STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In Ke	: The People's Choice	Case No.: FEC 22-292 /
TO:	Clayton Knowles, Chair	Division of Elections
	1028 East Park Avenue	500 South Bronough Street, Room 316
	Tallahassee, FL 32301	Tallahassee, FL 32399

NOTICE OF HEARING (INFORMAL HEARING)

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, **August 15, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.**, or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard, at the following location: **Virtual Meeting via GoTo Webinar:**

WEB PARTICIPATION: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4391393799096818270
AUDIO PARTICIPATION: 1 877 309 2074 ATTENDEE ACCESS CODE: 424-284-031

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.

Tim Vaccaro

Executive Director Florida Elections Commission August 1, 2023 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.

STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Florida Elections Commission, Petitioner,

Case No.: FEC 22-292

The People's Choice, Respondent.

v.

ORDER OF PROBABLE CAUSE

THIS MATTER was heard by the Florida Elections Commission (Commission) at its regularly scheduled meeting on May 16, 2023, in Tallahassee, Florida.

On January 4, 2023, Staff recommended to the Commission that there was probable cause to believe that the Florida Election Code was violated. The facts articulated in Staff's Recommendation are adopted by reference and incorporated herein. Based on the Complaint, Report of Investigation, Staff's Recommendation, and oral statements (if any) made at the probable cause hearing, the Commission finds that there is **probable cause** to charge Respondent with the following violation(s):

Count 1:

On or about June 24, 2022, The People's Choice violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that it would not be filing its 2022 P1 Report.

Count 2:

On or about July 1, 2022, The People's Choice violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that it would not be filing its 2022 P1A Report.

Count 3:

On or about July 29, 2022, The People's Choice violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that it would not be filing its 2022 P4 Report.

Count 4:

On or about August 5, 2022, The People's Choice violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that it would not be filing its 2022 P5 Report.

DONE AND ORDERED by the Florida Elections Commission on May 16, 2023.

Tim Vaccaro, J.D., Executive Director For Joni Alexis Poitier, Vice Chair Florida Elections Commission

Copies furnished to: Stephanie J. Cunningham, General Counsel The People's Choice, Respondent 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 <u>consent order</u> 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 <u>informal hearing</u> held before the Commission, if you <u>do not</u> 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 <u>formal hearing</u> 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	: The People's Choice	Case No.: FEC 22-292	Case No.: FEC 22-292	
		/		
TO:	Clayton Knowles, Chair	Division of Elections		
	1028 East Park Avenue	500 South Bronough Street, Room	n 316	
	Tallahassee, FL 32301	Tallahassee, FL 32399		

NOTICE OF HEARING (PROBABLE CAUSE DETERMINATION)

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, May 16, 2023 at 8:30, or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard, at the following location: Join Zoom Meeting:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMpdumuqTsqGt1MNuvpQBOl5XPapAI 9zfC

 Audio Participation:
 Meeting ID:
 Passcode:

 Dial: 1 301 715 8592
 874 1067 0009
 772737

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

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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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.

Tim Vaccaro

Executive Director Florida Elections Commission May 2, 2023 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.

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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.

STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In Re: The People's Choice		Case No.:	FEC 22-292
	/		

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 December 14, 2022, the following facts and law support this staff recommendation:

- 1. On September 7, 2022, the Florida Elections Commission ("Commission") received a referral from the Department of State, Division of Elections ("Division"), alleging that The People's Choice ("Respondent") violated Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.
- 2. Respondent was a political committee formerly registered with the Division. The Division received Respondent's request to disband the committee on November 14, 2022. (ROI Exhibits 1 & 3)¹
- 3. By letter dated October 10, 2022, 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, Respondent, a political committee registered with the Division of Elections, 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 following reporting periods:

- 2022 P1
- 2022 P1A
- 2022 P4
- 2022 P5

4. By letter dated April 28, 2020, Kristi Reid Willis, Chief, Bureau of Election Records, sent Respondent a letter acknowledging that the Division had received its Statement of Organization and Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Political Committees forms. (ROI Exhibit 4, page 1)

Staff Recommendation FEC 22-292

¹ The Report of Investigation is referred to herein as "ROI."

- 5. The acknowledgment letter advised Respondent that all of the Division's publications and reporting forms were available on its website and directed Respondent to print out the *Calendar of Reporting Dates* as well as other relevant documents. (ROI Exhibit 4, page 2)
- 6. Pursuant to Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, in any reporting period during which a political committee has not received funds, made any contributions, or expended any reportable funds, the filing of the required report for that period is waived. However, the political committee is required to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that no report is being filed on that date.
- 7. The *Political Committee Handbook* references the statutory requirement regarding written notification and directs political committees to notify the Division by way of the Division's electronic filing system. (ROI Exhibit 5, page 2) The *Political Committee EFS User's Guide* shows the process through which to notify the Division. The user's guide instructs political committees to select the relevant reporting period and place a checkmark in a box titled "Waiver" to indicate the lack of reportable financial activity. (ROI Exhibit 6, pages 2-3)
- 8. Respondent failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting dates that no reports would be filed for the following reporting periods, as set forth in the table below. (ROI Exhibit 7, page 1)

Report	Report Cover Period	Date Notification Due	Date Notification Filed	No. of Days Late
2022 P1	06/01/22 - 06/17/22	06/24/22	07/08/22	14
2022 P1A	06/18/22 - 06/24/22	07/01/22	07/08/22	7
2022 P4	07/16/22 - 07/22/22	07/29/22	08/10/22	12
2022 P5	07/23/22 - 07/29/22	08/05/22	08/10/22	5

- 9. Dana Dudley, treasurer for Respondent, stated that the committee failed to timely submit notices of no activity due to an oversight during internal staffing changes. (ROI Exhibit 8, page 2)
- 10. "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. 1st DCA 1995).
- 11. The facts set forth above show that Respondent was a political committee formerly registered with the Division. Respondent failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed

reporting dates that no reports would be filed for the following reporting periods: 2022 P1, 2022 P1A, 2022 P4, and 2022 P5.

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

Count 1:

On or about June 24, 2022, The People's Choice violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that it would not be filing its 2022 P1 Report.

Count 2:

On or about July 1, 2022, The People's Choice violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that it would not be filing its 2022 P1A Report.

