>
------------------------------	-----------------------	-----------------------------

14 Signature of Chairman 	15 Name of Chairman (Print or Type) <b>Laurie K. Huebsch</b>
---	---

**Campaign Treasurer's Acceptance of Appointment**

I, James D. Ellrodt, do hereby accept the appointment as  
(Please Print or Type)  
treasurer or deputy treasurer for Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee  
(Committee or Organization)

UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, I DECLARE THAT I HAVE READ THE FOREGOING CAMPAIGN TREASURER'S  
ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT AND THAT THE FACTS STATED ARE TRUE.

8-30-12      X James D. Ellrodt  
Date      Signature of Campaign Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer

**APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER  
AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN  
DEPOSITORY FOR  
POLITICAL COMMITTEES**  
(Sections 106.011(1) and 106.021(1), F.S.)

12 AUG 28 AM 9:53  
DIVISION OF COLLECTIONS  
SECRETARY OF STATE

CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Original Appointment of Treasurer       Reappointment of Treasurer       Deputy Treasurer

1. Committee or Organization Florida Surety Agents Political Action Committee		2. Telephone (352 ) 253-2253	
3. Name of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer James D. Ellrodt		4. Email (optional) ellrodt1@aol.com	
5. Telephone (optional) (352 ) 343-2245			
6. Mailing Address 511 W. Main Street, Tavares, FL 32778			
7. Street Address same			
8. The following bank has been designated as the <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary Depository <input type="checkbox"/> Secondary Depository			
9. Name of Bank Regions Bank		10. Street Address 17220 U.S. Highway 441	
11. City Mount Dora		12. State FL	13. Zip Code 32757
14. Signature of Chairman <b>X</b>		15. Name of Chairman (Print or Type) James D. Ellrodt	

**Campaign Treasurer's Acceptance of Appointment**

I, James D. Ellrodt, do hereby accept the appointment as  
(Please Print or Type)  
treasurer or deputy treasurer for Florida Surety Agents Political Action Committee  
(Committee or Organization)

UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, I DECLARE THAT I HAVE READ THE FOREGOING CAMPAIGN TREASURER'S  
ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT AND THAT THE FACTS STATED ARE TRUE.

6-19-12      **X** James D. Ellrodt  
Date      Signature of Campaign Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer



## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**RICK SCOTT**  
Governor

**KEN DETZNER**  
Secretary of State

September 7, 2012

Ms. Laurie K Huebsch, Chairperson  
Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee  
511 West Main Street  
Tavares, Florida 32778

Dear Ms. Huebsch:

This will acknowledge receipt of the Statement of Organization and Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for **Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee**, which were placed on file in our office on September 4, 2012. This information appears to comply with the requirements of Section 106.03, Florida Statutes, and the name of this organization has been placed on our active committee list as a political committee that supports both candidates and issues.

### Campaign Treasurer's Reports

Your first campaign treasurer's report will be due on **September 21, 2012**. The report will cover the period of August 10, 2012 - September 14, 2012. All political committees that file reports with the Division of Elections are required to file by means of the Division's electronic filing system (EFS).

### Credentials and Sign-ons

Below is the web address to access the EFS and the committee's user identification number. The enclosed sealed envelope contains the committee's initial password. Once you have logged in using the initial password, you will be immediately prompted to change it to a confidential sign-on. The chairperson, campaign treasurer, and deputy treasurers are responsible for protecting this password from disclosure and are responsible for all filings using these credentials, unless the Division is notified that your credentials have been compromised.

EFS Web site Address: <https://efs.dos.state.fl.us>  
Identification Number: 60022

#### Division of Elections

R.A. Gray Bldg., Rm. 316 • 500 S Bronough St. • Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250  
Telephone: (850) 245-6200 • Facsimile: (850) 245-6217 [elections.myflorida.com](http://elections.myflorida.com)  
Commemorating 500 years of Florida history [www.fl500.com](http://www.fl500.com)



EXHIBIT 2 (of 3)

Ms Laurie K Huebsch, Chairperson  
September 7, 2012  
Page Two

### Pin Numbers

Pin numbers are confidential secure credentials that allow you to submit reports and update information. The enclosed sealed envelope provides a confidential pin number for the chairperson. By copy of this letter, a confidential PIN number to access the Division of Election's electronic filing system (EFS) was sent to the treasurer.

Each political committee chairperson is required to provide the Division of Elections with confidential personal information that may be used to allow access in the event that the password is forgotten or lost. When you enter the campaign account screen, there will be a drop down box where you pick a question (such as *What is your mother's maiden name?*) and supply an answer. All passwords and answers to questions are stored as encrypted data and cannot be viewed by Division staff and given out over the phone. Please notify the Division if your credentials have been compromised.

### Timely Filing

All reports must be completed and filed through the EFS no later than midnight, Eastern Standard Time, of the due date. Reports not filed by midnight of the due date are late filed and subject to the penalties in Section 106 07(8), Florida Statutes. In the event that the EFS is inoperable on the due date, the report will be accepted as timely filed if filed no later than midnight, Eastern Standard Time, of the first business day the EFS becomes operable. No fine will be levied during the period the EFS was inoperable.

Any political committee failing to file a report on the designated due date is subject to a fine of \$50 per day for the first 3 days and, thereafter, \$500 per day for each day, not to exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report. However, for the reports immediately preceding each primary and general election, the fine shall be \$500 per day, not to exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report.

### Electronic Receipts

The person submitting the report on the EFS will be issued an electronic receipt indicating and verifying the report was filed. Each campaign treasurer's report filed by means of the EFS is considered to be under oath by the chairperson and campaign treasurer and such persons are subject to the provisions of Section 106 07(5), Florida Statutes.

EXHIBIT 2(2013)

Ms Laurie K Huebsch, Chairperson  
September 7, 2012  
Page Three

**Instructions and Assistance**


An online instruction guide is available to you on the EFS to assist with navigation, data entry, and submission of reports. The Division of Elections will also provide assistance to all users by contacting the EFS Help Desk at (850) 245-6280.

