

**STATE OF FLORIDA
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

In Re: Preserving Florida's Future

Case No.: FEC 21-499

TO: Paul Skinner, Chair
1216 SE 10th Street
Ocala, FL 34471

Division of Elections
500 South 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 17, 2023 at 8:30**, or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard, at the following location: Via Webinar Registration URL:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/571953185404345941>

Audio participation:
1-877-309-2074

Attendee – muted:
966-952-589

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

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
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.

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 21-499

v.

Preserving Florida's Future,
Respondent.

_____ /

ORDER OF PROBABLE CAUSE

THIS MATTER was heard by the Florida Elections Commission (“Commission”) at its regularly scheduled meeting on January 24, 2023, in Tallahassee, Florida.

On October 4, 2022, 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 violations:

Count 1:

On or around September 10, 2021, Preserving Florida's Future violated Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, when it deliberately failed to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, on the committee’s 2021 M8 Report.

Count 2:

On or around October 12, 2021, Preserving Florida's Future violated Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, when it deliberately failed to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, on the committee’s 2021 M9 Report.

The Commission finds that there is **no probable cause** to charge Respondent with violating Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes.

DONE AND ORDERED by the Florida Elections Commission on January 24, 2023.



Tim Vaccaro, J.D., Executive Director
For Nicholas Primrose, Chairman
Florida Elections Commission

Copies furnished to:
Mattie T. Clay, Assistant General Counsel
Preserving Florida's Future, 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 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 thirty (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 thirty (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 thirty (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 West 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: Preserving Florida's Future

Case No.: FEC 21-499

TO: Paul Skinner, Chair
1216 SE 10th Street
Ocala, FL 34471

Division of Elections
500 S. Bronough Street, Room 316
Tallahassee, FL 32399-6596

NOTICE OF HEARING (PROBABLE CAUSE DETERMINATION)

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, **January 24, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard, at the following location: Join Zoom Meeting - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86542842462?pwd=VjdKeGRjcFAvZko2Y1pTZmo1cU5pdz09>

Meeting ID: 865 4284 2462

Passcode: 5UuWmT

AUDIO PARTICIPATION:

1-301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 865 4284 2462

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 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.

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See further instructions on the reverse side.

Tim Vaccaro

Executive Director
Florida Elections Commission
January 9, 2023

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

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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**

In Re: Preserving Florida's Future

Case No.: FEC 21-499

TO: Preserving Florida's Future
Paul Skinner, Chair
1216 SE 10th Street
Ocala, FL 34471

Division of Elections
500 S. Bronough Street, Room 316
Tallahassee, FL 32399-6596

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF HEARING
(PROBABLE CAUSE DETERMINATION)

You are hereby notified that **the previously scheduled hearing for December 14, 2022, is cancelled.** It is anticipated that your case will be heard at the next regularly scheduled meeting, which will be scheduled for a date to be determined in either January 2023 or February 2023.

A Notice of Hearing will be mailed to you approximately 14 days prior to the new hearing date.

Tim Vaccaro

Executive Director
Florida Elections Commission
December 13, 2022

**STATE OF FLORIDA
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

In Re: Preserving Florida's Future

Case No.: FEC 21-499

TO: Paul Skinner, Chair
1216 SE 10th Street
Ocala, FL 34471

Division of Elections
500 S. Bronough Street, Room 316
Tallahassee, FL 32399-6596

NOTICE OF HEARING (PROBABLE CAUSE DETERMINATION)

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, **December 14, 2022 at 10:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard**, at the following location: **House Office Building, 402 South Monroe Street, 306 HOB, Mashburn Hall, 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.

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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.

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See further instructions on the reverse side.

Tim Vaccaro

Executive Director
Florida Elections Commission
November 30, 2022

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

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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: Preserving Florida's Future

Case No.: FEC 21-499

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 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes**, and **no 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 September 13, 2022, the following facts and law support this staff recommendation:

1. On December 3, 2021, the Florida Elections Commission (“Commission”) received a referral from the Department of State, Division of Elections (“Division”), alleging that Preserving Florida's Future (“Respondent”) violated Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.
2. Respondent is a political committee registered with the Division. (ROI Exhibit 2; ROI Exhibit 11, page 1)¹
3. By letter dated February 4, 2022, the Executive Director notified Respondent that Commission staff would investigate the following statutory provisions:

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:

- 2021 M8
- 2021 M9

Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a political committee registered with the Division of Elections, may have falsely reported or deliberately failed to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, during the following reporting periods:

- 2021 M8
- 2021 M9

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

4. By letter dated September 23, 2020, Donna S. Brown for Kristi Reid Willis, Chief, Bureau of Election Records, sent Respondent a letter acknowledging that the Division had received its Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Political Committees form and that the name of the organization was placed on the active committee list. (ROI Exhibit 3, page 1)

5. The acknowledgment letter advised Respondent that all political committees filing reports with the Division are required to use the electronic filing system (“EFS”) and provided Respondent with a user identification number and initial password to grant access to the EFS. (ROI Exhibit 3, page 1) The letter further advised Respondent that all 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 3, page 2)

