

**STATE OF FLORIDA
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

In Re: Matthew Peters

Case No.: FEC 20-617

TO: Matthew Peters
2571 Lake Worth Road, Apt. 417
Lake Worth, FL 33461-0902

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, **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 20-617

v.

**Matthew Peters,
Respondent.**

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 February 22, 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 September 10, 2020, Matthew Peters violated Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes, when he failed to file the campaign's 2020 Termination Report reflecting the disposition of all remaining campaign funds within 90 days after being eliminated as a candidate.

THIS SPACE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

FILED
2023 MAY 16 PM 4:00
TALLAHASSEE
FLORIDA
CLERK OF THE
COMMISSION

The Commission finds that there is **no probable cause** to charge Respondent with violating Sections 106.07(7), and 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes.

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
Matthew Peters, 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 30 days from the date the Order of Probable Cause is filed with the Commission to request such a hearing. The date this order was filed appears in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of the order. At the hearing, you will have the right to make written or oral arguments to the Commission concerning the legal issues related to the violation(s) and the potential fine. At the request of Respondent, the Commission will consider and determine willfulness at an informal hearing. Otherwise, live witness testimony is unnecessary.

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

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

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



Concerning FEC Matthew PetersMatt Peters to: stephanie.cunningham, fec
05/16/2023 04:36 PM
From: "Matt Peters" <mattpeters85@gmail.com>
To: stephanie.cunningham@myfloridalegal.com, fec@myfloridalegal.com

Concerning FEC

My name Is Matthew Peters, last night I received a packet containing multiple failed attempts to contact me as well as a paper stating that there would be a Zoom meeting this morning. I had just attempted to join but Zoom says the meeting never started.

Until very recently I had unstable housing and was homeless for over two years due to a complicated issue that stemmed from a landlord evicting us in retaliation for a code violation we reported. It's only recently we were able resolve this and as a result couldn't find a place to live for a long time, with this and crisis after crisis I had forgotten I had even filed to run. We never raised any money or collected a single signature.

I am not sure how I can resolve this, but I would like to do so as soon as possible.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**STATE OF FLORIDA
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

In Re: Matthew Peters

Case No.: FEC 20-617

TO: Matthew Peters

1210 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., Apt. D5
West Palm Beach, FL 33401-2426

Division of Elections

500 South Bronough Street, Room 316
Tallahassee, FL 32399

NOTICE OF HEARING (PROBABLE CAUSE DETERMINATION)

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, **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/join/register/tZMpduMuqTsqGt1MNuVpQBO15XPapAI_9zfC

Audio Participation:
Dial: 1 301 715 8592

Meeting ID:
874 1067 0009

Passcode:
772737

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

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Tim Vaccaro

Executive Director
Florida Elections Commission
May 2, 2023

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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.

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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: Matthew Peters

Case No.: FEC 20-617

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 106.141(1), Florida Statutes**, and **no probable cause** to charge Respondent with violating **Sections 106.07(7), and 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes**. Based upon a thorough review of the Report of Investigation submitted on January 17, 2023, the following facts and law support this staff recommendation:

1. On December 9, 2020, the Florida Elections Commission (“Commission”) received a referral from the Department of State, Division of Elections (“Division” or “Complainant”), alleging that Matthew Peters (“Respondent”) violated Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.

2. Respondent was a 2020 candidate for State Representative, District 88. Respondent’s Statement of Candidate form (“DS-DE 84”) was filed on April 6, 2020. (ROI Exhibit 2)¹

3. By letter dated January 25, 2021, 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 2020 candidate for State Representative, District 88, may have failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because he had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2020 Termination Reporting period.

Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2020 candidate for State Representative, District 88, failed to timely file his 2020 Termination Report reflecting the disposition of all remaining campaign funds.

Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2020 candidate for State Representative, District 88, may have falsely reported or deliberately failed to include information in his 2020 Termination Report, as required by Chapter 106.