All of the Division's publications and reporting forms are available on the Division of Elections' web site at <http://elections.myflorida.com>. It is your responsibility to read, understand, and follow the requirements of Florida's election laws. Therefore, please print a copy of the following documents: Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, *2012 Political Committee Handbook*, *2012 Calendar of Reporting Dates*, and Rule 1S-2.017, Florida Administrative Code.

Please let me know if you need additional information.

Sincerely,



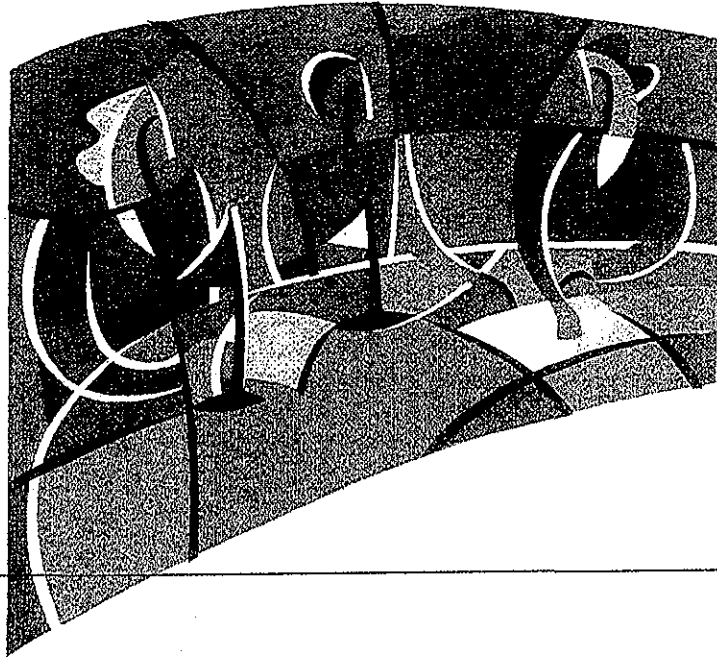
 Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief  
Bureau of Election Records

KRB/ljr

Enclosures

pc: Mr. James D. Ellrodt, Treasurer  
Mr. Frederick C. Belton, Deputy Treasurer

EXHIBIT 2(3 of 3)



# Political Committee Handbook

January 2012

Florida Department of State  
Division of Elections  
R. A. Gray Building, Room 316  
500 South Bronough Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250  
850.245.6240

<http://elections.myflorida.com>

EXHIBIT 3(1of4)



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the filing officer within 5 days after the designated due date that was delivered by the U.S. Postal Service is deemed timely filed unless it has a postmark indicating the report was mailed after the designated due date. A certificate of mailing obtained from and dated by the U.S. Postal Service at the time of mailing or a receipt from an established courier company, which bears a date on or before the date on which the report is due; is proof of mailing in a timely manner. **Reports filed with the Division of Elections through the Electronic Filing System (EFS) are due no later than midnight, Eastern Time, of the due date.** (See Chapter 12, *Electronic Filing of Campaign Reports*)

(Sections 106 07, 106 0705 and 106 141, F.S.)

## Penalty for Late Filing

Any political committee failing to file a report on the designated due date shall be subject to a fine of \$50 per day for the first three days late and, thereafter, \$500 per day for each late day, not to exceed 25 percent of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report. However, for the reports due immediately prior to the primary and general elections, the fine shall be \$500 per day for each late day, not to exceed 25 percent of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report.

(Section 106 07(8), F.S.)

---

## Waiver of Report

When there has been no activity in the campaign account during a reporting period (no funds expended or received) the filing of the report may be waived by notifying the filing officer in writing that no activity has occurred. This notification must be made on the prescribed reporting date.

(Section 106 07, F.S.)

All waivers filed with the Division of Elections must be filed electronically using the Division's electronic filing system.

(Section 106 0705, F.S.)

## Special Election Reports

When a special election is called to fill a vacancy in office, all political committees and committees of continuous existence making contributions or expenditures to influence the results of the special election shall file campaign treasurers' reports with the filing officer on the dates set by the Department of State pursuant to Section 100.111, F.S.

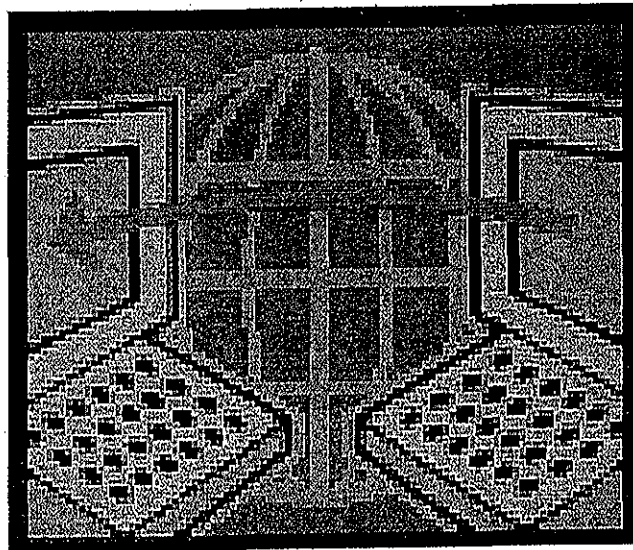
When an election is called for an issue to appear on the ballot at a time when no candidates are scheduled to appear on the ballot, all political committees and committees of continuous existence making contributions or expenditures in support of or in opposition to such issue shall file reports on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> days prior to such election.

Committees are to include on the special election campaign treasurer's reports only expenditures related to the special election made by the committee during the special election reporting periods. All contributions received and all expenditures made not related to the special election during the current quarter should be filed on the next quarterly report. Once a committee has participated in the special election and has filed a special election campaign report, all other special election reports remaining must also be filed by the committee, even if there is no further special election activity.

(Section 106 07(1), F.S.)