Count 3:

On or about July 29, 2022, The People's Choice violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that it would not be filing its 2022 P4 Report.

Count 4:

On or about August 5, 2022, The People's Choice violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that it would not be filing its 2022 P5 Report.

Respectfully submitted on January 4, 2023.

Stephanle J. Cunningham

General Counsel

Tim Vaccaro

Executive Director

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Report of Investigation for Failure to Notify Filing Officer

Case Number: FEC 22-292

Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, failure of a candidate or political committee that did not receive any contributions or make any expenditures during a reporting period to timely notify the filing officer, in writing, that no report is being filed.

Respondent: The People's Choice

Respondent's Atty: N/A

Division of Elections (Division)

Referral Filed: September 7, 2022

Respondent Type: Political Committee

I. Preliminary Information:

- 1. Respondent was a political committee formerly registered with the Division. To review the Disbandment Letter, refer to Exhibit 1.
- 2. An Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository (DS-DE 6) was filed on April 22, 2020. Dana Dudley was appointed as campaign treasurer. To review the DS-DE 6, refer to Exhibit 2.
- 3. A Statement of Organization (DS-DE 5) for the political committee was filed with the Division on April 27, 2020. To review the Statement of Organization, refer to Exhibit 3.
- 4. An acknowledgement letter was mailed to the address provided on the DS-DE 6 on April 28, 2020, advising Respondent that all political committee filing reports with the Division are required to file by means of the Division's electronic filing system (EFS). Respondent was provided with a user identification number and initial password allowing access to the EFS.
- 5. The acknowledgement letter also advised Respondent that all of the Division's publications and reporting forms are available on their website, including Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, the *Political Committee Handbook*, and the *Calendar of Reporting Dates*. The letter further advised that it was Respondent's responsibility to read, understand, and follow the requirements of Florida's election laws. To review the acknowledgement letter, refer to Exhibit 4.
- 6. The *Political Committee Handbook* discusses filing a waiver when there is no activity to disclose. To review the relevant page of the *Handbook*, refer to Exhibit 5.
- 7. The *Political Committee EFS User's Guide* discusses how to notify the Division on the prescribed reporting date that no report will be filed using the EFS. Specifically, the *Handbook* instructs the user to click the box next to "waiver" if there is no activity to disclose. To review the relevant pages from the *EFS User's Guide*, refer to Exhibit 6.

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

8. I investigated whether Respondent violated this section of the election laws by not timely notifying the filing officer, in writing, that no report(s) would be filed due to not receiving any contributions or making expenditures during the following reporting period(s). To review Respondent's filing history reflecting the untimely filed notification(s) summarized below, refer to Exhibit 7.

Report	Report Cover Period	Date Notification Due	Date Notification Filed	No. of Days Late
2022 P1	06/01/2022 - 06/17/2022	06/24/2022	07/08/2022	14
2022 P1A	06/18/2022 - 06/24/2022	07/01/2022	07/08/2022	7
2022 P4	07/16/2022 - 07/22/2022	07/29/2022	08/10/2022	12
2022 P5	07/23/2022 - 07/29/2022	08/05/2022	08/10/2022	5

9. Respondent did not respond to the referral.

10. On December 14, 2022, I called Respondent's Treasurer for the purpose of providing an opportunity to discuss the allegations made in the referral. When asked about the failure to timely file the waivers at issue, Respondent's Treasurer said that it was an oversight. She had an internal calendar that did not pick up these reporting periods and had internal staff changes. Respondent's Treasurer acknowledged that she possessed and had read Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, and the *Political Committee Handbook*. Respondent's Treasurer acknowledged responsibility for the issue but stated that there was no intent and there is little activity with the PAC. To review the phone log, refer to Exhibit 8.

SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATOR: Mallow Date: December 14, 2022

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

The People's Choice -- FEC 22-292

LIST OF EXHIBITS					
Exhibits #s	Description of Exhibits				
Exhibit 1	Disbandment Letter				
Exhibit 2	DS-DE 6				
Exhibit 3	Statement of Organization				
Exhibit 4	Acknowledgement Letter				
Exhibit 5	Political Committee Handbook				
Exhibit 6	Political Committee EFS User's Guide				
Exhibit 7	Filing History				
Exhibit 8	Phone Log				

November 14, 2022

Florida Department of State Division of Elections R.A. Gray Building, Room 316 500 South Bronough St. Tallahassee, FL 32399

To Whom It May Concern:

As Treasurer of the political committee The People's Choice, I am hereby requesting that the political committee be closed, effective immediately. The ID# of this political committee is 75663. If any funds are left in the account, they will be disposed of accordingly. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dana Dudley

Treasurer

The People's Choice

APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN DEPOSITORY FOR

POLITICAL COMMITTEES

(Sections 106.011(2) and 106.021(1), F.S.)

CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX:

RECEIVED UEPARTMENT OF STATE

2020 APR 22 PM 1:08

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS TALLAHASSEE. FL

Initial Filing for: Primary Treasurer Deputy Treasurer			OFFICE USE ONLY	
Re-filing to Change: Primary Treasurer Deputy Treasurer	Primary/S	Secondary Depository		
1. Committee The People's Choice		2. Telephone (850) 216-7	1002	
3. Name of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer 4. Email (optional) Dana Dudley)	5. Telephone (optional) (850) 216-1002		
6. Mailing Address PO Box 11012 Tallahassee, FL 32301				
7. Street Address 1028 E. Park Ave. Tallahassee, FL 32301				
8. The following bank has been designated as the Prin	nary Deposi	itory 🗌 Seconda	ry Depository	
9. Name of Bank Hancock Whitney	10. Street Address 101 N. Monroe Street			
11. City Tallahassee		12. State FL	13. Zip Code 32301	
14. Signature of Chairman X UUJTU W	1	of Chairman (Print or Typ Knowles	e)	
Campaign Treasurer's Ac	ceptance	of Appointment		
I. Dana Dudley (Please Print or Type)		, do hereb	by accept the appointment as	
treasurer or deputy treasurer for The People's Choice		ommittee)		
UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, I DECLARE THAT I HA ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT AND				
04-21-2020 X by	Dana Signature of	DULCEY Campaign Treasurer or	Deputy Treasurer	

STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION OF POLITICAL COMMITTEE

(PLEASE TYPE)

OFFICE RECONTED
UE PARTMENT OF STATE

2020 APR 27 PM 1: 30

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TAI LAMASSEE, FL

				and the state of t
1. Full Name of Committee The People's Choice				Telephone 850-216-1002
Mailing Address (include cit PO Box 11012 Tallahassee, FL 32301	y, state and zip code)			
Street Address (include city, 1028 E. Park Avenue Tallahassee, FL 32301	state and zip code)			
2. Affiliated or Connected Or committees)	rganizations (includes other committe	es of con	ntinuous ex	istence and political
Name of Affiliated or Connected Organization	Mailing Addres	Mailing Address		
N/A	N/A			N/A
Area, Scope and Jurisdict Supports statewide legisla	ion of the Committee ative, multi-county candidates			
4. Nature of Organization or Political elections and vote	Organization's Special Interest (e.g., r er education	nedical, l	egal, educ	ation, etc.)
5. Identify by Name, Address	and Position, the Custodian of Book	and Acc	counts (inc	lude treasurer's name)
Full Name	Mailing Address		Com	mittee Title or Position
Clayton Knowles Dana Dudley	P.O. Box 11012, Tallahassee, FL P.O. Box 11012, Tallahassee, FL		Chairpers Treasure	
		ļ		

DS-DE 5 (Rev. 06/11) - Rule 1S-2.017

(continued on reverse side)

6. List by Name, Address Finance Committee, If A	and Position, Other Principal Any (include chairman's name	Officers, Including	Officers and Men	bers of the				
Full Name	Mailing Add	ress	Committee	Title or Position				
Clayton Knowles	P.O. Box 11012, Tallah	assee, FL 32301	Chairperson					
7. List by Name, Address, Committee is Supporting	Office Sought and Party Affiling (if none, please indicate)	lation Each Candida	te or Other Indiv	idual that this				
Full Name	Mailing Address	Office	Sought	Party				
TBD								
8. List Any Issues this Co	mmittee is Supporting: TBD		-					
List Any Issues this Co	mmittee is Opposing: TBD							
9. If this Committee is Sup N/A	pporting the Entire Ticket of a	Party, Give Name o	f Party					
10. In the Event of Dissolu (501(c)(3)	ition, What Disposition will be	Made of Residual F	unds?					
11. List all Banks, Safety I	Deposit Boxes, or Other Depo	sitories Used for Co	mmittee Funds					
Name of Bank or Depo	ository & Account Number		Mailing Address					
Hancock Whitney Bank		101 N. Monroe St. Tallahassee, FL 32301						
12. List all Reports Requir and Positions of Such	ed to be Filed by this Commit Officials, If Any	tee with Federal Off	icials and the Na	mes, Addresses				
Report Title	Dates Required to be Filed	Name & Position o	f Official M	lailing Address				
N/A								
STATE OF Florida		Leon		COUNTY				
, Clayton Know	les	, certify that the in	nformation in this §	Statement of				
Organization is complete, tru	ue and correct							
x Clayle	man		4-12-	-20				
Signature of C	Signature of Chairman of Political Committee							

DS-DE 5 (Rev. 06/11) - Rule 1S-2.017



RON DESANTIS
Governor

LAUREL M. LEE Secretary of State

April 28, 2020

Clayton Knowles, Chairperson The People's Choice Post Office Box 11012 Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Dear Mr. Knowles:

This will acknowledge receipt of the Statement of Organization and Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for **The People's Choice**, which were placed on file in our office on April 27, 2020. 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.

Campaign Treasurer's Reports

Your first campaign treasurer's report will be due on **May 11, 2020**. The report will cover the period of April 1-30, 2020 (2020 M4). 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).

EFS Access

Below is the web address to access the EFS and the committee's user identification number. Enclosed are the committee's confidential, filing credentials.

EFS Website Address: https://efs.dos.state.fl.us

Identification Number: 75663

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

FLORIDA ELECTIONS Clayton Knowles, Chairperson April 28, 2020 Page Two

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 three days late and, thereafter, \$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. 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.

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.

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' website at https://dos.myflorida.com/elections. 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, *Political Committee Handbook*, Calendar of Reporting Dates, and Rule 1S-2.017, Florida Administrative Code.

Please let me know if you need additional information.

Read Willis

Sincerely,

Kristi Reid Willis, Chief Bureau of Election Records

KRW/zjs

Enclosures

pc: Dana Dudley, Treasurer

Political Committee Handbook

Florida Department of State Division of Elections R. A. Gray Building, Room 316 500 South Bronough Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250 850.245.6280



(Rev. 9/27/2019)

Any political committee required to file reports with a filing officer other than the Division must file reports on the 60th day immediately preceding the primary election and bi-weekly on each Friday thereafter through and including the 4th day immediately preceding the general election, with additional reports due on the 25th and 11th days before the primary election and the general election.

Unless the electronic filing requirements of Section <u>106.0705</u>, Florida Statutes, apply, reports shall be filed no later than 5 p.m. of the day designated. A report postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than midnight of the day designated is deemed timely filed. A report received by the filing officer within five 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 through the <u>Electronic Filing System</u> (<u>EFS</u>) are due no later than midnight, Eastern Time, of the due date.

(Sections <u>106.07</u>, <u>106.0705</u>, and <u>106.141</u>, Fla. Stat.; Chapter 11: Electronic Filing of Campaign Reports)

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), Fla. Stat.)

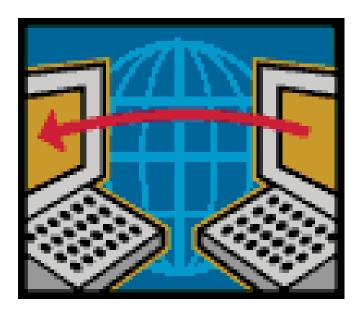
Notice of No Activity

When there has been no reportable activity in the campaign account during a reporting period (no funds expended or received) the filing of the report is waived. However, the political committee must notify the filing officer in writing on or before the prescribed reporting date that no report is being filed on that date. (A notice of no activity filed with the Division must be filed electronically using the <u>EFS</u>.) The next report filed must specify that the report covers the entire period between the last submitted report and the report being filed.