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

4. On April 6, 2020, Respondent filed his Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Candidates form (“DS-DE 9”) appointing Laurie Kermon as treasurer for his campaign. (ROI Exhibit 1)

5. By letter dated April 7, 2020, Kristi Reid Willis, Chief, Bureau of Election Records, sent Respondent a letter acknowledging that the Division had received his DS-DE 9 and that his name was placed on the 2020 active candidate list. (ROI Exhibit 3, page 1)

6. The acknowledgment letter advised Respondent that all candidates 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 of the Division’s publications and reporting forms were available on its website and directed Respondent to print out Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, and the *Calendar of Reporting Dates*, as well as other relevant documents. (ROI Exhibit 3, page 2)

Alleged Violation: Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes

7. Complainant alleged that Respondent violated Florida’s election laws by failing to timely file the campaign’s 2020 Termination Report.

8. Respondent failed to qualify and was eliminated as a candidate. (ROI, p. 1, ¶1) Respondent was required to dispose of the funds on deposit in his campaign account and file the campaign’s 2020 Termination Report within 90 days after being eliminated as a candidate.

9. On September 11, 2020, October 19, 2020, and November 2, 2020, the Division sent letters notifying Respondent that his report had not been received. (ROI Exhibits 4 & 5) The November 2, 2020, letter was confirmed delivered. (ROI Exhibit 5, page 2)

10. A subpoena was issued to Respondent’s designated campaign depository to ascertain whether any financial activity occurred during the relevant reporting period, i.e., June 13, 2020 – September 10, 2020. Respondent’s bank records show three expenditures for bank fees totaling \$9.00. (ROI Exhibit 7)

11. Respondent failed to respond to Commission staff’s investigation. (ROI Exhibit 8; ROI, p. 2, ¶¶ 11-12)

12. As it appears that Respondent had reportable financial activity during the relevant reporting period, Respondent was required to file the campaign’s 2020 Termination Report within 90 days after being eliminated as a candidate but failed to do so.

Alleged Violation: Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes

13. Complainant alleged that Respondent violated Florida’s election laws by falsely reporting or deliberately failing to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, on the campaign’s 2020 Termination Report.

14. Based on the above analysis, Respondent had reportable financial activity during the relevant reporting period, which was not reported, and therefore, failed to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, on the campaign's 2020 Termination Report. However, the investigation did not produce evidence suggesting that the failure to report \$9.00 in expenditures assessed by Respondent's financial institution was deliberate. Therefore, I recommend that the Commission find no probable cause with regard to Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes.

Alleged Violation: Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes

15. Complainant alleged that Respondent violated Florida's election laws by failing to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed for the 2020 Termination reporting period.

16. Based on the above analysis, the campaign was not required to submit a notice of no activity for the 2020 Termination reporting period as there was reportable financial activity that Respondent was required to disclose on his 2020 Termination Report.

17. "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).

18. The facts set forth above show that Respondent was a 2020 candidate for State Representative, District 88. Respondent failed to file the campaign's 2020 Termination Report within 90 days after being eliminated as a candidate. Respondent was not required to notify the filing officer that he would not be filing his 2020 Termination Report because the campaign had reportable financial activity. With regard to Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, I recommend that the Commission find no probable cause.

Based upon these facts and circumstances, I recommend that the Commission find **no probable cause** to charge Respondent with violating **Sections 106.07(7), and 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes**, and find **probable cause** to charge Respondent with violating the following:

Count 1:

On or about September 10, 2020, Matthew Peters violated Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes, when he failed to file the campaign's 2020 Termination Report reflecting the disposition of all remaining campaign funds within 90 days after being eliminated as a candidate.

Respectfully submitted on February 22, 2023.



Stephanie J. Cunningham
General Counsel

I reviewed this Staff Recommendation this 22nd day of February 2023.



Tim Vaccaro
Executive Director

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

**Report of Investigation
Sections 106.07(7), 106.141(1), and 106.19(1)(c), F.S.**

Case Number: FEC 20-617

Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes, failure of a candidate to dispose of funds remaining in the campaign account within 90 days after the candidate withdrew, became unopposed, was eliminated, or elected and to file a termination report (TR) reflecting the disposition of all remaining funds.

Sections 106.07(7), and 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, failure of a candidate who did not receive any contributions or make any expenditures during the TR reporting period to notify timely the filing officer, in writing, that no TR is being filed or failure to file the TR to reflect financial activity.

Respondent: Matthew Peters

Respondent's Atty: N/A

Division of Elections (Division)

Referral Filed: December 9, 2020

Respondent Type: Candidate

I. Preliminary Information:

1. Respondent was a 2020 candidate for State Representative, District 88; he failed to qualify. Respondent was a first-time candidate.