Department of State  
Division of Elections

# Political Committee EFS User's Guide



Florida Department of State  
Division of Elections  
R.A. Gray Building, Room 316  
500 S Bronough Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

EFS HELP LINE: 850-245-6280

January 2011

Rule 1S-2.017, F.A.C.

DS-DE 110B (eff. 01/11)

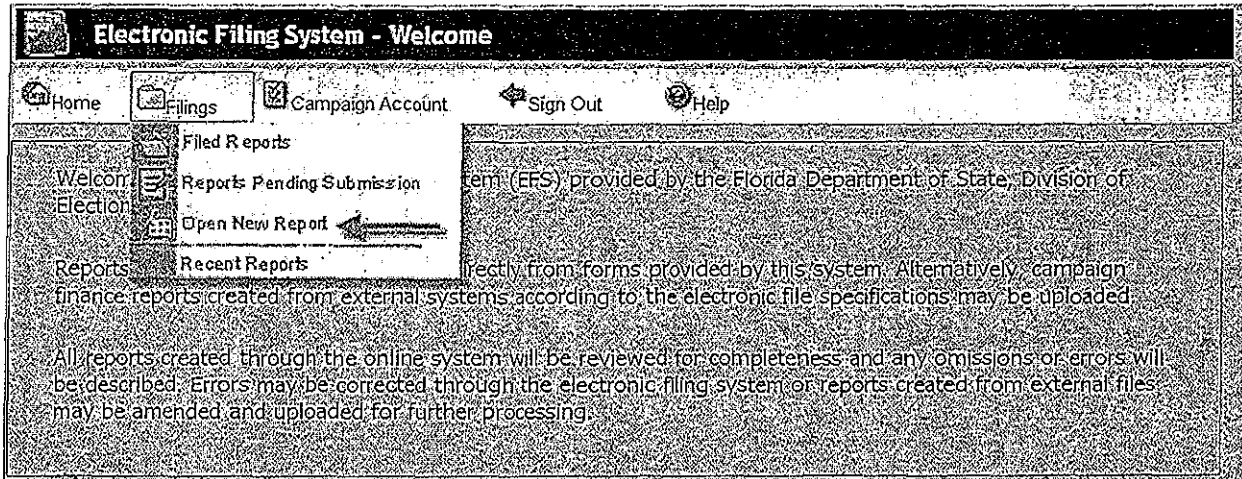
EXHIBIT 4(1 of 6)

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# Create a New Report by Data Entry

From the Welcome screen, click  and then  Open New Report.



Use this form to submit an original report or to submit an amendment to a previously filed report. First select the report from the "Filed Reports" listing and then choose the "Amend Report" option from the "Edit" menu item.

**Coverage Periods**  
Campaign finance reports itemize financial activity occurring during a specific reporting period. The reporting period is declared by first selecting the reporting year and then the report type. The beginning and ending coverage dates and the filing due date of the report are automatically associated with the *Reporting Year* and *Report Type*.


Election Cycle:


Report Type:

Coverage Period:   Due Date:

Special Election Report  Waiver

**Uploading a Campaign Finance Report**  
A Campaign Finance report file meeting the department's specifications may be uploaded at the time a report is opened. Use the Browse button to locate and select the report text or zip file to be uploaded. You may upload the report file in a compressed zip. The zip file must contain only one report file.

Click  arrow next to Election Cycle. Scroll to the cycle associated with the report you are entering.

Click  arrow next to Report Type select report type corresponding to the correct cover period and due date.

The Cover Period dates will automatically fill in based on the Calendar of Election and Reporting Dates.

The Due Date will automatically fill in based on the Calendar of Election and Reporting Dates.

If this report is for a special election, click the  box next to Special Election Report. (If no special elections are scheduled this option will not be available.)

\*\*\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*\*\*

If this report is a waiver of report (no activity), click the  box next to Waiver.

Election Cycle:

Report Type:

Coverage Period:   Due Date:

Special Election Report  Waiver

Click  at the bottom of the screen. A Report Detail screen (view only) will appear. This screen will not indicate any activity until individual detail data is entered, saved and a review is performed.

Report: 2010 - G4 - 27      2010 General Election      Covers: 10/16/2010-10/28/2010      Due: 10/29/2010

Amendment  Waiver      Complete Status:

File Date:       Review Status:

Status:       Last Review:

# of Transactions:                                    

Contributions		Total Amount	Expenditures		Total Amount
Cash and Checks:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	Monetary:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
Loans:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	Transfers to Off Acct:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
Total Monetary:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	Total Monetary:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
In-Kind:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	Other Distributions:	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>

Review Messages

Created:  By:  Revised:  By:

EXHIBIT 4 (4 of 6)

# File the Report

If the **Review Status** is Updated Detail – Needs Review the report has not been reviewed since the last update. (See page 39 for instructions on how to submit the report to the system for review.)

If the status of the report is Complete Detail Records, you are ready to file the report.

Report: 2010 - F3 - 26      2010 General Election      Covers: 8/7/2010-8/19/2010      Due: 8/20/2010

Commitment     Waiver      Complete Status: **Complete Detail Records**

File Data:       Review Status: **Reviewed**

Status: **Data Entry**      Last Review: **8/19/2010 3:56:42 PM**

of Transactions: **1**    **Review**    **Recalculate**    **Go To File Report**    **Append File**    **Delete Report**    **Save**

Contributions		Total Amount	Expenditures		Total Amount
Cash and Checks	<input type="text"/>	0.00	Monetary	<input type="text"/>	51.00
Loan	<input type="text"/>	0.00	Transfer to Off Acct	<input type="text"/>	0.00
Total Monetary	<input type="text"/>	0.00	Total Monetary	<input type="text"/>	51.00
In Kind	<input type="text"/>	0.00	Other Distributions	<input type="text"/>	0.00

Review Messages:

Created: 8/19/2010 2:01:35 PM    By: 50552    Revised: 8/19/2010 3:56:42 PM    By: 50552

Click on **Go To File Report**

The chairperson enters his or her PIN, and then selects **Report Approved**

**NOTE: A PIN is the same as your signature attesting to the validity of the report.**

Step 1: Enter the candidate/chairperson PIN.

