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STATE OF FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Florida Elections Commission, Petitioner,

v.

Agency Case No.: FEC 13-124 F.O. No.: FOFEC 15-113W

Marke Eugene Hall, Respondent.

_____/

FINAL ORDER

THIS MATTER was heard at an informal hearing held before the Florida Elections

Commission (Commission) on May 20, 2015.

APPEARANCES

For Commission

Jaakan A. Williams Assistant General Counsel 107 West Gaines Street Collins Building, Suite 224 Tallahassee, FL 32399

For Respondent No appearance

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE

Whether Respondent violated Section 104.011(1) and Section 104.15, Florida Statutes, as

alleged in the Order of Probable Cause

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

On April 2, 2013, the Commission received a sworn complaint alleging violations of

Florida's election laws Staff of the Commission conducted an investigation to determine whether the facts alleged in the complaint constituted probable cause to believe that Respondent violated the Florida Election Code

On June 23, 2014, staff recommended to the Commission that there was probable cause to believe that the Florida Election Code was violated. On November 21, 2014, the Commission entered an Order of Probable Cause finding that there was probable cause to charge Respondent with the following violations:

Count 1:

On or about November 6, 2012, Marke E. Hall violated Section 104.011(1), Florida Statutes, when he signed the signature pad of an (EVID), affirming that he was a qualified elector, in order to cast a ballot for the 2012 general election.

<u>Count 2:</u>

On or about November 6, 2012, Marke E Hall violated Section 104.15, Florida Statutes, when he voted in the November 6, 2012 general election while knowing he was not a qualified elector.

Respondent did not timely elect to have a formal administrative hearing before an administrative law judge from the Division of Administrative Hearings and, therefore, the matter was set for an informal hearing before the Commission. At the informal hearing, the Commission adopted the undisputed facts set forth in the Staff's Recommendation as its findings of fact.

Respondent did not appear at the informal hearing.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1 Respondent was convicted of a 2nd degree felony offense and was adjudicated guilty on April 3, 2012 in Putnam County, Florida.

2. On November 2, 2012 while at his polling place, Respondent signed an oath on the electronic voter identification device affirming that he was a qualified elector in the 2012 election and that he was a registered voter of Putnam County, Florida.

3. Despite being a convicted felon and not having his civil rights restored, Respondent voted in the 2012 general election on November 6, 2012.

4. Upon further investigation, staff determined that Respondent inadvertently believed that his civil rights had been restored because he continuously received voting materials from his county supervisor of elections office after they purged their voter registration rolls.

5 According to the Florida Parole Commission, Office of Executive Clemency's prisoner database, Respondent has not had his civil rights restored, and Respondent does not have an application pending for clemency at this time.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

6. The Commission has jurisdiction over the parties to and subject matter of this cause, pursuant to Section 106.26, Florida Statutes

7. Respondent's conduct was willful. Respondent committed the acts while knowing that, or showing reckless disregard for whether the acts were prohibited, or failed to commit an act while knowing that or showing reckless disregard for whether the acts were required

ORDER

The Commission finds that Respondent has violated the following provisions of Chapter 104, Florida Statutes

A. Respondent violated Section 104.011(1), Florida Statutes, on 1 occasion when he signed the signature pad of an electronic voter identification device affirming that he was a qualified elector, in order to cast a ballot for the 2012 general election.

- B. Respondent violated Section 104 15, Florida Statutes, when he voted in the November 6, 2012 general election while knowing he was not a qualified elector.
- C The Commission imposes a \$0 fine for these violations.

DONE AND ORDERED by the Florida Elections Commission on May 20, 2015.

Chairman Florida Elections Commission

Copies furnished to: Jaakan A. Williams, Assistant General Counsel Marke E. Hall, Respondent Putnam County Supervisor of Elections, Complainant

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

This order is final agency action Any party who is adversely affected by this order has the right to seek judicial review pursuant to Section 120 68, Florida Statutes, by filing a notice of administrative appeal pursuant to Rule 9 110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure, with the Clerk of the Florida Elections Commission at 107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224, Collins Building, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050 and by filing a copy of the notice of appeal with the appropriate district court of appeal. The party must attach to the notice of appeal a copy of this order and include with the notice of appeal filed with the district court of appeal the applicable filing fees. The notice of administrative appeal must be filed within 30 days of the date of this order is filed with the Commission. The date this order was filed appears in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of the order.