2. An Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository form (DS-DE 9) was filed on April 6, 2020. Laurie Kermon was appointed as campaign treasurer. To review the DS-DE 9, refer to Exhibit 1.

3. Respondent filed a Statement of Candidate with the Division on April 6, 2020, in which Respondent certified he had been provided access to read and understand Chapter 106, F.S. To review the Statement of Candidate, refer to Exhibit 2.

4. An acknowledgement letter was mailed to the address provided on the DS-DE 9 on April 7, 2020. The letter advised Respondent that all candidates 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 *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer 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 9 notifying Respondent that the 2020 TR, or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, had not been filed and reiterating that the filing date was September 10, 2020. To review the failure to file correspondence, refer to Exhibit 4.

7. On November 2, 2020, the Division sent a letter marked “Final Notice” with delivery confirmation to the address provided on the DS-DE 9 notifying Respondent that the 2020 TR, or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, had not been filed. The letter was confirmed delivered on November 6, 2020. To review the letter marked “Final Notice” and delivery confirmation, refer to Exhibit 5.

II. Alleged Violation of Sections 106.07(7), 106.141(1), and 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes:

8. I investigated whether Respondent violated these sections of the election laws by not notifying the filing officer, in writing, that no TR would be filed due to not receiving any contributions or making expenditures during the TR reporting period or by not filing a TR to reflect financial activity during the TR reporting period. I also investigated whether Respondent violated Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes, by not disposing of all remaining campaign funds within 90 days of being eliminated. To review Respondent’s filing history, refer to Exhibit 6.

Report	Report Cover Period	Due Date	Report or Waiver Required	Exhibit 7 ¹
2020 TR	6/13/20 – 9/10/20	9/10/20	Report	7

9. Campaign account records disclose that a few expenditure(s) transpired during the TR reporting period in amounts of \$3.00 for monthly maintenance fees.

10. On the date the TR was due, campaign account records reflect that the balance was \$104.56. To review the relevant bank statement, refer to Exhibit 7, page 4.

11. Respondent did not respond to the referral.

12. I attempted to contact Respondent on three occasions for the purpose of providing an opportunity to discuss the allegations made in the referral. As of the date of this report, neither my telephone calls nor email have been returned. Therefore, I am unable to ascertain whether Respondent has read Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, and/or the *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook*. To review the phone log and email, refer to Exhibit 8.

SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATOR:  **Date:** January 17, 2023

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

**FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION
 REPORT OF INVESTIGATION
 Matthew Peters -- FEC 20-617**

LIST OF EXHIBITS	
Exhibits #s	Description of Exhibits
Exhibit 1	DS-DE 9 Form
Exhibit 2	Statement of Candidate
Exhibit 3	Acknowledgement Letter
Exhibit 4	1 st and 2 nd Failure-to-File Letters
Exhibit 5	Final Failure-to-File Letter with Delivery Confirmation Receipt
Exhibit 6	Filing History
Exhibit 7	Relevant Records from Campaign Depository
Exhibit 8	Phone Log with Email to Respondent

**APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER
AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN
DEPOSITORY FOR CANDIDATES**
(Section 106.021(1), F.S.)

(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
2020 APR -6 AM 9:50
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

NOTE: This form must be on file with the qualifying officer before opening the campaign account.

OFFICE USE ONLY

1. CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX(ES):

Initial Filing of Form Re-filing to Change: Treasurer/Deputy Depository Office Party

2. Name of Candidate (in this order: First, Middle, Last)
Matthew Charles Peters

3. Address (include post office box or street, city, state, zip code)
1210 Palm Beach Lakes blvd Apt D5, West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

4. Telephone
(561) 628-1414

5. E-mail address
matthew@gpfl.org

6. Office sought (include district, circuit, group number)
State House District 88

7. If a candidate for a nonpartisan office, check if applicable:
 My intent is to run as a Write-In candidate.

8. If a candidate for a partisan office, check block and fill in name of party as applicable: My intent is to run as a
 Write-In No Party Affiliation Green Party of Florida Party candidate.