(Sections 106.07(7) and 106.0705, Fla. Stat.)

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

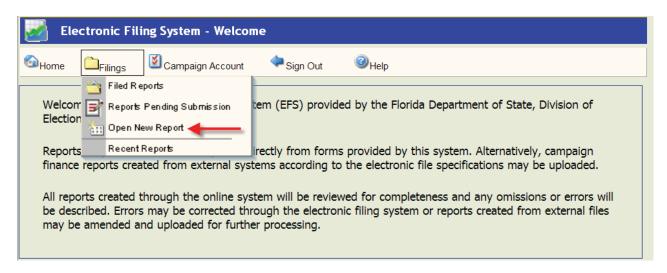
January 2011

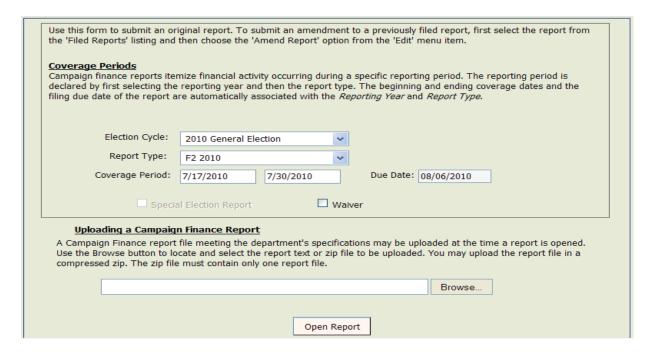
Rule 1S-2.017, F.A.C.

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

Create a New Report by Data Entry

From the Welcome screen, click and then Open New Report





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:	2010 General E	~			
Report Type:	F2 2010	economic en es	~		
Coverage Period:	7/17/2010	7/30/2010		Due Date:	08/06/2010
☐ Speci	al Election Report		Waive	er 🛑	

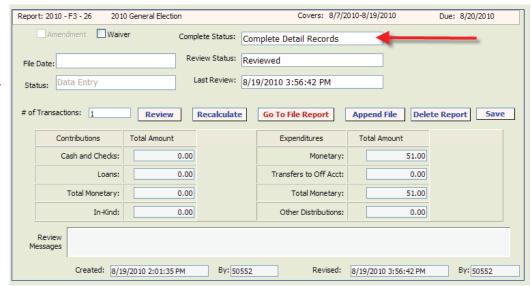
Click Open Report at the bottom of the screen. A **Report Detail** screen (view only) will appear. This screen will not indicate any activity until individual detail data is entered, saved and a review is performed.

Repo	rt: 2010 - G4 - 27 201	0 General Election		Covers:	10/16/2010-10/28/2010	Due: 10/29/2010			
	Amendment Waiv	er Comp	lete Status: Inc	omplete Detail Rec	ords				
File	Date:	Re	view Status: Not	Reviewed					
Sta	tus: Data Entry	ı	ast Review:						
# of	# of Transactions: 0 Review Recalculate Go To File Report Append File Delete Report Save								
	Contributions	Total Amount		Expenditures	Total Amount				
	Cash and Checks:	0.00		Mone	tary:	0.00			
	Loans:	0.00	-	Transfers to Off	Acct:	0.00			
	Total Monetary:	0.00		Total Mone	tary:	0.00			
	In-Kind:	0.00		Other Distribut	tions:	0.00			
Review Messages									
	Created: 10/	26/2010 11:41:25 AM	By: 50552	Revi	sed: 10/26/2010 11:4:	1:25 AM By: 50552			

File the Report

If the **Review Status** is <u>Updated Detail – Needs Review</u> 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.)

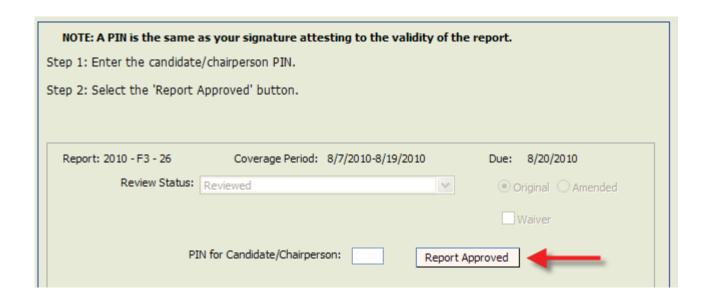
If the status of the report is <u>Complete</u> <u>Detail Records</u>, you are ready to file the report.



Click on Go To File Report

The chairperson enters his or her PIN, and then selects

Report Approved

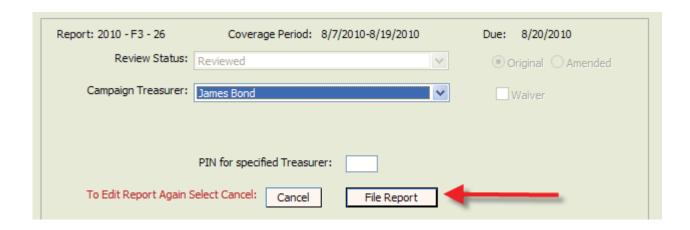


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If there is more than one treasurer, click on the drop down and select the treasurer that is filing the report.



