In Re:	Equal Marriage Florida	Case No.:	FEC 14-290

**TO:** Equal Marriage Florida

Vanessa Brito, Chair 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157-3157 Division of Elections 500 S Bronough Street, Room 316 Tallahassee, FL 32399

#### NOTICE OF HEARING (MOTION HEARING)

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, May 18, 2016 at 9:00 am, or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard, at the following location: Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Room 110-S, 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.

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.

Amy McKeever Toman

Executive Director Florida Elections Commission May 3, 2016 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.

Florida Elections Commission, Petitioner,

v. Case No.: FEC 14-290
Equal Marriage Florida,
Respondent. \_\_\_\_\_/

## **MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION**

**COMES NOW**, staff, and files its Motion for Reconsideration ("Motion") in the above entitled matter. In support of its Motion, staff states as follows:

- 1. Respondent was a political committee registered with the Division of Elections ("Division").
- 2. On June 26, 2013, Respondent filed a Statement of Organization of Political Committee form, an Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Political Committees form, and a Registered Agent Statement of Appointment form with the Division. (Exhibit A)
- 3. On February 17, 2016, the Commission conducted an Informal Hearing and took final agency action in this case.
- 4. After the Commission took final agency action, but prior to the entry of a Final Order, the Commission learned that Respondent's registration as a political committee may have been revoked.

5. On August 20, 2015, the Division sent Respondent's chairman an Initial Notice

of Intent to Revoke Respondent's registration as a political committee. (Exhibit B)

6. On September 23, 2015, the Division sent Respondent's Registered Agent a Final

Notice of Intent to Revoke Respondent's registration as a political committee. A copy of the

Division's August 20, 2015 correspondence and Rule 1S-2.021, Florida Administrative Code,

were included in the letter. (Exhibit C)

7.

On October 27, 2015, the Division entered a Final Order revoking Respondent's

registration as a political committee. Copies of the Division's prior correspondence sent to

Respondent's chairman and Respondent's Registered Agent were attached to the Final Order. A

copy of the Division's Final Order was confirmed delivered to Respondent's Registered Agent on

November 2, 2015. (Exhibit D)

8. As of April 15, 2016, the Respondent's registration as a political committee

remains "revoked." (Exhibit E)

WHEREFORE, staff, requests the Commission reconsider its final agency action in this

case because Respondent's registration as a political committee has been revoked.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric M. Lipman, General Counsel Florida Elections Commission

107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050

Telephone: (805) 922-4539

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been provided to Kristi Reid Bronson, Florida Division of Elections, 500 South Bronough Street, Suite 316, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250 and to Heather L. Gray, Registered Agent for Equal Marriage Florida, 15820 Palmetto Club Drive, Miami, Florida 33157 this 20th day of April, 2016.

Eric M. Lipman

# STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION OF POLITICAL COMMITTEE

(PLEASE TYPE)

OFFICE PHOE ONL	Y 37 OF STAY
OFFICE USE ONL	5 All 9110
A. C. HASS	48 Selimu
	K.

1. Full Name of Committee

Telephone

Equal Marriage Furida

786-547-8084

Mailing Address (include city, state and zip code)

15820 PALMetto CLUB Dr.

Miami, FL 33157

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)

Committees)			
Name of Affiliated or Connected Organization	Mailing Address	Relationship	
N/A	N/A	N/A	

3. Area, Scope and Jurisdiction of the Committee

# Constitutional Amendment Initiative

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

# MARRIAGE EQUALITY; FREEDOM OF RELIGION

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
VANESSA BRITO	15820 Palmetto Club Dr. Miami, FL 33157	Chair   Treasurer.