6. Respondent’s 2021 M8 Report was due on September 10, 2021, and its 2021 M9 Report was due on October 12, 2021; however, Respondent failed to timely file the reports or notify the filing officer that no reports would be filed. *See* Compl. By letters dated September 13, 2021, October 13, 2021, November 1, 2021, and November 22, 2021, the Division notified Respondent that the reports had not been received. The letters also notified Respondent that it was still required to notify the Division if it had no reportable financial activity. (ROI Exhibits 4-6) The final notification letters were confirmed delivered on November 4, 2021, and November 29, 2021. (ROI Exhibit 5, page 2; ROI Exhibit 6, page 2)

7. A subpoena was issued to Respondent’s designated campaign depository to ascertain whether any financial activity occurred during the relevant reporting periods, i.e., August 1, 2021 – August 31, 2021, and September 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021. (ROI Exhibit 5, page 1; ROI Exhibit 6, page 1)

8. As to the 2021 M8 Report, Respondent’s bank records show two expenditures to Air Canada totaling \$384.84 and one overdraft fee totaling \$72.00 during the relevant reporting period. (ROI Exhibit 8, page 2)

9. As to the 2021 M9 Report, Respondent’s bank records show one automatic charge off totaling \$513.35 during the relevant reporting period, which closed the account. (ROI Exhibit 9, page 2)

10. Respondent's chairperson and treasurer, Paul Skinner, stated that he moved out of Florida and believed that the political committee was inactive. Mr. Skinner stated that his assistant was supposed to have disbanded the organization around the end of 2020. Mr. Skinner possessed and read part of the *Political Committee Handbook* but did not possess or read Chapter 106, Florida Statutes. Mr. Skinner was the former chairperson of a Marion County political party executive committee for two years. (ROI Exhibit 12, page 2)

11. As it appears that Respondent had financial activity during the relevant reporting periods, Respondent failed to include information in its 2021 M8 and 2021 M9 Reports in violation of Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes. Thus, Respondent was not required to notify the filing officer that it would not be filing its reports because Respondent had reportable financial activity.

12. “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).

13. The facts set forth above show that Respondent is a political committee registered with the Division. Respondent failed to timely file its 2021 M8 and 2021 M9 Reports or notify the filing officer that no reports would be filed. As it appears that Respondent had financial activity during the relevant reporting periods, Respondent failed to include information in its 2021 M8 and 2021 M9 Reports in violation of Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes. Thus, Respondent was not required to notify the filing officer that it would not be filing its reports because Respondent had reportable financial activity.

Based upon these facts and circumstances, I recommend that the Commission find **no probable cause** to charge Respondent with violating **Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes**, and find **probable cause** to charge Respondent with violating the following:

Count 1:

On or around September 10, 2021, Preserving Florida's Future violated Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, when it deliberately failed to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, on the committee's 2021 M8 Report.

Count 2:

On or around October 12, 2021, Preserving Florida's Future violated Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, when it deliberately failed to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, on the committee's 2021 M9 Report.

Respectfully submitted on October 4, 2022.



Mattie T. Clay
Assistant General Counsel

I reviewed this Staff Recommendation this 4th day of October 2022.

Handwritten signature of Stephanie J. Cunningham in blue ink.

Stephanie J. Cunningham
General Counsel

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Report of Investigation for Sections 106.07(7) and 106.19(1)(c), F.S.

Case Number: FEC 21-499

Sections 106.07(7) and 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, failure of a candidate or 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 or failure to file a campaign report to reflect financial activity.

Respondent: Preserving Florida’s Future
Respondent’s Atty: N/A

Division of Elections (Division)
Referral Filed: December 3, 2021

Respondent Type: Political Committee

I. Preliminary Information:

1. Respondent is a political committee registered with the Division.

2. An Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository (DS-DE 6) was filed on August 20, 2020. Paul Skinner was appointed as campaign treasurer. To review the DS-DE 6, refer to Exhibit 1.

3. A Statement of Organization (DS-DE 5) for the political committee was filed with the Division on September 22, 2020. To review the Statement of Organization, refer to Exhibit 2.

4. An acknowledgement letter was mailed to the address provided on the DS-DE 6 on September 23, 2020, advising Respondent that all political committees 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 3.

6. The Division sent correspondence to the address provided on the DS-DE 6 notifying Respondent that the following campaign reports, or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, had not been filed: 2021 M8 and 2021 M9. The letters included reference to the filing dates for the reports. To review the failure to file correspondence, refer to Exhibit 4.

7. On November 1, 2021, the Division sent a letter marked “Final Notice” with delivery confirmation to the address provided on the DS-DE 6 notifying Respondent that the following campaign report, or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, had not been filed: 2021 M8. The letter was confirmed delivered on November 4, 2021. To review the letter marked “Final Notice” and delivery confirmation, refer to Exhibit 5.

8. On November 22, 2021, the Division sent a letter marked “Final Notice” with delivery confirmation to the address provided on the DS-DE 6 notifying Respondent that the following campaign report, or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, had not been filed: 2021 M9. The letter was confirmed delivered on November 29, 2021. To review the letter marked “Final Notice” and delivery confirmation, refer to Exhibit 6.

II. Alleged Violation of Sections 106.07(7), and 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes:

9. I investigated whether Respondent violated these sections of the election laws either by not notifying the filing officer, in writing, that no report would be filed due to not receiving any contributions or making expenditures during the following reporting periods or by not filing campaign reports to reflect financial activity for the reporting periods. To review the filing history, refer to Exhibit 7.