9. I have appointed the following person to act as my Campaign Treasurer Deputy Treasurer

10. Name of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer
Laurie Kermon

11. Mailing Address
1210 Palm Beach Lakes blvd Apt D5, West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

12. Telephone
(561) 332-0675

13. City
West Palm Beach

14. County
Palm Beach

15. State
Florida

16. Zip Code
33401

17. E-mail address
GloriaLaurie1918@gmail.com

18. I have designated the following bank as my Primary Depository Secondary Depository

19. Name of Bank
SeaCoast Bank

20. Address
2055 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd

21. City
West Palm Beach

22. County
Palm Beach

23. State
Florida

24. Zip Code
33409

UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, I DECLARE THAT I HAVE READ THE FOREGOING FORM FOR APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN DEPOSITORY AND THAT THE FACTS STATED IN IT ARE TRUE.

25. Date
4-2-2020

26. Signature of Candidate
 Matthew Peters

27. Treasurer's Acceptance of Appointment (fill in the blanks and check the appropriate block)
I, Laurie Kermon, do hereby accept the appointment
(Please Print or Type Name)

designated above as: Campaign Treasurer Deputy Treasurer.

4-2-2020
Date

Laurie Kermon
Signature of Campaign Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer

**STATEMENT OF
CANDIDATE**

(Section 106.023, F.S.)

(Please print or type)

OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2020 APR -6 AM 9:50

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

I, Matthew Peters,

candidate for the office of State House District 88;

have been provided access to read and understand the requirements of

Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.

X Matthew Peters

Signature of Candidate

4-2-2020

Date

Each candidate must file a statement with the qualifying officer within 10 days after the Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository is filed. Willful failure to file this form is a first degree misdemeanor and a civil violation of the Campaign Financing Act which may result in a fine of up to \$1,000, (ss. 106.19(1)(c), 106.265(1), Florida Statutes).



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT *of* STATE

RON DESANTIS

Governor

LAUREL M. LEE

Secretary of State

April 7, 2020

Matthew Peters
1210 Palm Beach Lakes Boulevard, Apartment D5
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

Dear Mr. Peters:

This will acknowledge receipt of the Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for the office of State Representative, which was placed on file in our office on April 6, 2020. Your name has been placed on the 2020 active candidate list.

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 candidates who 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 your user identification number. Enclosed are your confidential, filing credentials.

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

Identification Number: 75404

Timely Filing

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

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)**



Matthew Peters
April 7, 2020
Page Two

Any candidate 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% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report. However, for 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 candidate 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: Chapters 104 and 106, Florida Statutes, *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer 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/njt

Enclosures

pc: Laurie Kermon, Treasurer



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Laurel M. Lee
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

September 11, 2020

Matthew Peters
Candidate for State Representative, District 88
1210 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd
Apt D5
West Palm Beach, FL 33401-3401

CAN 75404

Dear Mr. Peters:

Our records indicate that you have not filed either your termination report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable. The filing date was September 10, 2020.

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 \$50 per day until you file your report. 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,

Kristi Reid Willis, Chief
Bureau of Election Records

cc: Laurie Kermon, Treasurer



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Laurel M. Lee
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

Second Notice

October 19, 2020

Matthew Peters
Candidate for State Representative, District 88
1210 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd
Apt D5
West Palm Beach, FL 33401-3401

CAN 75404

Dear Mr. Peters:

Our records indicate that you have not filed either your termination report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable. The filing date was September 10, 2020.

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 11, 2020.

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,

Kristi Reid Willis, Chief
Bureau of Election Records

cc: Laurie Kermon, Treasurer



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Laurel M. Lee
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

Final Notice
Delivery Confirmation:

USPS TRACKING # **9114 9023 0722 4981 4002 97**
& CUSTOMER RECEIPT For Tracking or inquiries go to USPS.com
or call 1-800-222-1811.

November 2, 2020

Matthew Peters
Candidate for State Representative, District 88
1210 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd
Apt D5
West Palm Beach, FL 33401-3401

CAN 75404

Dear Mr. Peters:

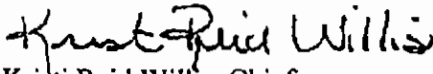
A recent review of the Division's records show that the Division has not yet received your termination report or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable.