Step 2: Select the 'Report Approved' button.

---

Report: 2010 - F3 - 26      Coverage Period: 8/7/2010-8/19/2010      Due: 8/20/2010

Review Status: **Reviewed**       Original     Amended


Waiver

PIN for Candidate/Chairperson:     **Report Approved**

EXHIBIT 4 (5 of 6)

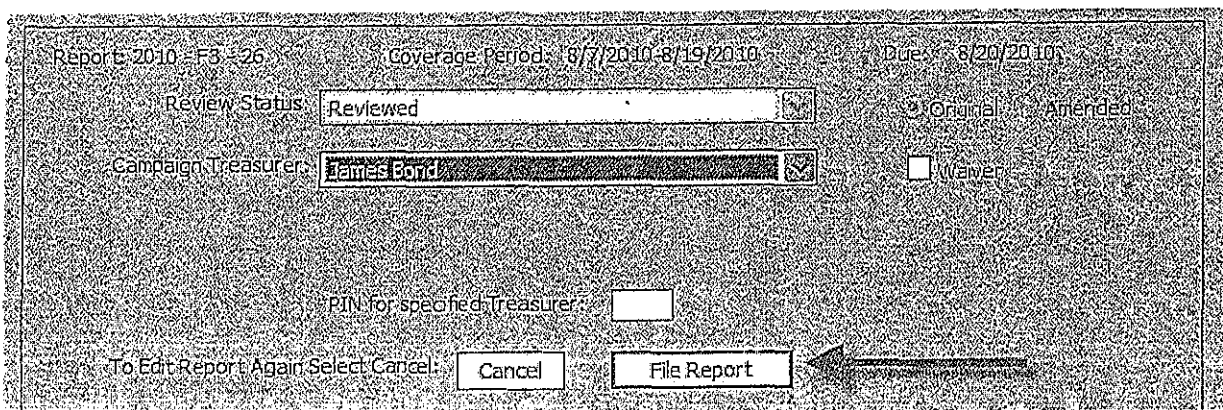


If there is more than one treasurer, click on the drop down and select the treasurer that is filing the report.



Campaign Treasurer: James Bond

The treasurer enters his PIN and then clicks



Report: 2010-F3-26      Coverage Period: 8/7/2010-8/19/2010      Due: 8/20/2010

Review Status: Reviewed       Original       Amended

Campaign Treasurer: James Bond       Treasurer

PIN for specified Treasurer:

To Edit Report Again Select Cancel:

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** If changes need to be made after a chairperson PIN is entered, the treasurer must undo the chairperson PIN validation before the system will allow changes. See page 49 for instructions.

EXHIBIT 4 (6 of 6)



Florida Department of State - Division of Elections

Florida Election System Reports

Candidate/Committee Lookup

Name:

Election:

Acct:

Type:

Committee Name: Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee  
 Account: 60022

Date Due	Type	Date Filed	Status	Days Late	Fine Assessed	Appealed	Amount Fined	Amount Paid
7/10/2015	M6	7/8/2015						
6/10/2015	M5	6/9/2015						
5/11/2015	M4	5/8/2015						
4/10/2015	M3	4/8/2015						
3/10/2015	M2	3/6/2015						
2/10/2015	M1	2/9/2015						
1/12/2015	M12	1/12/2015						
12/10/2014	M11	12/9/2014						
11/10/2014	M10	11/7/2014						
10/31/2014	G7	10/31/2014						
10/30/2014	D6	10/30/2014						
10/29/2014	D5	10/29/2014						
10/28/2014	D4	10/28/2014						
10/27/2014	D3	10/26/2014						
10/26/2014	D2	10/26/2014						
10/25/2014	D1	10/24/2014						
10/24/2014	G6	10/23/2014						
10/17/2014	G5	10/20/2014	FEC	3	\$0 00		\$0 00	\$0 00
10/10/2014	G4	10/9/2014						
10/3/2014	G3	10/2/2014						
9/26/2014	G2A	9/24/2014						
9/19/2014	G2	9/19/2014						
9/12/2014	G1A	9/11/2014						
9/5/2014	G1	9/5/2014						
8/29/2014	P7A	8/28/2014						
8/22/2014	P7	8/21/2014						
8/15/2014	P6	8/14/2014						
8/8/2014	P5	8/7/2014						
8/1/2014	P4	7/31/2014						
7/25/2014	P3	7/25/2014						
7/18/2014	P2A	7/18/2014						
7/11/2014	P2	7/7/2014						
7/4/2014	P1A	7/7/2014	FEC	3	\$0 00		\$0 00	\$0 00
6/27/2014	P1	7/7/2014	FEC	10	\$0 00		\$0 00	\$0 00
6/10/2014	M5	6/6/2014						
5/12/2014	M4	5/9/2014						
4/10/2014	M3	4/10/2014						
4/4/2014	SG1	4/14/2014	CLO	10	\$0 00		\$0 00	\$0 00
3/10/2014	M2	3/7/2014						
3/7/2014	SF2	3/17/2014	ZFA	10	\$0 00		\$0 00	\$0 00
2/14/2014	SF1	4/7/2014	CLO	52	\$62 50		\$62 50	\$62 50
2/10/2014	M1	2/10/2014						
1/10/2014	M12	1/8/2014						
12/10/2013	M11	12/11/2013	CLO	1	\$50 00		\$50 00	\$50 00
11/12/2013	M10	11/18/2013	FEC	6	\$0 00		\$0 00	\$0 00

EXHIBIT 5(1 of 2)

10/10/2013	Q3	10/8/2013						
7/10/2013	Q2	7/10/2013						
4/10/2013	Q1	4/10/2013						
1/10/2013	Q4	2/8/2013	CLO	29	\$687.50	\$687.50	\$687.50	
11/2/2012	G4	11/2/2012						
10/19/2012	G3	10/19/2012						
10/5/2012	G2	10/19/2012	CLO	14	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
9/21/2012	G1	9/17/2012						