Report	Report Cover Period	Due Date	Report or Waiver Required	Exhibit ¹
2021 M8	08/01/2021 – 08/31/2021	09/10/2021	Report	8
2021 M9	09/01/2021 – 09/30/2021	10/12/2021	Report ²	9

10. Respondent did not respond to the referral.

11. As of the date of this report, Division records show that Respondent’s status is “Active,” and Paul Skinner is listed as the Chairperson, Treasurer, and Registered Agent. To review the Division records, refer to Exhibit 11.

12. On February 14, 2022, I called Respondent’s Chairperson for the purpose of providing an opportunity to discuss the allegations made in the referral. When asked about the failure to timely file the reports at issue, Respondent’s Chairperson stated that he thought Respondent was inactive, and his assistant was supposed to have dissolved Respondent at the end of 2020 because there was no money at the end of 2020. Respondent indicated that he did not have and had not read Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, but he acknowledged possessing and having partly read the *Political Committee Handbook*. To review the phone log, refer to Exhibit 12.

SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATOR:  **Date:** September 13, 2022

¹ I subpoenaed campaign account records from the designated campaign depository.

² The only activity was a \$513.35 automatic charge off on September 10, 2021, which closed the account. To review the bank email verifying the account closed, refer to Exhibit 10.

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION
Preserving Florida's Future -- FEC 21-499

LIST OF EXHIBITS	
Exhibits #s	Description of Exhibits
Exhibit 1	DS-DE 6
Exhibit 2	Statement of Organization
Exhibit 3	Acknowledgement Letter
Exhibit 4	Division Correspondence
Exhibit 5	Final Notice – 2021 M8
Exhibit 6	Final Notice – 2021 M9
Exhibit 7	Filing History
Exhibit 8	Bank Records – August 2021
Exhibit 9	Bank Records – September 2021
Exhibit 10	Bank Email
Exhibit 11	Division Doc – Active Status
Exhibit 12	Phone Log

**APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER
AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN
DEPOSITORY FOR
POLITICAL COMMITTEES**
(Sections 106.011(2) and 106.021(1), F.S.)

RECEIVED


2020 AUG 20 PM 12:58
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX:

Initial Filing for: Primary Treasurer Deputy Treasurer

Re-filing to Change: Primary Treasurer Deputy Treasurer Primary/Secondary Depository

OFFICE USE ONLY

1. Committee Preserving Florida's Future		2. Telephone (352) 438-9836	
3. Name of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer Paul Skinner		4. Email (optional)	
5. Telephone (optional) (352) 438-9836		6. Mailing Address 1216 SE. 10th Street, Ocala, FL 34471	
7. Street Address 1216 SE. 10th Street, Ocala, FL 34471			
8. The following bank has been designated as the <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary Depository <input type="checkbox"/> Secondary Depository			
9. Name of Bank CenterState Bank		10. Street Address 1632 E Silver Springs Blvd	
11. City Ocala		12. State FL	13. Zip Code 34470
14. Signature of Chairman 		15. Name of Chairman (Print or Type) Paul Skinner	

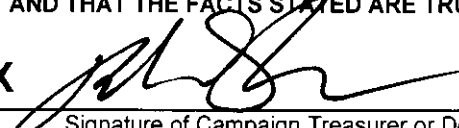
Campaign Treasurer's Acceptance of Appointment

I, **Paul Skinner**, do hereby accept the appointment as
(Please Print or Type)

treasurer or deputy treasurer for **Preserving Florida's Future**
(Committee)

**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.**

July 17, 2020
Date

X 
Signature of Campaign Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer

**STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION
OF POLITICAL COMMITTEE**

(PLEASE TYPE)

OFFICE USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
2020 SEP 22 AM 11:45
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

1. Full Name of Committee
Preserving Florida's Future

Telephone
352-438-9836

Mailing Address (include city, state and zip code)
1216 SE. 10th St., Ocala FL, 34471

Street Address (include city, state and zip code)
Same as above

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

Name of Affiliated or Connected Organization	Mailing Address	Relationship
Not Applicable		

3. Area, Scope and Jurisdiction of the Committee

Statewide political committee to support or oppose candidates for statewide, multi-county, legislative, county and municipal office and other activities not prohibited by Ch. 106 F.S.

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

Political

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
Paul Skinner	1216 SE. 10th St., Ocala FL, 34471	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
Paul Skinner	1216 SE. 10th St., Ocala FL, 34471	Chairman

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?
 Will contribute to candidates, political parties, and political committees or other activities not prohibited by law.

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

Name of Bank or Depository & Account Number	Mailing Address
CenterState Bank	1632 E Silver Springs Blvd, Ocala, FL 34470

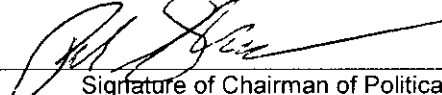
12. List all Reports Required to be Filed by this Committee with Federal Officials and the Names, Addresses and Positions of Such Officials, If Any

Report Title	Dates Required to be Filed	Name & Position of Official	Mailing Address
Form 8871 Form 1120POL Form 990 as may be required	Upon formation March 15, annually May 15, annually	Internal Revenue Service	Ogden, UT 84201

STATE OF Florida Marion COUNTY

I, Paul Skinner, certify that the information in this Statement of

Organization is complete, true and correct.