The treasurer enters his **PIN** and then clicks File Report



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



Florida Department of State - Division of Elections

Florida Election System Reports

lame:	choice			Na	omm The Pe	opies (NOICE			
ction:	0110100			Acco	ount: 75663					
J. 1011.		~	Date Due	Туре	Date Filed	Status	Days Late	Fine Appealed Assessed	Amount Fined	Amount Paid
Acct:	75663		11/4/2022	G6	11/3/2022					
ne.	Pol Action Comm	~]	11/3/2022	D6	11/3/2022					
, .	1 of Action Comm		11/2/2022	D5	11/3/2022	PEN	1	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Search Reset		11/1/2022	D4	11/3/2022	PEN	2	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
			10/31/2022	D3	11/3/2022	PEN	3	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
			10/30/2022	D2		SNT	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
			10/29/2022	D1	11/3/2022	CLO	5	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
			10/28/2022	G5	10/24/2022					
			10/21/2022	G4A	10/24/2022	PEN	3	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
			10/14/2022	G4	10/14/2022					
			10/7/2022	G3A	10/14/2022	CLO	7	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
			10/7/2022	G3	10/7/2022					
			9/23/2022	G2A	9/16/2022					
			9/16/2022	G2	9/16/2022					
			9/9/2022	G1A	9/2/2022					
			9/2/2022	G1	8/26/2022					
			8/26/2022	P7A	8/19/2022					
			8/19/2022	P7	8/19/2022					
			8/12/2022	P6	8/10/2022					
			8/5/2022	P5	8/10/2022	CLO	5	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
			7/29/2022	P4	8/10/2022	CLO	12	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
			7/22/2022	P3	8/10/2022	CLO	19	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
			7/15/2022	P2A	7/8/2022					
			7/8/2022	P2	7/8/2022					
			7/1/2022	P1A	7/8/2022	CLO	7	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
			6/24/2022	P1	7/8/2022	CLO	14	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
			6/10/2022	M5	6/10/2022					
			5/10/2022	M4	5/10/2022					
			4/11/2022	М3	4/11/2022					
			3/10/2022	M2	3/8/2022					
			2/10/2022	M1	2/10/2022					
			1/10/2022	M12	1/10/2022					
			12/10/2021	M11	12/9/2021					

11/10/2021 M10 11/9/2021 10/12/2021 M9 10/5/2021 9/10/2021 M8 9/9/2021 8/10/2021 M7 8/9/2021 7/12/2021 M6 7/6/2021 6/10/2021 M5 6/4/2021 5/10/2021 M4 5/6/2021 4/12/2021 M3 4/5/2021 3/10/2021 M2 3/8/2021 2/10/2021 M1 2/5/2021 1/11/2021 M1 2/5/2021 1/11/2021 M12 1/8/2021