EXHIBIT 5(2 of 2)



**FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

107 W. Gaines Street,  
Suite 224 Collins Building  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050  
Telephone: (850) 922-4539  
Fax: (850) 921-0783

May 29, 2015

Laurie K Huebsch, Chair  
Florida Surety Agents Association PAC  
511 West Main Street  
Tavares, FL 32778

**RE: Case No.: FEC 15-141; Respondent: Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee**

Dear Ms. Huebsch:

On January 20, 2015, the Florida Elections Commission received a complaint alleging that you violated Florida's election laws. I have reviewed the complaint and find that it contains one or more legally sufficient allegations. The Commission staff will investigate the following alleged violations:

**Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes:** As alleged in the complaint, for each of the following reporting periods, Respondent failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because it had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the reporting periods:

- 2013 M10
- 2014 P1
- 2014 P1A
- 2014 G5

You may respond to the allegations above by filing a notarized statement providing any information regarding the facts and circumstances surrounding the allegations. Your response will be included as an attachment to the investigator's report.

When we conclude the investigation, a copy of the Report of Investigation will be mailed to you at the above address. You may file a response to the report within 14 days from the date the report is mailed to you. Based on the results of the investigation, legal staff will make a written recommendation to the Commission on whether there is probable cause to believe you have violated Chapter 104 or 106, Florida Statutes. A copy of the Staff Recommendation will be

mailed to you and you may file a response within 14 days from the date the recommendation is mailed to you. Your timely filed response(s) will be considered by the Commission when determining probable cause.

The Commission will then hold a hearing to determine whether there is probable cause to believe you have violated Chapters 104 or 106, Florida Statutes. You and the complainant will receive a notice of hearing at least 14 days before the hearing. The notice of hearing will indicate the location, date, and time of your hearing. You will have the opportunity to make a brief oral statement to the Commission, but you will not be permitted to testify or call others to testify, or introduce any documentary or other evidence.


At any time before a probable cause finding, you may notify us in writing that you want to enter into negotiations directed towards reaching a settlement via consent agreement.

**The Report of Investigation, Staff Recommendation, and Notice of Hearing will be mailed to the above address as this letter. Therefore, if your address changes, you must notify this office of your new address. Otherwise, you may not receive these important documents. Failure to receive the documents will not delay the probable cause hearing.**

Under section 106.25, Florida Statutes, complaints, Commission investigations, investigative reports, and other documents relating to an alleged violation of Chapters 104 and 106, Florida Statutes, are confidential until the Commission finds probable cause or no probable cause. The confidentiality provision does not apply to the person filing the complaint. However, it does apply to you unless you waive confidentiality in writing. The confidentiality provision does not preclude you from seeking legal counsel. However, if you retain counsel, your attorney must file a notice of appearance with the Commission before any member of the Commission staff can discuss this case with him or her.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact **Cedric Oliver**, the investigator assigned to this case.

Sincerely,



Amy McKeever Toman  
Executive Director

AMT/enr

**DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
FEC REFERRAL FORM**

RECEIVED

To FEC from Division of Elections

2015 JAN 20 12:49

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**Name:** Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee  
**Account Number:** 60022  
**Chairperson:** Laurie K. Huebsch  
**Treasurer:** James D. Ellrodt  
**Registered Agent:** James D. Ellrodt

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The Division of Elections is referring this issue to the Florida Elections Commission pursuant to Section 106.25 and 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, in that written notifications of no reports were filed after the applicable reporting deadline for the following reports:

<u>Report</u>	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Date Waiver Filed</u>
2013 M10	11/12/2013	11/18/2013
2014 P1	6/27/2014	7/7/2014
2014 P1A	7/4/2014	7/7/2014
2014 G5	10/17/2014	10/20/2014

The late filings of the required waiver reports reflect a deliberate failure to provide information to the filing officer as required by Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, i.e. no report is being filed on the prescribed reporting date.

**Sent By:** Kristi Reid Bronson/jha  
**Date:** January 15, 2015

*KRB*

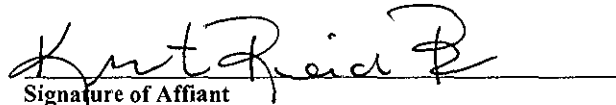
**AFFIDAVIT**

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
County of Leon**

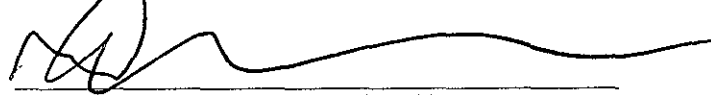
**Kristi Reid Bronson, being duly sworn, says:**

1. I am the Chief of the Bureau of Election Records of the Division of Elections (Division) In that capacity, I oversee the Division's duties related to the filing of campaign finance reports. This affidavit is made upon my personal knowledge, including information obtained from review of the attached records, of which I am the custodian.
2. I am of legal age and competent to testify to the matters stated herein.
3. Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee (60022) is a political committee registered with the Division. On September 4, 2012, Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee filed the DSDE 5 and 6 with the Division of Elections indicating that Laurie K. Huebsch was the chairperson and James D. Ellrodt was the treasurer for the committee. (See attached documents and acknowledgment letter)
4. The 2013 M10 campaign treasurer's report was due on November 12, 2013. On November 13, 2013, the Division mailed Mr. Ellrodt notification that the 2013 M10 campaign report had not been filed. Mr. Ellrodt filed a waiver for this report on November 18, 2013. (See attached letter and file receipt)
5. The 2014 P1 campaign treasurer's report was due on June 27, 2014. On June 30, 2014, the Division mailed Mr. Ellrodt notification that the 2014 P1 campaign report had not been filed Mr. Ellrodt filed a waiver for this report on July 7, 2014. (See attached letter and file receipt)
6. The 2014 P1A campaign treasurer's report was due on July 4, 2014. Mr. Ellrodt filed a waiver for this report on July 7, 2014. (See attached file receipt).
7. The 2014 G5 campaign treasurer's report was due on October 17, 2014. Mr. Ellrodt filed a waiver for this report on October 20, 2014. (See attached file receipt)