X  September 21, 2020
 Signature of Chairman of Political Committee Date



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT *of* STATE

RON DESANTIS
Governor

LAUREL M. LEE
Secretary of State

September 23, 2020

Paul Skinner, Chairperson
Preserving Florida's Future
1216 Southeast 10th Street
Ocala, Florida 34471

Dear Mr. Skinner:

This will acknowledge receipt of the Statement of Organization and Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for **Preserving Florida's Future**, which were placed on file in our office on September 22, 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 **October 2, 2020**. The report will cover the period of September 19-25, 2020 (2020 G3A). 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: 78979

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

Division of Elections
R.A. Gray Building, Suite 316 • 500 South Bronough Street • Tallahassee, Florida 32399
850.245.6240 • 850.245.6260 (Fax) • [DOS.MyFlorida.com/elections](https://dos.mylorida.com/elections)



Paul Skinner, Chairperson
September 23, 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.

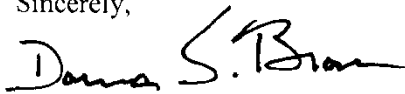
Instructions and Assistance


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.

Sincerely,



 Kristi Reid Willis, Chief
Bureau of Election Records

KRW/dlh

Enclosures



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Laurel M. Lee
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

September 13, 2021

Paul Skinner, Chairperson
Preserving Florida's Future
1216 Southeast 10th Street
Ocala, FL 34471-4471

PAC 78979

Dear Mr. Skinner:

Our records indicate that you have not filed either your campaign treasurer's report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable. The filing date was September 10, 2021.

The law (s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) requires the filing officer to immediately notify you about the missed filing date and the automatic fines that will be assessed for late filing of a report, if a report was due.

- If reportable activity occurred and you have not filed a report, statutory fines are automatically assessed as follows until you file your report:
 - ◆ \$50 per day for the first 3 days late
 - ◆ \$500 per day for each day after the 3rd day late
 - ◆ If the required report immediately precedes a primary and general election, the automatic fine is \$500 for each late day.

The total fine for the untimely report cannot exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the cover period. Even if you end up filing your report late, we cannot waive the statutory fines. We will notify you of the specific amount of fines owed once you file your report. You have 20 days from the day you receive the notice to pay the fine or to appeal the fine to the Florida Elections Commission.

- If no reportable activity occurred for the report date(s), you are still required to notify us in writing, via the Division's Electronic Filing System, that no reportable activity occurred. No automatic fines are statutorily assessed.

However, in all cases, failure to file and/or untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna S. Brown".

Donna S. Brown, Chief
Bureau of Election Records



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Laurel M. Lee
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

Second Notice

October 13, 2021

Paul Skinner, Chairperson
Preserving Florida's Future
1216 Southeast 10th Street
Ocala, FL 34471-4471

PAC 78979

Dear Mr. Skinner:

Our records indicate that you have not filed either your campaign treasurer's report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable. The filing date was September 10, 2021.

We mailed, via regular mail, the first notice of the failure to file the above-mentioned report or notification to the address on file with our office on September 13, 2021.

The first notice which we provided to you specifically explained the automatic fine provisions in the law (s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) for failure to file a required report. Such fines are continuing to accrue for a late-filed report. Also, that notice explained that if no reportable activity occurred for the report date(s), you are still required to provide notification in writing that no reportable activity occurred. Our initial notice further indicated that, in all cases, failure to file and/or untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

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

Sincerely,


Donna S. Brown, Chief
Bureau of Election Records



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Laurel M. Lee
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

October 13, 2021

Paul Skinner, Chairperson
Preserving Florida's Future
1216 Southeast 10th Street
Ocala, FL 34471-4471

PAC 78979

Dear Mr. Skinner:

Our records indicate that you have not filed either your campaign treasurer's report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable. The filing date was October 12, 2021.

The law (s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) requires the filing officer to immediately notify you about the missed filing date and the automatic fines that will be assessed for late filing of a report, if a report was due.

- If reportable activity occurred and you have not filed a report, statutory fines are automatically assessed as follows until you file your report:
 - * \$50 per day for the first 3 days late
 - * \$500 per day for each day after the 3rd day late
 - * If the required report immediately precedes a primary and general election, the automatic fine is \$500 for each late day.

The total fine for the untimely report cannot exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the cover period. Even if you end up filing your report late, we cannot waive the statutory fines. We will notify you of the specific amount of fines owed once you file your report. You have 20 days from the day you receive the notice to pay the fine or to appeal the fine to the Florida Elections Commission.

- If no reportable activity occurred for the report date(s), you are still required to notify us in writing, via the Division's Electronic Filing System, that no reportable activity occurred. No automatic fines are statutorily assessed.

However, in all cases, failure to file and/or untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

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

Sincerely,

Donna S. Brown, Chief
Bureau of Election Records



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Laurel M. Lee
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

Second Notice

November 1, 2021

Paul Skinner, Chairperson
Preserving Florida's Future
1216 Southeast 10th Street
Ocala, FL 34471-4471

PAC 78979

Dear Mr. Skinner:

Our records indicate that you have not filed either your campaign treasurer's report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable. The filing date was October 12, 2021.

We mailed, via regular mail, the first notice of the failure to file the above-mentioned report or notification to the address on file with our office on October 13, 2021.