The Division has previously notified you of the unfiled report or notification. Please file your report or notification. If the report or notification 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,


Kristi Reid Willis, Chief
Bureau of Election Records

cc: Laurie Kermon, Treasurer

USPS Tracking®

[FAQs >](#)

[Track Another Package +](#)

Tracking Number: 9114902307224981400297

[Remove X](#)

Your item was delivered in or at the mailbox at 5:29 pm on November 6, 2020 in WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33401.

 **Delivered**

November 6, 2020 at 5:29 pm
Delivered, In/At Mailbox
WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33401

[Feedback](#)

Get Updates 

Text & Email Updates 

Tracking History 

Product Information 

See Less 



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Florida Department of State - Division of Elections

Florida Election System Reports

Candidate/Committee Lookup

Candidate Name: Matthew Peters

Name:

Account: [75404](#)

Election:

Acct:

Type:

Date Due	Type	Date Filed	Status	Days Late	Fine Assessed	Appealed	Amount Fined	Amount Paid
9/10/2020	TR		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
6/19/2020	P1	7/16/2020						
6/10/2020	M5		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
5/11/2020	M4	5/27/2020	CLO	16	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00



**Florida Department of State
Division of Elections**

**2020 General Election
Matthew Peters (GRE)
State Representative**

Campaign Finance Activity

Note: The information presented below was obtained from the Committee's/Candidate's Campaign Treasurer's Report filed with the Division of Elections. [About the Campaign Finance Data Base.](#)

	Filing Period	Contributions			Expend	Other	Transfers
		Monetary	Loans	InKind			
W	04/06/2020 - 04/30/2020	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
W	06/01/2020 - 06/12/2020	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	All Dates (Totals)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Note: (E) indicates that report was filed electronically

X Indicates that detail has not been released

W Indicates that a waiver was filed and L Indicates that a loan report was filed

Select Detail Type

Contributions ▼

Select Sort Order

Date(Ascending) ▼

Select Output Type

Display On Screen ▼

Submit Query Now

[Query the Campaign Finance Data Base](#)

[\[Department of State\]](#) [\[Division of Elections\]](#) [\[Candidates and Races\]](#) [\[Campaign Finance Information\]](#)



Statement of Account

Last statement: May 31, 2020
 This statement: June 30, 2020
 Total days in statement period: 30

MATTHEW PETERS CAMPAIGN
 MATTHEW CHARLES PETERS
 1210 PALM BEACH LAKES BLVD
 APT D5
 WEST PALM BEACH FL 33401

Page 1 of 1

Direct inquiries to:
 Customer Service Center
 800-706-9991

Seacoast National Bank
 2055 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd.
 West Palm Beach, FL 33409

0

Summary of Account Balance

Account	Number	Ending Balance
Free Business Checking		\$113.56

BANK ON YOUR TERMS, YOUR PHONE & YOUR SCHEDULE

Free Business Checking

Account number

Date	Description	Additions	Subtractions	Balance
05-31	Beginning balance			\$69.26
06-03	#Preauthorized Credit RAISE THE MONEY TRANSFER 200603 ST-X7Y5C0L7M3Z1	47.30		116.56
06-10	#Maintenance Fee ANALYSIS LOSS/CHG FOR 05/31/20		-3.00	113.56
06-30	Ending totals	47.30	- 3.00	\$113.56



Statement of Account

Last statement: June 30, 2020
 This statement: July 31, 2020
 Total days in statement period: 31

MATTHEW PETERS CAMPAIGN
 MATTHEW CHARLES PETERS
 1210 PALM BEACH LAKES BLVD
 APT D5
 WEST PALM BEACH FL 33401

██████████ Page 1 of 1

Direct inquiries to:
 Customer Service Center
 800-706-9991

Seacoast National Bank
 2055 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd.
 West Palm Beach, FL 33409

0

Summary of Account Balance

Account	Number	Ending Balance
Free Business Checking	██████████	\$110.56

BANK ON YOUR TERMS, YOUR PHONE & YOUR SCHEDULE

Free Business Checking

Account number
 ██████████

Date	Description	Additions	Subtractions	Balance
06-30	Beginning balance			\$113.56
07-10	#Maintenance Fee		-3.00	110.56
	ANALYSIS LOSS/CHG FOR 06/30/20			
07-31	Ending totals	.00	- 3.00	\$110.56



Statement of Account

Last statement: July 31, 2020
 This statement: August 31, 2020
 Total days in statement period: 31