**I hereby swear or affirm that the foregoing information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

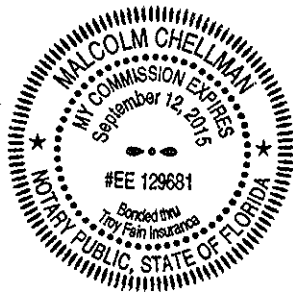
  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Affiant

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this 15<sup>th</sup> day of January 2015

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Notary Public - State of Florida

**Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public**

Personally Known



# STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION OF POLITICAL COMMITTEE

(PLEASE TYPE)

OFFICE USE ONLY

12 SEP -4 AM 11:39

DIV. OF ELECTIONS  
SECRETARY OF STATE

**1. Full Name of Committee**

Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee

Telephone

352-253-2253

Mailing Address (include city, state and zip code)

511 W. Main Street  
Tavares, FL 32778

Street Address (include city, state and zip code)

511 W. Main Street  
Tavares, FL 32778

**2. Affiliated or Connected Organizations (includes other committees of continuous existence and political committees)**

Name of Affiliated or Connected Organization	Mailing Address	Relationship
Florida Surety Agents Association	511 W. Main Street Tavares, FL 32778	Owner

**3. Area, Scope and Jurisdiction of the Committee**

Local, multi-county and state-wide issues, candidates and proposed legislation which are supportive of licensed limited surety agents and private pre-trial release businesses.

**4. Nature of Organization or Organization's Special Interest (e.g., medical, legal, education, etc.)**

Non-profit association for surety companies and licensed bail agents.

**5. Identify by Name, Address and Position, the Custodian of Books and Accounts (include treasurer's name)**

Full Name	Mailing Address	Committee Title or Position
James D. Ellrodt	725 W. Main St., Tavares, FL 32778	Treasurer



**6. List by Name, Address and Position, Other Principal Officers, Including Officers and Members of the Finance Committee, If Any (include chairman's name)**

Full Name	Mailing Address	Committee Title or Position
Laurie K. Huebsch	511 W. Main St., Tavares, FL 32778	Chairman
Frederick C. Belton	525 W. Main St., Tavares, FL 32778	Deputy Treasurer

**7. List by Name, Address, Office Sought and Party Affiliation Each Candidate or Other Individual that this Committee is Supporting (if none, please indicate)**

Full Name	Mailing Address	Office Sought	Party
To be determined			

**8. List Any Issues this Committee is Supporting:** To be determined  
**List Any Issues this Committee is Opposing:** To be determined

**9. If this Committee is Supporting the Entire Ticket of a Party, Give Name of Party**  
 N/A

**10. In the Event of Dissolution, What Disposition will be Made of Residual Funds?**  
 Funds will be returned to contributors.

**11. List all Banks, Safety Deposit Boxes, or Other Depositories Used for Committee Funds**

Name of Bank or Depository & Account Number	Mailing Address
Regions Bank Acct.# [REDACTED]	17220 U.S. Highway 441 Mount Dora, FL 32757

**12. List all Reports Required to be Filed by this Committee with Federal Officials and the Names, Addresses and Positions of Such Officials, If Any**

Report Title	Dates Required to be Filed	Name & Position of Official	Mailing Address
None			

STATE OF Florida  Lake  COUNTY

I, Laurie K. Huebsch, certify that the information in this Statement of Organization is complete, true and correct.

**X**   
 Signature of Chairman of Political Committee

08-29-12  
 Date

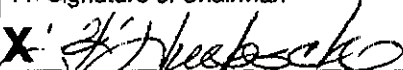
**APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER  
AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN  
DEPOSITORY FOR  
POLITICAL COMMITTEES**  
(Sections 106.011(1) and 106.021(1), F.S.)

12 SEP -4 AM 11:39  
DIVISION OF COLLECTIONS  
SECRETARY OF STATE

CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Original Appointment of Treasurer       Reappointment of Treasurer       Deputy Treasurer

1. Committee or Organization Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee		2. Telephone (352 ) 253-2253	
3. Name of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer James D. Ellrodt		4. Email (optional) ellrodt1@aol.com	
5. Telephone (optional) (352 ) 343-2245			
6. Mailing Address 511 W. Main Street, Tavares, FL 32778			
7. Street Address same			
8. The following bank has been designated as the <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary Depository <input type="checkbox"/> Secondary Depository			
9. Name of Bank Regions Bank		10. Street Address 17220 U.S. Highway 441	
11. City Mount Dora		12. State FL	13. Zip Code 32757
14. Signature of Chairman 		15. Name of Chairman (Print or Type) Laurie K. Huebsch	

**Campaign Treasurer's Acceptance of Appointment**

I, James D. Ellrodt, do hereby accept the appointment as  
(Please Print or Type)  
treasurer or deputy treasurer for Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee  
(Committee or Organization)

UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, I DECLARE THAT I HAVE READ THE FOREGOING CAMPAIGN TREASURER'S  
ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT AND THAT THE FACTS STATED ARE TRUE.

8-30-12  
Date

James D. Ellrodt  
Signature of Campaign Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer


**APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER  
AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN  
DEPOSITORY FOR  
POLITICAL COMMITTEES**  
(Sections 106.011(1) and 106.021(1), F.S.)