The first notice which we provided to you specifically explained the automatic fine provisions in the law (s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) for failure to file a required report. Such fines are continuing to accrue for a late-filed report. Also, that notice explained that if no reportable activity occurred for the report date(s), you are still required to provide notification in writing that no reportable activity occurred. Our initial notice further indicated that, in all cases, failure to file and/or untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

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

Sincerely,

Donna S. Brown, Chief
Bureau of Election Records



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Laurel M. Lee
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

Final Notice
Delivery Confirmation:

USPS TRACKING # **9114 9022 0078 9649 8721 85**
& CUSTOMER RECEIPT For Tracking or Inquiries go to USPS.com
or call 1-800-222-1811.

November 1, 2021

Paul Skinner, Chairperson
Preserving Florida's Future
1216 Southeast 10th Street
Ocala, FL 34471-4471

PAC 78979

Dear Mr. Skinner:

A recent review of the Division's records show that the Division has not yet received the below-referenced campaign treasurer's report or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable, during the following cover period:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Report</u>	<u>Cover Period</u>
2021	M8	8/1/21 - 8/31/21

The Division has previously notified you of the unfiled report or notification. Please file your report or notification. *If the report is not filed within 7 days of receipt of this letter, the Division will refer this matter to the Florida Elections Commission, which may impose civil penalties of up to \$1000 per violation, apart from that automatic fine provisions of s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) that are applicable only to campaign finance reports.*

As we stated in the prior notices, even if you now file the report or notification, the untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

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

Sincerely,

Donna S. Brown, Chief
Bureau of Election Records



[FAQs >](#)

[Track Another Package +](#)

Tracking Number: 9114902200789649872185

[Remove X](#)

Your item was delivered in or at the mailbox at 5:58 pm on November 4, 2021 in OCALA, FL 34471.

Delivered, In/At Mailbox

November 4, 2021 at 5:58 pm
OCALA, FL 34471

[Feedback](#)

Get Updates

- **Text & Email Updates**
- **Tracking History**
- **Product Information**

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Can't find what you're looking for?

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Laurel M. Lee
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

Final Notice
Delivery Confirmation:

USPS TRACKING # **9114 9022 0078 9644 8021 01**
& CUSTOMER RECEIPT For Tracking or Inquiries go to USPS.com
or call 1-800-222-1811.

November 22, 2021

Paul Skinner, Chairperson
Preserving Florida's Future
1216 Southeast 10th Street
Ocala, FL 34471-4471

PAC 78979

Dear Mr. Skinner:

A recent review of the Division's records show that the Division has not yet received the below-referenced campaign treasurer's report or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable, during the following cover period:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Report</u>	<u>Cover Period</u>
2021	M9	9/1/21 - 9/30/21

The Division has previously notified you of the unfiled report or notification. Please file your report or notification. If the report is not filed within 7 days of receipt of this letter, the Division will refer this matter to the Florida Elections Commission, which may impose civil penalties of up to \$1000 per violation, apart from that automatic fine provisions of s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) that are applicable only to campaign finance reports.

As we stated in the prior notices, even if you now file the report or notification, the untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

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

Sincerely,

Donna S. Brown, Chief
Bureau of Election Records



[FAQs >](#)

[Track Another Package +](#)

Tracking Number: 9114902200789644802101




[Remove X](#)

Your item was delivered in or at the mailbox at 3:32 pm on November 29, 2021 in OCALA, FL 34471.

 **Delivered, In/At Mailbox**

November 29, 2021 at 3:32 pm
OCALA, FL 34471

Get Updates 

- Text & Email Updates** 
- Tracking History** 
- Product Information** 

[See Less ^](#)

Can't find what you're looking for?

Go to our [FAQs](#) section to find answers to your tracking questions.



Florida Department of State - Division of Elections

Florida Election System Reports

Candidate/Committee Lookup

Name:

Election:

Acct:

Type:




Pol Action Comm
Name: Preserving Florida's Future

Account: 78979

Date Due	Type	Date Filed	Status	Days Late	Fine Assessed	Appealed	Amount Fined	Amount Paid
9/9/2022	G1A		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
9/2/2022	G1		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
8/26/2022	P7A		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
8/19/2022	P7		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
8/12/2022	P6		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
8/5/2022	P5		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
7/29/2022	P4		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
7/22/2022	P3		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
7/15/2022	P2A		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
7/8/2022	P2		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
7/1/2022	P1A		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
6/24/2022	P1		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
6/10/2022	M5		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
5/10/2022	M4		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
4/11/2022	M3		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
3/10/2022	M2		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
2/10/2022	M1		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
1/10/2022	M12		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
12/10/2021	M11		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
11/10/2021	M10		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
10/12/2021	M9		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
9/10/2021	M8		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
8/10/2021	M7	8/10/2021						
7/12/2021	M6	8/10/2021	CLO	29	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
6/10/2021	M5	6/7/2021						
5/10/2021	M4	5/7/2021						
4/12/2021	M3	3/31/2021						
3/10/2021	M2		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
2/10/2021	M1	2/17/2021	CLO	7	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
1/11/2021	M12	1/6/2021						
12/10/2020	M11	2/19/2021	CLO	71	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
11/10/2020	M10	11/4/2020						
10/30/2020	G6	10/29/2020						
10/29/2020	D6	10/28/2020						
10/28/2020	D5	10/28/2020						
10/27/2020	D4	10/26/2020						
10/26/2020	D3	10/26/2020						
10/25/2020	D2	10/25/2020						
10/24/2020	D1	10/24/2020						
10/23/2020	G5	10/22/2020						
10/16/2020	G4A	10/15/2020						
10/9/2020	G4	10/9/2020						
10/2/2020	G3A	10/5/2020	CLO	3	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00

Account Number:

Managing Your Accounts

-  Customer Care (800) 277-2175
-  Mailing Address P.O. Box 118068
Charleston, SC 29423
-  Website SouthStateBank.com

PRESERVING FLORIDAS FUTURE
 1216 SE 10TH ST
 Ocala FL 34471-4568

**Welcome to
Banking Forward.**

Introducing new statements designed with you in mind to provide a clear summary of your account activity.

