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STATE OF FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In Re: Donald D. Anderson, in his capacity as former treasurer of the Republican

Party of Sarasota

FEC Case No: 13-212

F.O. No: FOFEC 15-023 W

CONSENT FINAL ORDER

Respondent, Donald D. Anderson, former treasurer of the Republican Party of Sarasota ("RPS"), and the Florida Elections Commission ("Commission") agree that this Consent Order resolves all of the issues between the parties in this case. The parties jointly stipulate to the following facts, conclusions of law, and order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- On July 16, 2013, a complaint was filed with the Commission alleging that Respondent violated Florida's election laws.
- 2. Respondent has expressed a desire to enter into negotiations directed toward reaching a consent agreement.
 - 3. Respondent and the staff stipulate to the following facts:
 - a. Respondent is Donald D. Anderson, acting in his capacity as the former treasurer of the Republican Party of Sarasota ("RPS").
 - b. During the 2012 campaign cycle, PayPal made three separate transfers to RPS' campaign account. The transfers occurred during the 2012 Q1, 2012 F3, and 2012 G4 reporting periods. The amount of each transfer was the sum of individual contributions made to RPS through PayPal less any applicable fees.

- Respondent failed to report the total amount of each of the 3 PayPal transfers on RPS' 2012 Q1, 2012 F3, and 2012 G4 reports, however he certified that each of the reports were true, correct, and complete when they were not.
 - d. Respondent also failed to report an additional item.
- e. Respondent failed to report the PayPal contributions that were required to be reported, and certified that RPS' campaign reports as being true, correct, and complete when they were not.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 4. The Commission has jurisdiction over the parties to and subject matter of this cause, pursuant to Section 106.26, Florida Statutes.
- 5. Section 106.25(4)(i)3, Florida Statutes, allows the Commission to approve a consent agreement with a Respondent prior to the Commission finding probable cause that a violation of the election laws occurred. The consent agreement has the same force and effect as a consent agreement reached after the Commission finds probable cause.
- 6. The Respondent and the Commission agree that staff could prove the facts in paragraph 3 above by the required burden of proof, and to the Commission's ability to impose a civil penalty in this case.

ORDER

- 7. The Respondent and the staff of the Commission have entered into this Consent Order voluntarily and upon advice of counsel.
- 8. The parties shall each bear its own attorney's fees and costs that are in any way associated with this case.
 - 9. The Commission will consider the Consent Order at its next available meeting.

- The Respondent voluntarily waives the right to any further proceedings under Chapters 104, 106 and 120, Florida Statutes.
- If the Commission does not receive the signed Consent Order and payment by the close of business on January 23, 2015, the staff may withdraw this offer of settlement and will proceed with the case.
- Respondent and the staff of the Commission agree that this Consent Order and the terms contained herein shall not constitute an admission against interest or acknowledgement of guilt relating to any criminal act or criminal charge that might arise from the facts in paragraph 3 above against Donald D. Anderson in his capacity as former treasurer of RPS.
- 13. This Consent Order is enforceable under Sections 106.265 and 120.69, Florida Statutes. Respondent and the RPS shall be jointly and severally liable for all attorney fees and costs associated with enforcement.
- 14. Payment of the civil penalty by RPS by cashier's check, money order, good for at least 120 days, or attorney trust account check, is a condition precedent to the Commission's consideration of the Consent Order.
- 15. Respondent acknowledges and represents the he has reviewed this Consent Order with his counsel.

PENALTY

WHEREFORE, based upon the foregoing facts and conclusions of law, the Commission finds that the Respondent, in his capacity as former treasurer of RPS, has violated Sections 106.19(1)(b), and 106.29(2), Florida Statutes, for which the Commission imposes a civil penalty of \$20,000.

Therefore it is

ORDERED that the RPS shall remit to the Commission a civil penalty in the amount of \$20,000, inclusive of fees and costs. The civil penalty shall be paid by cashier's check, money order, good for at least 120 days, or attorney trust account check. The civil penalty should be made payable to the Florida Elections Commission and sent to 107 West Gaines Street, Collins Building, Suite 224, Tallahassee, Florida, 32399-1050.

Respondent hereby agrees and consents to the terms of this Consent Order on

January 8, 2015.

Donald Dean Anderson, Respondent
520 Verdi Street
Venice, Florida 34285

Commission staff hereby agrees and consents to the terms of this Consent Order on

January 8, 2015.

Eric M. Lipman
General Counsel
Florida Elections Commission
107 West Gaines Street
Collins Building, Suite 224
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050

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Approved by the Florida Elections Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting held on 16, 24, 25, 2015, in Tallahassee, Florida

Tim Holladay, Chairman

Florida Elections Commission

Copies furnished to:

Eric M. Lipman, General Counsel Jason Gonzalez, Attorney for Respondent and Sarasota Republican Party Jone B. Weist, Complainant



Official Check

64-79/611

8438473773

by Positive Pay

Date

Initials (type)56687 Center2940

Republican Exective Committee

To the Order of

PAY

Purchaser

Florida Elections Commission

Sarasota County

SunTry st Bank

Jan. 6, 20**.6**

Payable at SunTrust Bank