DS-DE 5 (Rev. 05/06)

(continued on reverse side)

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 Addre		SS Committee Title or Position		
N/A N/A		N/A	•	
	Office Sought and Party Affiliang (if none, please indicate)	ation Each Candidate or Othe	or Individual that this	
, Full Name	Mailing Address	Office Sought	Party	
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
8. List Any Issues this Co List Any Issues this Co	mmittee is Supporting: MAR	iriage Equality	y, religious freedom	
9. If this Committee is Sup	pporting the Entire Ticket of a f	Party, Give Name of Party		
	ution, What Disposition will be			
CHARITA BLE	CONTRIBU	TION		
11. List all Banks, Safety I	Deposit Boxes, or Other Depos	itories Used for Committee I	runds	
Name of Bank or Depo	ository & Account Number	Mailing A		
WELLS FA	R66	148 01 S. Dixi MIAMI, FL 331	e Hwy. 176	
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	
4/4	N/A	A/u	n/A	
STATE OF FLOR		MAMI-DA	DE COUNTY	
1. VANESS.	a Brito	, certify that the information	in this Statement of	
Organization is complete, true and correct.				
Gignature of Chairman of Political Committee Date				

# **APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER** AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN **DEPOSITORY FOR**

**POLITICAL COMMITTEES** (Sections 106.011(1) and 106.021(1), F.S.)

SAT OF STATE 2013 JUN 26 Ail 9: 49 THE PHASSEE, FL

	ł	
CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX:		OFFICE USE ONLY
Original Appointment of Treasurer Reappoi	ntment of Treasurer	Deputy Treasurer
Committee or Organization	2. Telephone	
EQUAL MARRIAGE FLORIS	)A (786) S	47-8084
Name of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer     4. Email (optional)	5. Telephone	(optional)
VANESSA BRITO VANESSA Quequ	a marriage (1 (786) 5	17-8014
6. Mailing Address		
· 15820 PALMEHO Chubp	Miani, FL 33	157
7. Street Address		
same as above		
8. The following bank has been designated as the Pri	mary Depository Secon	dary Depository
9. Name of Bank	10. Street Address	Miami, FL
Wells Fargo	14801 S. Divie +	lwy. 33176
Wells Fargo	14801 S. Divie +	13. Zip Code
11. City	12. State	13. Zip Code 33176
11. City Mami	12. State	13. Zip Code 33174 ype)
11. City Mami	12. State  FL  15. Name of Chairman (Print or T	13. Zip Code  33176  ype)/
11. City  M AM  14. Signature of Chairman  X  Campaign Treasurer's Act  I. ANESSA Reita	12. State  FL  15. Name of Chairman (Print or T  VANCES A Bicceptance of Appointment	13. Zip Code  33176  ype)/
11. City  M AM  14. Signature of Chairman  X  Campaign Treasurer's Act  i, ANESSA Beita  (Please Print or Type)	12. State  FL  15. Name of Chairman (Print or T  VANCES A Bicceptance of Appointment	13. Zip Code  33176  ype)/ Fi + 6
11. City  Mami  14. Signature of Chairman  X  Campaign Treasurer's Act  i, VANESSA Reito  (Please Print or Type)  treasurer or deputy treasurer for Equal M	12. State  FL  15. Name of Chairman (Print or T  VANCES A Bicceptance of Appointment	13. Zip Code  33176  ype)/ Fi + 6
11. City  Mami  14. Signature of Chairman  X  Campaign Treasurer's Act  i,	12. State  FL  15. Name of Chairman (Print or T  VANCES A BI  CCEPtance of Appointmen  , do her  ARRIACE — LORID  (Committee or Organization)	13. Zip Code  33176  ype)  Ti +6  It reby accept the appointment as
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REGISTERED AGENT		OFFICE USE ONLY		
STATEMENT OF APPOINTME	NT .	2013 no a		
(Section 106.022, F.S.)	1	2013 JUN 26 AM 9:49		
		DIVIDIE 1.F S FOTIONS  LET SHASSEF, FL		
Original Appointment Change of Appoin		CHAPT, FL		
Change of Mailing Address	ent and Office Infor	mation		
Name 41	John William William III.	Telephone		
Street Address		786-252-4097		
15820 PALMetto Club 7	1			
City Miam;	State I	Zip Code 33137		
Mailing Address SAME AS AT	BONE			
City	State %//	Zip Code 🐪		
forth in Section 106.022, F.S. I also understand that I may resign this appointment by executing a written statement of resignation and filing it with the applicable filing officer.    Signature of Registered Agent   Date				
Former Registered Agent and Office Information (for changes only)				
Former Registered Agent a	and Office Information			
Former Registered Agent a	and Office Information	on (for changes only)  Telephone		
<del>-                                   </del>	and Office Information			
Name	and Office Information			
Name Street Address City		Telephone Zip Code		
Name Street Address City Committee or Name of Committee or Organization	State	Zip Code		
Street Address  City  Committee or Name of Committee or Organization  EQUAL MARK	State r Organization Infor	Zip Code mation		
Street Address  City  Committee or Name of Committee or Organization  EQUAL MARK	State  r Organization Information  Lings Flori	Zip Code mation		
Street Address  City  Committee or Name of Committee or Organization  EQUAL MARK  Street Address  15820 Paume-  City	State  r Organization Information  Lings Flori  Ho Club. Dr	Zip Code mation  PA Telephone Telephone Telephone		
Street Address  City  Committee or Name of Committee or Organization  EQUAL MARK  Street Address  ISB20 Paume-  City  Mjami	State  r Organization Information  Lings Flori  Ho Club. Dr	Zip Code mation  PA Telephone Telephone Telephone		