Member FDIC



Summary of Accounts

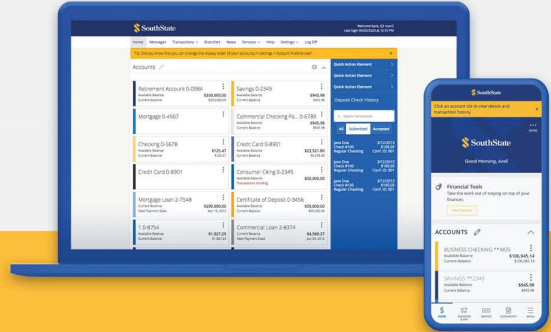
Account Type	Account Number	Ending Balance
COMMUNITY CHECKING		-\$513.35

Access All of Your Accounts Instantly

ONLINE & MOBILE BANKING

Stay organized with our secure digital offerings.

- Manage Your Accounts
- Pay Bills Online
- Send Money to Friends
- Set Up Account Alerts
- Mobile Deposit Checks
- Instant Balance
- Face ID/Fingerprint Sign On
- Budget & Track Goals



Enroll online today at SouthStateBank.com/OnlineBanking or download our Mobile App to get started.

Internet service provider and/or message data rates may apply. Member FDIC.

COMMUNITY CHECKING

Account Summary

Date	Description	Amount
07/31/2021	Beginning Balance	-\$56.51
	0 Credit(s) This Period	\$0.00
	3 Debit(s) This Period	\$456.84
08/31/2021	Ending Balance	-\$513.35

Electronic Debits

Date	Description	Amount
08/10/2021	AIR CANADA 0142138239787 AIR CANADA 014213 XXX NYUXX9731 SIG PURCH 08/09 04:03	\$192.42
08/10/2021	AIR CANADA 0142138239786 AIR CANADA 014213 XXX NYUXX9731 SIG PURCH 08/09 04:03	\$192.42
2 item(s) totaling		\$384.84

Other Debits




Date	Description	Amount
08/10/2021	OVERDRAFT PAID ITEM(S) FEE	\$72.00
1 item(s) totaling		\$72.00

Daily Balances

Date	Amount
08/10/2021	-\$513.35

PRESERVING FLORIDAS FUTURE
 1216 SE 10TH ST
 Ocala FL 34471-4568

Managing Your Accounts

-  Customer Care (800) 277-2175
-  Mailing Address P.O. Box 118068
Charleston, SC 29423
-  Website SouthStateBank.com

**Welcome to
Banking Forward.**

Introducing new statements designed with you in mind to provide a clear summary of your account activity.

Member FDIC



Summary of Accounts

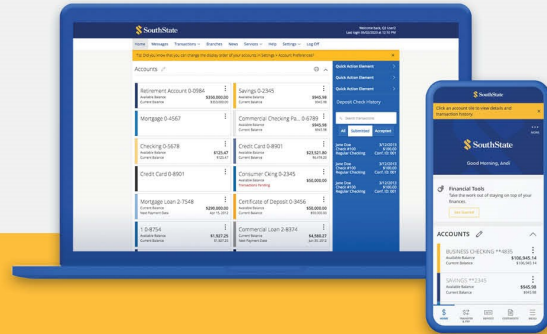
Account Type	Account Number	Ending Balance
COMMUNITY CHECKING		\$0.00

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COMMUNITY CHECKING-

Account Summary

Date	Description	Amount
09/01/2021	Beginning Balance	-\$513.35
	1 Credit(s) This Period	\$513.35
	0 Debit(s) This Period	\$0.00
09/13/2021	Ending Balance	\$0.00

Please be aware we will be updating our Fee Schedule, effective November 1, 2021. The following fees will change:

1. Wire Investigation Fee of \$35 will be added.
2. The International Check Services - Cash Letter/Provisional Fee of \$25 will be removed. This service will be available but will no longer incur a fee.

You may view the full fee schedule online at SouthStateBank.com/Small-Business/Bank/Business-Account-Fee-Schedule. For Treasury Management Services, including Treasury Navigator and cash management sweep options, please reference the Treasury Management Fee Schedule.

Other Credits

Date	Description	Amount
09/10/2021	AUTOMATIC CHARGE OFF	\$513.35
		1 item(s) totaling \$513.35

Daily Balances

Date	Amount
09/10/2021	\$0.00

Charles Mellow

From: Chandra Reese <ccrease@southstatebank.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 8, 2022 3:23 PM
To: Charles Mellow
Subject: Secure RE: Subpoena Request 21 330-114 - Preserving Florida's Future

This message was sent securely using Zix®

Hi Charles, a Chargeoff of an account closes the account. The account would have been carrying a negative balance and the bank charges it off and closes at zero.