Exhibit 7 Page 1 of 2

12/10/2020	M11	12/8/2020						
11/10/2020	M10	11/9/2020						
10/30/2020	G6	10/29/2020						
10/29/2020	D6	10/29/2020						
10/28/2020	D5	10/29/2020	CLO	1	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
10/27/2020	D4	10/29/2020	CLO	2	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
10/26/2020	D3	10/29/2020	CLO	3	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
10/25/2020	D2	10/29/2020	CLO	4	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
10/24/2020	D1	10/29/2020	CLO	5	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
10/23/2020	G5	10/23/2020						
10/16/2020	G4A	10/15/2020						
10/9/2020	G4	10/7/2020						
10/2/2020								
9/25/2020	G3	9/25/2020						
	G2A	9/18/2020						
9/11/2020	G2	9/11/2020						
9/4/2020	G1A	9/4/2020						
8/28/2020	G1	8/28/2020						
8/21/2020	P7A	8/21/2020						
8/14/2020								
	P6	8/7/2020						
	P5							
	P4							
7/17/2020								
	P1A							
	P1	6/18/2020						
5/11/2020	M4	5/7/2020						
	11/10/2020 10/30/2020 10/29/2020 10/28/2020 10/27/2020 10/26/2020 10/25/2020 10/24/2020 10/23/2020	11/10/2020 M10 10/30/2020 G6 10/29/2020 D6 10/28/2020 D5 10/27/2020 D4 10/26/2020 D2 10/24/2020 D1 10/23/2020 G5 10/16/2020 G4A 10/9/2020 G4A 10/9/2020 G3 9/18/2020 G3A 9/18/2020 G2A 9/11/2020 G2A 9/11/2020 G2A 9/11/2020 G1A 8/28/2020 G1A 8/28/2020 F7A 8/14/2020 P7A 8/14/2020 P7A 8/14/2020 P7 8/7/2020 P6 7/31/2020 P5 7/24/2020 P4 7/17/2020 P3 7/10/2020 P2A 7/3/2020 P2A 7/3/2020 P2A 7/3/2020 P1A 6/19/2020 P1A	10/29/2020 D6 10/29/2020 10/28/2020 D5 10/29/2020 10/27/2020 D4 10/29/2020 10/25/2020 D2 10/29/2020 10/24/2020 D1 10/29/2020 10/23/2020 G5 10/23/2020 10/16/2020 G4A 10/15/2020 10/9/2020 G4A 10/15/2020 10/9/2020 G3A 10/1/2020 10/2/2020 G3A 10/1/2020 9/15/2020 G3 9/25/2020 9/18/2020 G2A 9/18/2020 9/11/2020 G2A 9/18/2020 9/11/2020 G1A 9/4/2020 8/28/2020 G1A 9/4/2020 8/28/2020 G1 8/28/2020 8/21/2020 P7A 8/21/2020 8/21/2020 P7A 8/21/2020 8/7/2020 P6 8/7/2020 7/31/2020 P6 8/7/2020 7/31/2020 P6 7/31/2020 7/24/2020 P4 7/24/2020 7/17/2020 P3 7/17/2020 7/10/2020 P2A 7/6/2020 7/3/2020 P2 6/29/2020 6/19/2020 P1 6/18/2020 6/19/2020 P1 6/18/2020 6/10/2020 P1 6/18/2020	11/10/2020 M10 11/9/2020 10/30/2020 G6 10/29/2020 10/29/2020 D6 10/29/2020 10/28/2020 D5 10/29/2020 CLO 10/26/2020 D3 10/29/2020 CLO 10/25/2020 D2 10/29/2020 CLO 10/24/2020 D1 10/29/2020 CLO 10/23/2020 G5 10/23/2020 10/16/2020 G4 10/15/2020 10/9/2020 G4 10/15/2020 10/9/2020 G3 9/25/2020 9/18/2020 G3 9/25/2020 9/11/2020 G2 9/11/2020 9/4/2020 G1 8/28/2020 9/4/2020 G1 8/28/2020 8/28/2020 G1 8/28/2020 8/21/2020 P7 8/14/2020 8/7/2020 P6 8/7/2020 8/7/2020 P6 8/7/2020 7/31/2020 P3 7/17/2020 7/10/2020 P2 6/29/2020 7/3/2020 P1 6/18/2020 6/19/2020 P1 6/18/2020 6/19/2020 P1 6/18/2020 6/10/2020 P1 6/18/2020 6/10/2020 P1 6/18/2020	11/10/2020 M10 11/9/2020 10/30/2020 G6 10/29/2020 10/29/2020 D5 10/29/2020 CLO 1 10/27/2020 D4 10/29/2020 CLO 2 10/26/2020 D3 10/29/2020 CLO 3 10/25/2020 D2 10/29/2020 CLO 4 10/24/2020 D1 10/29/2020 CLO 5 10/23/2020 G5 10/23/2020 10/16/2020 G4A 10/15/2020 10/9/2020 G4A 10/15/2020 10/9/2020 G3 9/25/2020 9/18/2020 G3 9/25/2020 9/18/2020 G1 8/28/2020 9/11/2020 G1 8/28/2020 9/11/2020 G1 8/28/2020 8/21/2020 P7A 8/21/2020 8/21/2020 P7A 8/21/2020 8/21/2020 P7 8/14/2020 8/14/2020 P6 8/7/2020 7/31/2020 P6 8/7/2020 7/31/2020 P3 7/17/2020 7/17/2020 P3 7/17/2020 7/17/2020 P4 7/24/2020 7/17/2020 P2 6/29/2020 6/26/2020 P1A 6/24/2020 6/19/2020 M5 6/8/2020	11/10/2020 M10 11/9/2020 10/30/2020 G6 10/29/2020 10/29/2020 D5 10/29/2020 CLO 1 \$0.00 10/27/2020 D4 10/29/2020 CLO 2 \$0.00 10/26/2020 D3 10/29/2020 CLO 3 \$0.00 10/25/2020 D2 10/29/2020 CLO 4 \$0.00 10/25/2020 D1 10/29/2020 CLO 5 \$0.00 10/24/2020 D1 10/29/2020 CLO 5 \$0.00 10/23/2020 G5 10/23/2020 10/16/2020 G4A 10/15/2020 10/9/2020 G4 10/7/2020 10/9/2020 G3 9/25/2020 9/18/2020 G3 9/25/2020 9/18/2020 G2A 9/18/2020 9/11/2020 G1A 9/4/2020 9/4/2020 G1A 9/4/2020 8/28/2020 G1 8/28/2020 8/21/2020 P7A 8/21/2020 8/14/2020 P7 8/14/2020 8/7/2020 P6 8/7/2020 7/31/2020 P5 7/31/2020 7/31/2020 P4 7/24/2020 7/17/2020 P2A 7/6/2020 7/17/2020 P2A 7/6/2020 7/3/2020 P1A 6/24/2020 6/26/2020 P1 6/18/2020 6/19/2020 P1 6/18/2020 6/10/2020 M5 6/8/2020	11/10/2020 M10 11/9/2020 10/30/2020 G6 10/29/2020 10/28/2020 D5 10/29/2020 CLO 1 \$0.00 10/27/2020 D4 10/29/2020 CLO 2 \$0.00 10/26/2020 D3 10/29/2020 CLO 3 \$0.00 10/25/2020 D2 10/29/2020 CLO 4 \$0.00 10/24/2020 D1 10/29/2020 CLO 5 \$0.00 10/23/2020 G5 10/23/2020 10/16/2020 G4A 10/15/2020 10/16/2020 G3A 10/1/2020 10/2/2020 G3 9/25/2020 9/18/2020 G3 9/25/2020 9/11/2020 G2 9/11/2020 9/11/2020 G2 9/11/2020 9/4/2020 G1 8/28/2020 9/11/2020 F3 8/21/2020 9/11/2020 F4 8/21/2020 8/28/2020 F7 8/14/2020 8/21/2020 P7 8/14/2020 8/14/2020 P1 6/29/2020 7/11/2020 P2 6/29/2020 6/26/2020 P1 6/18/2020 6/19/2020 P1 6/18/2020 6/10/2020 M5 6/8/2020	11/10/2020 M10 11/9/2020 10/30/2020 G6 10/29/2020 10/29/2020 D5 10/29/2020 CLO 1 \$0.00 \$0.00 10/27/2020 D4 10/29/2020 CLO 2 \$0.00 \$0.00 10/26/2020 D3 10/29/2020 CLO 3 \$0.00 \$0.00 10/25/2020 D2 10/29/2020 CLO 4 \$0.00 \$0.00 10/25/2020 D2 10/29/2020 CLO 5 \$0.00 \$0.00 10/24/2020 D1 10/29/2020 CLO 5 \$0.00 \$0.00 10/24/2020 G5 10/23/2020 10/16/2020 G4A 10/15/2020 10/9/2020 G3A 10/1/2020 10/9/2020 G3 9/25/2020 9/18/2020 G3 9/18/2020 9/11/2020 G2A 9/18/2020 9/11/2020 G1A 9/4/2020 8/28/2020 G1 8/28/2020 8/21/2020 P7A 8/21/2020 8/14/2020 P7 8/14/2020 8/14/2020 P1 6/2020 7/14/2020 P2 6/29/2020 6/26/2020 P1 6/18/2020 6/19/2020 P1 6/18/2020 6/19/2020 P1 6/18/2020 6/10/2020 M5 6/8/2020

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION PHONE LOG

Case No.: FEC 22-292

Respondent: The People's Choice **Complainant:** Division of Elections

1. **Date and time:** 11/29/2022; 03:25 p.m.

Name: Dana Dudley – Treasurer

Phone #: (850) 216-1002

Summary: Called and spoke with receptionist, Shakita. Told her who I was and am with the Florida Elections Commission. She said that Ms. Dudley was on break and said she

would give her the message to call me back.

Entered by: CM

2. **Date and time:** 12/12/2022; 01:20 p.m.

Name: Dana Dudley – Treasurer

Phone #: (850) 216-1002

Summary: Called and spoke with Shakita. Told her who I was and am with the Florida Elections Commission. She said that Ms. Dudley had stepped out of her office and said she would give her the message to call me back. Followed up with email to

dana@pittman-law.com.

Entered by: CM

3. **Date and time:** 12/14/2022; 10:00 a.m.

Name: Dana Dudley – Treasurer

Phone #: (850) 216-1002

Summary: Spoke with Respondent. Explained case number FEC 22-292. Respondent was cooperative and willing to answer questions about the case, which can be reviewed in

the "RESPONDENT INTERVIEW MEMO" below.