MATTHEW PETERS CAMPAIGN
 MATTHEW CHARLES PETERS
 1210 PALM BEACH LAKES BLVD
 APT D5
 WEST PALM BEACH FL 33401

██████████ Page 1 of 1

Direct inquiries to:
 Customer Service Center
 800-706-9991

Seacoast National Bank
 2055 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd.
 West Palm Beach, FL 33409

0

Summary of Account Balance

Account	Number	Ending Balance
Free Business Checking	██████████	\$107.56

BANK ON YOUR TERMS, YOUR PHONE & YOUR SCHEDULE

Free Business Checking

Account number
 ██████████

Date	Description	Additions	Subtractions	Balance
07-31	Beginning balance			\$110.56
08-12	#Maintenance Fee		-3.00	107.56
	ANALYSIS LOSS/CHG FOR 07/31/20			
08-31	Ending totals	.00	- 3.00	\$107.56



Statement of Account

Last statement: August 31, 2020
 This statement: September 30, 2020
 Total days in statement period: 30

MATTHEW PETERS CAMPAIGN
 MATTHEW CHARLES PETERS
 1210 PALM BEACH LAKES BLVD
 APT D5
 WEST PALM BEACH FL 33401

██████████ Page 1 of 1

Direct inquiries to:
 Customer Service Center
 800-706-9991

Seacoast National Bank
 2055 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd.
 West Palm Beach, FL 33409

0

Summary of Account Balance

Account	Number	Ending Balance
Free Business Checking	██████████	\$104.56

BANK ON YOUR TERMS, YOUR PHONE & YOUR SCHEDULE

Free Business Checking

Account number
 ██████████

Date	Description	Additions	Subtractions	Balance
08-31	Beginning balance			\$107.56
09-10	#Maintenance Fee		-3.00	104.56
	ANALYSIS LOSS/CHG FOR 08/31/20			
09-30	Ending totals	.00	- 3.00	\$104.56

**FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION
PHONE LOG
Case No.: FEC 20-617**

Respondent: Matthew Peters

Complainant: DOE

1. **Date and time:** August 5, 2022 @ 11:40 am
Name: Respondent
Phone #: (561) 628-1414
Summary: I attempted telephone contact to complete final interview. I was unable to leave a message on the answering service.
Entered by: CKO
2. **Date and time:** August 9, 2022 @ 2:45 pm
Name: Respondent
Phone #: (561) 628-1414
Summary: I attempted telephone contact to complete final interview. A guy answered the phone and initially thought I asked for Matthew Beaver. I confirmed that I was looking for Matthew Peters and he stated that there is no one by that name at this number and for me not to call back again.
Entered by: CKO
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:

7. **Date and time:**
Name:
Phone #:
Summary:
Entered by:

8. **Date and time:**
Name:
Phone #:
Summary:
Entered by:

9. **Date and time:**
Name:
Phone #:
Summary:
Entered by:

RESPONDENT INTERVIEW MEMO – Call details at #[LOG NUMBER]

Type and ask your case specific question(s) first, then ask the remaining questions.

- Why hasn't the 2020 TR Report been filed?
- Was there any financial activity during the 2020 TR reporting period?
- Have you ever run for public office? 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? 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? If so, please name each committee, state the office you held for each, and state when you held each office.
- Have you ever prepared or signed a campaign treasurer's report? 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? If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it?
- Do you possess a copy of the *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook*? If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it?
- *If a section of Chapter 104 is listed in the LS letter, ask:* Do you possess a copy of Chapter 104, Florida Statutes? If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it?
- 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?

Cedric Oliver

From: Cedric Oliver
Sent: Tuesday, August 9, 2022 2:54 PM
To: matthew@gpfl.org

Good afternoon Mr. Peters. I have been attempting to contact you regarding two cases here at our office (FEC 20-395 and FEC 20-617). Please contact me upon receiving this email. Thanks for your attention to this matter.