You're welcome



Chandra C. Reese

Deposit Ops Specialist
1951 8th St NW

Winter Haven, FL 33881
Office 863-593-6522
SouthStateBank.com

From: Charles Mellow <Charles.Mellow@myfloridalegal.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 8, 2022 3:09 PM
To: Chandra Reese <ccrease@southstatebank.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Secure Subpoena Request 21 330-114 - Preserving Florida's Future

Good afternoon Ms. Reese:

This is a follow-up question regarding this account. Did this account close after the 09/10/2021 "Automatic Charge Off" in the attached September 2021 statement or is it still open?

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Charles Mellow - Investigator
Florida Elections Commission - Office of the Attorney General
Collins Building - Room 212
107 W. Gaines Street

Committee Tracking System

Preserving Florida's Future

Type:Political Committee

Status:Active

Address:1216 Southeast 10th Street
Ocala, FL 34471

Phone:(352)438-9836

Chairperson:Paul Skinner

Treasurer:Paul Skinner

Registered Agent:Paul Skinner
1216 Southeast 10th Street
Ocala, FL 34471

Purpose:

Affiliates:

Campaign Finance Activity

Campaign Documents

**FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION
PHONE LOG
Case No.: FEC 21-499**

Respondent: Preserving Florida's Future

Complainant: Division of Elections

1. **Date and time:** 02/14/2022; 01:16 p.m.

Name: Paul Skinner – Chair/Treasurer

Phone #: (352) 438-9836

Summary: Spoke with Mr. Skinner. Explained case number FEC 21-499. Mr. Skinner was cooperative and willing to answer questions about the case, which can be reviewed in the “**RESPONDENT INTERVIEW MEMO**” below.

I informed Mr. Skinner when I conclude my investigation, a copy of the Report of Investigation (ROI) will be mailed to him. Based on the results of the investigation, a staff attorney will prepare and present a written Staff Recommendation (SR) to the Commission. He will have an opportunity to respond to both the ROI and the SR.

Mr. Skinner is aggravated about the situation, because the PAC was supposed to be closed at the end of 2020. He asked if he should contact his attorney, which I told him he can do that if he chooses.

Entered by: CM

2. **Date and time:**

Name:

Phone #:

Summary:

Entered by:

3. **Date and time:**

Name:

Phone #:

Summary:

Entered by:

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 #1

- Please explain the reason why you failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no **2021 M8 and 2021 M9** report would be filed on that date 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. Respondent's Chair/Treasurer Paul Skinner stated that his assistant was supposed to dissolve the PAC, that the PAC should have been shut down at the end of 2020. Mr. Skinner stated there were no monies after 2020 and the account was shut down in 2020.

Respondent was interviewed on the below questions previously.

- 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? **No.** If so, please name each such candidate, the office each ran for, and state what year each election occurred.
- 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. **Marion County Republican Party – Chair – 2016, 2017. Florida Young Republicans - National Committee Man.**
- Have you ever prepared or signed a campaign treasurer's report? **No.** If so, please state the name of the candidate or committee whose report you prepared or signed.
- What action have you taken to determine your responsibilities under Florida's election laws?
- Do you possess a copy of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes? **Nope.** If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it? **"Can't say I have."**
- Do you possess a copy of the *Political Committee Handbook*? **"Have it somewhere."** If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it? **"Not fully."**
- Did you receive any other materials from your filing officer? If so, please describe them. 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? **Mr. Skinner didn't know what was going on since he thought the PAC was inactive and he was out of the state now. I told Mr. Skinner the LS letter was mailed to 581 NE 62nd Terrace, Ocala, FL 34470-1717. Mr. Skinner stated he no longer lives at that address.**



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



February 4, 2022

Mr. Paul Skinner, Chair
Preserving Florida's Future
1216 Southeast 10th Street
Ocala, FL 34471

RE: Case No.: FEC 21-499; Respondent: Preserving Florida's Future

Dear Mr. Skinner:

On December 3, 2021, the Florida Elections Commission received a complaint alleging that 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 violations:

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:

- 2021 M8
- 2021 M9

Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a political committee registered with the Division of Elections, may have falsely reported or deliberately failed to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, during the following reporting periods:

- 2021 M8
- 2021 M9

When we conclude the investigation, a copy of the Report of Investigation (ROI) will be mailed to you at the above address. Based on the results of the investigation, a staff attorney will prepare and present a written Staff Recommendation (SR) to the Commission as to whether there is probable cause to charge, the Respondent, with violating Chapters 104 or 106, Florida Statutes. You will have an opportunity to respond to both the ROI and the SR. The Commission will then hold one or more hearings to determine whether the alleged violations occurred and, if so, the amount of the fine to be imposed upon your committee. Notice will be mailed to you and the Complainant at least 14 days before any hearing at which your case is to be considered.

Mr. Paul Skinner, Chair
February 4, 2022
Page 2
FEC 21-499

Pursuant to Section 106.25(4)(i)3., Florida Statutes, the Commission may enter into a consent agreement with a Respondent to settle a complaint prior to a finding of probable cause. If you are interested in entering negotiations directed towards reaching a consent agreement to resolve this matter, please contact the Commission and request to speak with the attorney assigned to this case.