Entered by: CM

4. **Date and time:**

Name:

Phone #: Summary:

Entered by:

5. Date and time:

Name:

Phone #:

Summary:

Entered by:

6. **Date and time:**

Name:

Phone #:

Summary: Entered by:

RESPONDENT INTERVIEW MEMO – Call details at #3

- Please explain the reason why you failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting dates that no 2022 P1, 2022 P1A, 2022 P4 and 2022 P5 reports would be filed on those dates because the campaign had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the reporting period or failure to file a campaign report to reflect financial activity. Had an internal calendar and had internal assistant that she relied upon didn't pick up these reporting periods. It was just an oversite.
- Have you ever run for public office? No. If so, please name each office you ran for and state what year each election occurred.
- Have you ever been appointed to act as a campaign treasurer for a candidate? Yes. If so, please name each such candidate, the office each ran for, and state what year each election occurred.

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Walt McNeal – Leon County Sheriff – 2016 and 2020
Darryl Jones – Leon County School Board – 2018 and 2022
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• Have you ever held the office of chairperson, treasurer, or other similar position for a political committee or electioneering communications organization? Yes. If so, please name each committee, state the office you held for each, and state when you held each office.

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Florida Women in Action – Treasurer For Our Women's Future - Treasurer
```

• Have you ever prepared or signed a campaign treasurer's report? Yes. If so, please state the name of the candidate or committee whose report you prepared or signed.

Walt McNeal Darryl Jones Florida Women in Action For Our Women's Future The People's Choice

- Do you possess a copy of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes? Yes. If so, when did you first obtain it? Last quarter of 2016. Have you read it? Yes.
- Do you possess a copy of the *Political Committee Handbook*? Yes. If so, when did you first obtain it? Beginning part of January 2018. Have you read it? Yes.
- Do you have anything else to add for the Commission's consideration regarding the charges specified in the letter of legal sufficiency in this case? There is little to no activity in the PAC. I know the importance of filing waivers and with internal staff changes there was no intent, just an oversite. Asking the Commission for leniency or waiver due to no intent.

INV001 (12/01) 2

FEC 22-292

Charles Mellow < Charles. Mellow@myfloridalegal.com>

Mon 12/12/2022 1:38 PM

To: dana@pittman-law.com <dana@pittman-law.com>

Ms. Dudley,

My name is Charles Mellow with the Florida Elections Commission. I have tried to reach you at (850) 216-1002 to discuss case number FEC 22-292.

Please contact me at your earliest convenience at (850) 922-4539 or email me a specific day and time to call you to discuss FEC 22-292 regarding The People's Choice.

Thank you,

Charles Mellow - Investigator

Florida Elections Commission - Office of the Attorney General Collins Building - Room 212 107 W. Gaines Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-6596

Phone: (850) 922-4539 Charles.Mellow@myfloridalegal.com



Please note: Florida has a very broad public records law. Written communications to or from me regarding state business constitute public records and are available to the public and media upon request unless the information is subject to a specific statutory exemption. Therefore, your e-mail message may be subject to public disclosure.

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION PHONE LOG

Case No.: FEC 22-292

Respondent: The People's Choice **Complainant:** Division of Elections

1. **Date and time:** 11/29/2022; 03:25 p.m.

Name: Dana Dudley – Treasurer

Phone #: (850) 216-1002

Summary: Called and spoke with receptionist, Shakita. Told her who I was and am with the Florida Elections Commission. She said that Ms. Dudley was on break and said she

would give her the message to call me back.

Entered by: CM

2. **Date and time:** 12/12/2022; 01:20 p.m.

Name: Dana Dudley – Treasurer

Phone #: (850) 216-1002

Summary: Called and spoke with Shakita. Told her who I was and am with the Florida Elections Commission. She said that Ms. Dudley had stepped out of her office and said she would give her the message to call me back. Followed up with email to dana@pittman-law.com.

Entered by: CM

3. **Date and time:** 12/12/2022; 10:00 a.m.

Name: Dana Dudley – Treasurer

Phone #: (850) 216-1002

Summary: Spoke with Respondent. Explained case number FEC 22-292. Respondent was cooperative and willing to answer questions about the case, which can be reviewed in

the "RESPONDENT INTERVIEW MEMO" below.

Entered by: CM

4. Date and time:

Name:

Phone #:

Summary:

Entered by:

5. Date and time:

Name:

Phone #:

Summary:

Entered by:

6. **Date and time:**

Name:

Phone #:

Summary: Entered by:

RESPONDENT INTERVIEW MEMO – Call details at #3

- Please explain the reason why you failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting dates that no 2022 P1, 2022 P1A, 2022 P4 and 2022 P5 reports would be filed on those dates because the campaign had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the reporting period or failure to file a campaign report to reflect financial activity. Had an internal calendar and had internal assistant that she relied upon didn't pick up these reporting periods. It was just an oversite.
- Have you ever run for public office? No. If so, please name each office you ran for and state what year each election occurred.
- Have you ever been appointed to act as a campaign treasurer for a candidate? Yes. If so, please name each such candidate, the office each ran for, and state what year each election occurred.

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Walt McNeal – Leon County Sheriff – 2016 and 2020
Darryl Jones – Leon County School Board – 2018 and 2022
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• Have you ever held the office of chairperson, treasurer, or other similar position for a political committee or electioneering communications organization? Yes. If so, please name each committee, state the office you held for each, and state when you held each office.

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Florida Women in Action – Treasurer For Our Women's Future - Treasurer
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• Have you ever prepared or signed a campaign treasurer's report? Yes. If so, please state the name of the candidate or committee whose report you prepared or signed.

Walt McNeal
Darryl Jones
Florida Women in Action
For Our Women's Future
The People's Choice

- Do you possess a copy of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes? Yes. If so, when did you first obtain it? Last quarter of 2016. Have you read it? Yes.