Cedric Oliver
Investigator Specialist
107 W. Gaines Street
Collins Building, Suite 224
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 922-4539

Cedric Oliver

From: Mail Delivery Subsystem <MAILER-DAEMON@m0184567.pops.net>
To: matthew@gpfl.org
Sent: Tuesday, August 9, 2022 2:54 PM
Subject: Undeliverable:

The original message was received at Tue, 9 Aug 2022 14:54:02 -0400 from m0184567.pops.net [127.0.0.1]

----- The following addresses had permanent fatal errors ----- <matthew@gpfl.org>
(reason: 550-5.1.1 The email account that you tried to reach does not exist. Please try)

----- Transcript of session follows ----- ... while talking to aspmx.l.google.com.:

>>> DATA

<<< 550-5.1.1 The email account that you tried to reach does not exist. Please try <<< 550-5.1.1 double-checking the recipient's email address for typos or <<< 550-5.1.1 unnecessary spaces. Learn more at

<<< 550 5.1.1

[https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://support.google.com/mail/?p=NoSuchUser__;!!KX7BVY8_YTnAgrFq92k!jpNMm8mv7Q1gd3ApzwODIGjbWLQERVZSsuX-5tJG4rYeN9P4kLSAeyqUlqWoSscUNuAP6EybpNhluG9sim5B_SfTev6R\\$ e204-20020a25e7d500000b00669aee44f1esi8816741ybh.571 - gsmtip](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://support.google.com/mail/?p=NoSuchUser__;!!KX7BVY8_YTnAgrFq92k!jpNMm8mv7Q1gd3ApzwODIGjbWLQERVZSsuX-5tJG4rYeN9P4kLSAeyqUlqWoSscUNuAP6EybpNhluG9sim5B_SfTev6R$ e204-20020a25e7d500000b00669aee44f1esi8816741ybh.571 - gsmtip)

550 5.1.1 <matthew@gpfl.org>... User unknown <<< 503 5.5.1 RCPT first. e204-

20020a25e7d500000b00669aee44f1esi8816741ybh.571 - gsmtip

**FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION
PHONE LOG
Case No.: FEC 20-617**

Respondent: Matthew Peters

Complainant: DOE

1. **Date and time:** August 5, 2022 @ 11:40 am
Name: Respondent
Phone #: (561) 628-1414
Summary: I attempted telephone contact to complete final interview. I was unable to leave a message on the answering service.
Entered by: CKO

2. **Date and time:** August 9, 2022 @ 2:45 pm
Name: Respondent
Phone #: (561) 628-1414
Summary: I attempted telephone contact to complete final interview. A guy answered the phone and initially thought I asked for Matthew Beaver. I confirmed that I was looking for Matthew Peters and he stated that there is no one by that name at this number and for me not to call back again.
Entered by: CKO

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:

7. **Date and time:**
Name:
Phone #:
Summary:
Entered by:

8. **Date and time:**
Name:
Phone #:
Summary:
Entered by:

9. **Date and time:**
Name:
Phone #:
Summary:
Entered by:

RESPONDENT INTERVIEW MEMO – Call details at #[LOG NUMBER]

Type and ask your case specific question(s) first, then ask the remaining questions.

- Why hasn't the 2020 TR Report been filed?
- Was there any financial activity during the 2020 TR reporting period?
- Have you ever run for public office? 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? 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? If so, please name each committee, state the office you held for each, and state when you held each office.
- Have you ever prepared or signed a campaign treasurer's report? 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? If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it?
- Do you possess a copy of the *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook*? If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it?
- *If a section of Chapter 104 is listed in the LS letter, ask:* Do you possess a copy of Chapter 104, Florida Statutes? If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it?
- 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?



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



January 25, 2021

Matthew Peters
1210 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd, Apt. D5
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

RE: Case No.: FEC 20-617; Respondent: Matthew Peters

Dear Mr. Peters:

On December 9, 2020, the Florida Elections Commission received a complaint alleging that you violated Florida's election laws. I have reviewed the complaint and find that it contains one or more **legally sufficient allegations**. The Commission staff will investigate the following alleged violations:

Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2020 candidate for State Representative, District 88, may have failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because he had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2020 Termination Reporting period.

Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2020 candidate for State Representative, District 88, failed to timely file his 2020 Termination Report reflecting the disposition of all remaining campaign funds.

Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2020 candidate for State Representative, District 88, may have falsely reported or deliberately failed to include information in his 2020 Termination Report, as required by Chapter 106.

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 you, 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 you. Notice will be mailed to you and the Complainant at least 14 days before any hearing at which your case is to be considered.