12 SEP -4 AM 11:39  
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
SECRETARY OF STATE

CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Original Appointment of Treasurer       Reappointment of Treasurer       Deputy Treasurer

1. Committee or Organization Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee		2. Telephone (352 ) 253-2253	
3. Name of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer Frederick C. Belton		4. Email (optional) freddie@beltonbailbonds.com	
5. Telephone (optional) (352 ) 343-7775			
6. Mailing Address 511 W. Main Street, Tavares, FL 32778			
7. Street Address same			
8. The following bank has been designated as the <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary Depository <input type="checkbox"/> Secondary Depository			
9. Name of Bank Regions Bank		10. Street Address 17220 U.S. Highway 441	
11. City Mount Dora		12. State FL	13. Zip Code 32757
14. Signature of Chairman 		15. Name of Chairman (Print or Type) Laurie K. Huebsch	

**Campaign Treasurer's Acceptance of Appointment**

I, Frederick C. Belton, do hereby accept the appointment as  
(Please Print or Type)  
treasurer or deputy treasurer for Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee  
(Committee or Organization)

**UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, I DECLARE THAT I HAVE READ THE FOREGOING CAMPAIGN TREASURER'S  
ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT AND THAT THE FACTS STATED ARE TRUE.**

8-29-12  
Date

  
X  
Signature of Campaign Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer

**REGISTERED AGENT  
STATEMENT OF APPOINTMENT**  
(Section 106 022, F.S.)

OFFICE USE ONLY

12 SEP -4 AM 11:39

DIVISION OF COLLECTIONS  
SECRETARY OF STATE

- Original Appointment       Change of Appointment  
 Change of Mailing Address       Change of Physical Address

**Registered Agent and Office Information**

Name: James D. Ellrodt      Telephone: 352-343-2245

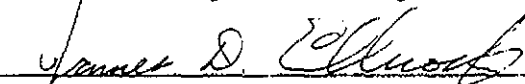
Street Address: 725 W. Main Street

City: Tavares      State: FL      Zip Code: 32778

Mailing Address: same

City:      State:      Zip Code:

I accept this appointment and confirm that I am familiar with and accept the obligations of the position as set forth in Section 106.022, F.S. I also understand that I may resign this appointment by executing a written statement of resignation and filing it with the applicable filing officer.

  
Signature of Registered Agent

8-30-12  
Date

**Former Registered Agent and Office Information (for changes only)**

Name:      Telephone:

Street Address:

City:      State:      Zip Code:

**Committee or Organization Information**

Name of Committee or Organization: Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee

Street Address: 511 W. Main Street      Telephone: 352-253-2253

City: Tavares      State: FL      Zip Code: 32778

  
Signature of Chairperson

Laurie K. Huebsch  
Printed Name of Chairperson

08-29-12  
Date



## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**RICK SCOTT**  
Governor

**KEN DETZNER**  
Secretary of State

September 7, 2012

Ms. Laurie K. Huebsch, Chairperson  
Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee  
511 West Main Street  
Tavares, Florida 32778

Dear Ms Huebsch:

This will acknowledge receipt of the Statement of Organization and Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for **Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee**, which were placed on file in our office on September 4, 2012. This information appears to comply with the requirements of Section 106.03, Florida Statutes, and the name of this organization has been placed on our active committee list as a political committee that supports both candidates and issues.

### Campaign Treasurer's Reports

Your first campaign treasurer's report will be due on **September 21, 2012**. The report will cover the period of August 10, 2012 - September 14, 2012. All political committees that file reports with the Division of Elections are required to file by means of the Division's electronic filing system (EFS).

### Credentials and Sign-ons

Below is the web address to access the EFS and the committee's user identification number. The enclosed sealed envelope contains the committee's initial password. Once you have logged in using the initial password, you will be immediately prompted to change it to a confidential sign-on. The chairperson, campaign treasurer, and deputy treasurers are responsible for protecting this password from disclosure and are responsible for all filings using these credentials, unless the Division is notified that your credentials have been compromised.

**EFS Web site Address:** <https://efs.dos.state.fl.us>  
**Identification Number:** 60022



Division of Elections  
R.A. Gray Bldg., Rm. 316 • 500 S Bronough St. • Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250  
Telephone: (850) 245-6200 • Facsimile: (850) 245-6217 [elections.myflorida.com](http://elections.myflorida.com)  
Commemorating 500 years of Florida history [www.fl500.com](http://www.fl500.com)



Ms. Laurie K. Huebsch, Chairperson  
September 7, 2012  
Page Two

### **Pin Numbers**

Pin numbers are confidential secure credentials that allow you to submit reports and update information. The enclosed sealed envelope provides a confidential pin number for the chairperson. By copy of this letter, a confidential PIN number to access the Division of Election's electronic filing system (EFS) was sent to the treasurer.

Each political committee chairperson is required to provide the Division of Elections with confidential personal information that may be used to allow access in the event that the password is forgotten or lost. When you enter the campaign account screen, there will be a drop down box where you pick a question (such as *What is your mother's maiden name?*) and supply an answer. All passwords and answers to questions are stored as encrypted data and cannot be viewed by Division staff and given out over the phone. Please notify the Division if your credentials have been compromised.

### **Timely Filing**

All reports must be completed and filed through the EFS no later than midnight, Eastern Standard Time, of the due date. Reports not filed by midnight of the due date are late filed and subject to the penalties in Section 106.07(8), Florida Statutes. In the event that the EFS is inoperable on the due date, the report will be accepted as timely filed if filed no later than midnight, Eastern Standard Time, of the first business day the EFS becomes operable. No fine will be levied during the period the EFS was inoperable.

Any political committee failing to file a report on the designated due date is subject to a fine of \$50 per day for the first 3 days and, thereafter, \$500 per day for each day, not to exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report. However, for the reports immediately preceding each primary and general election, the fine shall be \$500 per day, not to exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report.

### **Electronic Receipts**

The person submitting the report on the EFS will be issued an electronic receipt indicating and verifying the report was filed. Each campaign treasurer's report filed by means of the EFS is considered to be under oath by the chairperson and campaign treasurer and such persons are subject to the provisions of Section 106.07(5), Florida Statutes.

Ms Laurie K. Huebsch, Chairperson  
September 7, 2012  
Page Three

**Instructions and Assistance**


An online instruction guide is available to you on the EFS to assist with navigation, data entry, and submission of reports. The Division of Elections will also provide assistance to all users by contacting the EFS Help Desk at (850) 245-6280

**All of the Division's publications and reporting forms are available on the Division of Elections' web site at <http://elections.myflorida.com>. It is your responsibility to read, understand, and follow the requirements of Florida's election laws. Therefore, please print a copy of the following documents: Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, 2012 Political Committee Handbook, 2012 Calendar of Reporting Dates, and Rule 1S-2.017, Florida Administrative Code.**

Please let me know if you need additional information.