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

Pursuant to Section 106.25, Florida Statutes, complaints, investigations, investigative reports, and other documents relating to an alleged violation of Chapters 104 or 106, Florida Statutes, are confidential until the Commission finds probable cause or no probable cause, unless the Respondent files a written waiver of confidentiality with the Commission. The confidentiality provision does not apply to the Complainant or the Respondent.

Should 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.

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

If you have additional questions, please contact **Chuck Mellow**, the investigator assigned to this case, by phone at (850) 922-4539 or by email at Charles.Mellow@myfloridalegal.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tim Vaccaro". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tim Vaccaro
Executive Director

TV/mw

**DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
FEC NOTICE FORM**

To FEC from Division of Elections

REC'D: FL ELECTIONS COM
3 DEC '21 PM 3:41

Name: Preserving Florida's Future
Account Number: 78979
Chairperson: Paul Skinner
Treasurer: Paul Skinner
Registered Agent: Paul Skinner

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 the failure to file a report after notice or failure to file a notification to 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.

The following reports are outstanding after notification:

2021 M8

2021 M9

- Preserving Florida's Future (78979) is a political committee registered with the Division of Elections. On September 22, 2020, the committee filed the DSDE 5 and DSDE 6 with the Division indicating that Paul Skinner was the chairperson.
- The 2021 M8 campaign treasurer's report was due on September 10, 2021. On September 13, 2021, the Division mailed Preserving Florida's Future notification that the 2021 M8 campaign treasurer's report had not been filed.
- On October 13, 2021, the Division mailed Preserving Florida's Future notification that the 2021 M8 campaign treasurer's report had not been filed.
- On November 1, 2021, the Division mailed Preserving Florida's Future final notification with delivery confirmation that the 2021 M8 report had not been filed. (See attached letter and delivery confirmation.)

- The 2021 M9 campaign treasurer's report was due on October 12, 2021. On October 13, 2021, the Division mailed Preserving Florida's Future notification that the 2021 M9 campaign treasurer's report had not been filed.
- On November 1, 2021, the Division mailed Preserving Florida's Future notification that the 2021 M9 campaign treasurer's report had not been filed.
- On November 22, 2021, the Division mailed Preserving Florida's Future final notification with delivery confirmation that the 2021 M9 report had not been filed. (See attached letter and delivery confirmation.)
- The committee did not notify the Division of Elections prior to or on the prescribed reporting dates for the 2021 M8 and 2021 M9 reports that no reports were to be filed.
- As of December 1, 2021, Preserving Florida's Future has not filed the 2021 M8 and 2021 M9 reports.

Sent By: Donna S. Brown *DSB*
Date: December 1, 2021
kaf



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Laurel M. Lee
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

Final Notice
Delivery Confirmation:

USPS TRACKING # & CUSTOMER RECEIPT **9114 9022 0078 9649 8721 85**
For Tracking or inquiries go to USPS.com or call 1-800-222-1811.

November 1, 2021

Paul Skinner, Chairperson
Preserving Florida's Future
1216 Southeast 10th Street
Ocala, FL 34471-4471

PAC 78979

Dear Mr. Skinner:

A recent review of the Division's records show that the Division has not yet received the below-referenced campaign treasurer's report or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable, during the following cover period:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Report</u>	<u>Cover Period</u>
2021	M8	8/1/21 - 8/31/21

The Division has previously notified you of the unfiled report or notification. Please file your report or notification. *If the report is not filed within 7 days of receipt of this letter, the Division will refer this matter to the Florida Elections Commission, which may impose civil penalties of up to \$1000 per violation, apart from that automatic fine provisions of s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) that are applicable only to campaign finance reports.*

As we stated in the prior notices, even if you now file the report or notification, the untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

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

Sincerely,

Donna S. Brown, Chief
Bureau of Election Records

Track Another Package +

Tracking Number: 9114902200789649872185

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Your item was delivered in or at the mailbox at 5:58 pm on November 4, 2021 in OCALA, FL 34471.

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November 4, 2021 at 5:58 pm
OCALA, FL 34471

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Laurel M. Lee
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

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& CUSTOMER RECEIPT For Tracking or Inquiries go to USPS.com
or call 1-800-222-1811.

November 22, 2021

Paul Skinner, Chairperson
Preserving Florida's Future
1216 Southeast 10th Street
Ocala, FL 34471-4471

PAC 78979

Dear Mr. Skinner:

A recent review of the Division's records show that the Division has not yet received the below-referenced campaign treasurer's report or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable, during the following cover period:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Report</u>	<u>Cover Period</u>
2021	M9	9/1/21 - 9/30/21

The Division has previously notified you of the unfiled report or notification. Please file your report or notification. If the report is not filed within 7 days of receipt of this letter, the Division will refer this matter to the Florida Elections Commission, which may impose civil penalties of up to \$1000 per violation, apart from that automatic fine provisions of s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) that are applicable only to campaign finance reports.

As we stated in the prior notices, even if you now file the report or notification, the untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

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

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Donna S. Brown in black ink.

Donna S. Brown, Chief
Bureau of Election Records

Track Another Package +

Tracking Number: 9114902200789644802101

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Your item was delivered in or at the mailbox at 3:32 pm on November 29, 2021 in OCALA, FL 34471.

Delivered, In/At Mailbox

November 29, 2021 at 3:32 pm
OCALA, FL 34471

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Tracking History



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