Matthew Peters
January 25, 2021
Page 2
FEC 20-617

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 **Cedric Oliver**, the investigator assigned to this case, by phone at (850) 922-4539 or by email at Cedric.Oliver@myfloridalegal.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tim Vaccaro". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Tim Vaccaro
Executive Director

TV/med



Responses

Florida Elections Commission to: Matthew Peters
Sent by: Donna Malphurs

12/30/2020 05:33 PM

When responding it is important that you reference the correct case number. Your correct case number is **FEC 20-395**. I can see that you are confused so to help you sort it all out, please review the following explanation:

FEC 20-395

This case was referred to us by your filing officer back on September 16, 2020 regarding your **2020 M5 report**. We mailed you a copy of this referral on three separate occasions: 09/18/20; 10/19/20; and 12/09/20. Our records show you received our correspondence on December 23, 2020 and you submitted an email response on that same day. Please note that you responded then with the incorrect case number as well. I responded to your email on December 28, 2020 at 1:18 pm and corrected the case number reference to FEC 20-395.

FEC 20-617

This case was referred to us by your filing officer on December 9, 2020 regarding your **Termination Report**. We mailed you a copy of this referral on December 14, 2020. As of today, we have not received delivery confirmation from the post office.

Let me know if you would like to receive a copy of each referral via email. I hope this helps you sort out the two referrals and give you an understanding of the issues before the Commission. As I stated in my previous email, the Florida Elections Commission is not authorized to provide you with legal advice, or to give you guidance pertaining to an alleged failure to file reports, or waiver notices. You will need to contact your filing officer (Division of Elections) at 850-245-6200 for assistance.

Sincerely,

Donna Ann Malphurs
Agency Clerk/Public Information Officer

"Matthew Peters"

I sent this Email 6 days ago and never heard ba...

12/29/2020 02:54:32 PM

From: "Matthew Peters" <matthew@gpfl.org>
To: fec@myfloridalegal.com
Date: 12/29/2020 02:54 PM
Subject: FEC 20-295 Matthew Peter's.b

I sent this Email 6 days ago and never heard back from you.

Responding to FEC 20-295

I just received a notice dated the 9th of December stating that a complaint was filed against me and I had not filed an M5.

I lost my home at 1210 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd in August and have not been able to receive mail consistently from forwarding that doesn't always happen or having it gotten second hand. This is the first I have seen this. What do I need to do to resolve this?

**DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
FEC NOTICE FORM**

To FEC from Division of Elections

REC'D: FL ELECTIONS COM
9 DEC '20 PM 4:12

Candidate: Matthew Peters
Account Number: 75404
Treasurer: Laurie Kermon

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, Florida Statutes. An apparent violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, has occurred based upon the candidate's alleged 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 report is outstanding after notification: 2020 TR

- Matthew Peters (75404) was a 2020 candidate for the office of State Representative.
- On April 6, 2020, Mr. Peters filed the Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository with the Division.
- The 2020 TR campaign treasurer's report was due on September 10, 2020. On September 11, 2020, the Division mailed Mr. Peters notification that the 2020 TR campaign treasurer's report had not been filed.
- On October 19, 2020, the Division mailed Mr. Peters notification that the 2020 TR campaign treasurer's report had not been filed.
- On November 2, 2020, the Division mailed Mr. Peters final notification with delivery confirmation that the 2020 TR report had not been filed. (See attached letter and delivery confirmation.)
- Mr. Peters did not notify the Division of Elections prior to or on the prescribed reporting date for the 2020 TR report that no report was to be filed.
- As of December 3, 2020, Mr. Peters has not filed the 2020 TR report.

Sent By: Kristi Reid Willis *KRW*
Date: December 3, 2020
zjs



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Laurel M. Lee
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

Final Notice

Delivery Confirmation:

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or call 1-800-222-1811.

November 2, 2020

Matthew Peters

Candidate for State Representative, District 88

CAN 75404

1210 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd
Apt D5
West Palm Beach, FL 33401-3401

Dear Mr. Peters:

A recent review of the Division's records show that the Division has not yet received your termination report or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable.

The Division has previously notified you of the unfiled report or notification. Please file your report or notification. If the report or notification 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,

Kristi Reid Willis, Chief
Bureau of Election Records

cc: Laurie Kermon, Treasurer

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