Sincerely,




 Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief  
Bureau of Election Records

KRB/ljt

Enclosures

pc: Mr James D. Ellrodt, , Treasurer  
Mr Frederick C. Belton, Deputy Treasurer

 Treasurer Report Status

ID: **60022** Name: **Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee**

Report: 2013 - M10 - 9

Print Date: **1/15/2015 3:28:53 PM**

Election: 2014 General Election

Covers: 10/1/2013-10/31/2013

Amended  Waiver

Due: 11/12/2013

Filed: **11/18/2013 1:13:37 PM**

File Status: **Filed Report**

Reviewed: **11/18/2013**

Review Status: **Reviewed**

Detail Complete: **No Detail Records Found**

File Method: Web Filed

**Number of Detail Records**

Entry Method: Web Data Entry

Contributions: 0

Expenditures: 0

Pending Queued Items: **0**

Fund Transfers: 0

Distributions: 0

To Print Report: Right Click Mouse and Select 'Print'





FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Ken Detzner  
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

November 13, 2013

Ellrodt D. James, Treasurer  
Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committ  
511 West Main Street  
Tavares, FL 32778

Re: PAC 60022

Dear Mr. James:

Your campaign treasurer's report, which was due November 12, 2013, has not been received.

Section 106.07(8)(b), Florida Statutes, requires that the filing officer immediately notify you of the failure to file this report and that a fine will be assessed of \$50 per day for the first 3 days late and, thereafter \$500 per day, although a fine cannot exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report. However, for the reports immediately preceding each primary and general election, the fine shall be \$500 per day for each late day, not to exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report.

Once your report is filed, this office will notify you of the specific amount of your fine. Fines must be paid to the filing officer within 20 days of receipt of the payment due notice.

Please be advised, however, that failure to file a campaign treasurer's report may constitute a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to file a report the division will turn the matter over to the Florida Elections Commission


Section 106.265(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Florida Elections Commission to impose a civil penalty up to \$1,000 per count for each willful violation of Chapter 106.

If you have any questions, please contact the help desk at (850) 245-6280.

Sincerely,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief  
Bureau of Election Records

cc: Laurie K. Huebsch, Chairperson

 Treasurer Report Status

ID: **60022** Name: **Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee**

Report: 2014 - P1 - 20

Print Date: **1/15/2015 3:33:57 PM**

Election: 2014 General Election

Covers: 6/1/2014-6/20/2014

Amended  Waiver

Due: 6/27/2014

Filed: **7/7/2014 9:21:32 AM**

File Status: **Filed Report**

Reviewed: **7/7/2014**

Review Status: **Reviewed**

Detail Complete: **No Detail Records Found**

File Method: Web Filed

Entry Method: Web Data Entry

Pending Queued Items: **0**

**Number of Detail Records**

Contributions: 0

Expenditures: 0

Fund Transfers: 0

Distributions: 0

To Print Report: Right Click Mouse and Select 'Print'



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**Ken Detzner**  
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

June 30, 2014

Ellrodt D. James, Treasurer  
Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committ  
511 West Main Street  
Tavares, FL 32778

Re: PAC 60022

Dear Mr. James:

Your campaign treasurer's report, which was due June 27, 2014, has not been received.

Section 106.07(8)(b), Florida Statutes, requires that the filing officer immediately notify you of the failure to file this report and that a fine will be assessed of \$50 per day for the first 3 days late and, thereafter \$500 per day, although a fine cannot exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report. However, for the reports immediately preceding each primary and general election, the fine shall be \$500 per day for each late day, not to exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report.

Once your report is filed, this office will notify you of the specific amount of your fine. Fines must be paid to the filing officer within 20 days of receipt of the payment due notice.

Please be advised, however, that failure to file a campaign treasurer's report may constitute a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to file a report the division will turn the matter over to the Florida Elections Commission.

Section 106.265(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Florida Elections Commission to impose a civil penalty up to \$1,000 per count for each willful violation of Chapter 106.

If you have any questions, please contact the help desk at (850) 245-6280.

Sincerely,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief  
Bureau of Election Records

cc: Laurie K. Huebsch, Chairperson

 Treasurer Report Status

ID: **60022** Name: **Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee**

Report: 2014 - P1A - 21

Print Date: **1/15/2015 3:34:16 PM**

Election: 2014 General Election

Covers: 6/21/2014-6/27/2014

Due: 7/4/2014

Amended  Waiver

Filed: **7/7/2014 10:11:43 AM**

File Status: **Filed Report**

Reviewed: **7/7/2014**

Review Status: **Reviewed**

Detail Complete: **No Detail Records Found**

File Method: Web Filed

Entry Method: Web Data Entry

Pending Queued Items: **0**

**Number of Detail Records**


Contributions: 0

Expenditures: 0

Fund Transfers: 0

Distributions: 0

To Print Report: Right Click Mouse and Select 'Print'

 Treasurer Report Status

ID: **60022**      Name: **Florida Surety Agents Association Political Action Committee**

Report: 2014 - G5 - 36

Print Date: **1/15/2015 3:34:31 PM**

Election: 2014 General Election

Covers: 10/4/2014-10/10/2014

Amended     Waiver

Due: 10/17/2014

Filed: **10/20/2014 8:30:09 AM**

File Status: **Filed Report**

Reviewed: **10/20/2014**

Review Status: **Reviewed**

Detail Complete: **No Detail Records Found**

File Method: Web Filed

**Number of Detail Records**

Entry Method: Web Data Entry

Contributions: 0

Expenditures: 0

Pending Queued Items: **0**

Fund Transfers: 0

Distributions: 0

To Print Report: Right Click Mouse and Select 'Print'