- Do you possess a copy of the *Political Committee Handbook*? Yes. If so, when did you first obtain it? Beginning part of January 2018. Have you read it? Yes.
- Do you have anything else to add for the Commission's consideration regarding the charges specified in the letter of legal sufficiency in this case? There is little to no activity in the PAC. I know the importance of filing waivers and with internal staff changes there was no intent, just an oversite. Asking the Commission for leniency or waiver due to no intent.

INV001 (12/01) 2



Florida Elections Commission

107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-6596 Telephone: (850) 922-4539 · Facsimile: (850) 921-0783 FEC@myfloridalegal.com · www.fec.state.fl.us



October 10, 2022

Clayton Knowles The People's Choice 1028 East Park Avenue Tallahassee, FL 32301

RE: Case No.: FEC 22-292; Respondent: The People's Choice

Dear Mr. Knowles:

On September 7, 2022, the Florida Elections Commission received a complaint alleging your committee 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 violation(s):

Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a political committee registered with the Division of Elections, 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 following reporting periods:

• 2022 P1

Δ

2022 P1A

2022 P4

2022 P5

However, prior to an investigation, you have the option to <u>resolve your case now by</u> signing a minor violation consent order and <u>paying a fine of \$200</u>, per Rule 2B-1.003, Florida Administrative Code, <u>rather than the potential \$1,000 per violation</u> provided for in Section 106.265, Florida Statutes.

If you sign the consent order, you would not be required to admit or deny the allegation(s) in the complaint, but you would be required to immediately correct the violation, if feasible.

The signed consent order would then be considered by the Commission at its next available meeting and would constitute final action by the Commission once it is accepted and approved by the Commission. You and the Complainant will receive notice at least 14 days before any hearing at which your case is to be considered.

Clayton Knowles October 10, 2022 Page 2 FEC 22-292

<u>Please contact Stephanie Cunningham by phone at (850) 922-4539, by email at Stephanie.Cunningham@myfloridalegal.com</u>, or at the address listed above, to accept this minor violation consent order.

If you choose not to resolve this case by consent order, an investigation will be conducted, the Commission will hold one or more hearings to determine whether the alleged violation(s) occurred and, if so, the amount of fine to be imposed upon your committee.

Please note that all documents related to this matter will be mailed to the above address unless you notify us of a new address.

For additional information, please refer to the "Frequently Asked Questions" section on the Commission's website.

Sincerely

Tim Vaccaro

Executive Director

TV/jd

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS FEC NOTICE FORM

To FEC from Division of Elections

Name: The People's Choice

Account Number: 75663

Chairperson: Clayton Knowles

Treasurer: Dana Dudley

Registered Agent: Clayton Knowles

The Division of Elections hereby provides this notice to the Florida Elections Commission pursuant to sections 106.07(8)(d), 106.22(7), and 106.25(2), Florida Statutes. An apparent violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, has occurred based upon repeated late filings or failure to notify the filing officer in writing that no report was being filed on the prescribed reporting date as required by section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, for the following reports:

2022 P1

2022 P1A

2022 P4

2022 P5

- The People's Choice (75663) is a political committee registered with the Division of Elections. On April 27, 2020, the committee filed the DSDE 5 and DSDE 6 with the Division appointing Clayton Knowles as the chairperson and Dana Dudley as the treasurer for the committee.
- The 2022 P1 campaign treasurer's report was due on June 24, 2022.
 The People's Choice failed to notify the Division that no report was being filed on the prescribed reporting date. On July 8, 2022, the committee filed a notification of no activity. (See attached file receipt.)
- The 2022 P1A campaign treasurer's report was due on July 1, 2022.
 The People's Choice failed to notify the Division that no report was being filed on the prescribed reporting date. On July 8, 2022, the committee filed a notification of no activity. (See attached file receipt.)

The People's Choice (75663) Page Two

- The 2022 P4 campaign treasurer's report was due on July 29, 2022.
 The People's Choice failed to notify the Division that no report was being filed on the
 prescribed reporting date. On August 10, 2022, the committee filed a notification of
 no activity. (See attached file receipt.)
- The 2022 P5 campaign treasurer's report was due on August 5, 2022.
 The People's Choice failed to notify the Division that no report was being filed on the
 prescribed reporting date. On August 10, 2022, the committee filed a notification of
 no activity. (See attached file receipt.)

Sent By:

Donna S. Brown

Date:

September 2, 2022

bct



Treasurer Report Status

Name: The People's Choice ID: **75663**

Report: 2022 - P1 - 49

Election: 2022 General Election

Covers: 6/1/2022-6/17/2022

Due: 6/24/2022

Print Date: 8/18/2022 9:25:20 AM

☐ Amended ☑ Waiver

File Status: Filed Report Filed: 7/8/2022 4:22:05 PM

Reviewed: 7/8/2022 Review Status: Reviewed

Detail Complete: No Detail Records Found

Number of Detail Records File Method: Web Filed

Contributions: Entry Method: Web Data Entry

Expenditures: 0

Fund Transfers: 0 Pending Queued Items: 0

Distributions:

E

Treasurer Report Status

ID: 75663 Name: The People's Choice

Report: 2022 - P1A - 50

Election: 2022 General Election

Covers: 6/18/2022-6/24/2022

Due: 7/1/2022

Print Date: 8/18/2022 9:25:39 AM

☐ Amended ✓ Waiver

Filed: **7/8/2022 4:22:29 PM**

File Status: Filed Report

Reviewed: 7/8/2022

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

Treasurer Report Status

ID: **75663** Name: The People's Choice

Report: 2022 - P4 - 54

Election: 2022 General Election

Covers: 7/16/2022-7/22/2022

Due: 7/29/2022

Print Date: 8/18/2022 9:26:01 AM

Amended V Waiver

Filed: **8/10/2022 5:45:08 PM** File Status: Filed Report

Review Status: Reviewed Reviewed: **8/10/2022**

Detail Complete: No Detail Records Found

Number of Detail Records File Method: Web Filed

Contributions: Entry Method: Web Data Entry

Expenditures: 0

Fund Transfers: Pending Queued Items: 0

Distributions: 0

Treasurer Report Status

ID: **75663** Name: The People's Choice

Report: 2022 - P5 - 55

Election: 2022 General Election

Covers: 7/23/2022-7/29/2022

Due: 8/5/2022

Print Date: 8/18/2022 9:25:09 AM

☐ Amended ☑ Waiver

Filed: 8/10/2022 5:45:44 PM File Status: Filed Report

Reviewed: 8/10/2022 Review Status: Reviewed

Detail Complete: No Detail Records Found

File Method: Web Filed Number of Detail Records

Entry Method: Web Data Entry

Expenditures: 0

Pending Queued Items: **0** Fund Transfers:

Distributions: 0