Form DS-DE 41 (revised 6/11)



KEN DETZNER Secretary of State

August 20, 2015

Vanessa Brito, Chairperson Equal Marriage Florida (60477) 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, Florida 33157

RE: INITIAL NOTICE OF INTENT TO REVOKE

Dear Ms. Brito:

Pursuant to Section 106.03(7), Florida Statutes, and Rule 1S-2.021, Florida Administrative Code, you are hereby notified of the Division's intent to revoke the registration of this political committee based on the following:

The committee has failed to file campaign treasurer's reports for more than six months.

The committee's aggregate reported financial activity during the 2014 calendar year was less than \$500.

If you object to this revocation you must provide documentation showing that the committee's registration should not be revoked. Documentation must be provided within 30 days of the date of this letter to the Department of State, Division of Elections, Bureau of Election Records, The R.A. Gray Building, Room 316, 500 South Bronough Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250.

To avoid an involuntary revocation, the committee may submit a notice of termination of the political committee within the 30-day period specified above.

Please be advised that all further notifications regarding revocation of registration shall be sent only to the most recent address on file for the registered agent.

If you have any questions, please call (850) 245-6280.

Sincerely.

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

KRB/zis Enclosure



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/

Promoting Florida's History and Culture







KEN DETZNER
Secretary of State

September 23, 2015

Heather L. Gray, Registered Agent Equal Marriage Florida (60477) 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, Florida 33157

RE: FINAL NOTICE OF INTENT TO REVOKE

Dear Ms. Gray:

On August 20, 2015 the Division provided you with a Notice of Intent to Revoke the registration of this political committee pursuant to Section 106.03(7), Florida Statutes, and Rule 1S-2.021, Florida Administrative Code. The notice advised you to provide documentation showing that the committee's certification should not be revoked. The Division did not receive a response to this notification. Accordingly, the Division hereby issues a Final Notice of Intent to Revoke based on the following:

#### The committee has failed to file campaign treasurer's reports for more than six months.

If you object to this revocation you must file a request for hearing within 30 days of the date of this Notice of Revocation. The request must be filed with the Department of State, Division of Elections, Bureau of Election Records, R.A. Gray Building, Room 316, 500 South Bronough Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250 and will be forwarded to the Florida Elections Commission for a hearing based upon the notice and any supporting documentation. If you desire a personal appearance before the Commission, you must include in your request for hearing a separate request for a personal appearance. Failure to file a request for a hearing constitutes a waiver of your right to a hearing and will cause a final order to be entered revoking the committee's certification.

As stated in the initial notice to you, to avoid an involuntary revocation, the committee may still submit a notice of termination of the political committee within the 30-day period specified above.

If you have any questions, please call (850) 245-6280.

Sincerely,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

KRB/zis

VIVA FIRRIRA

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/

Promoting Florida's History and Culture VivaFlorida.org





KEN DETZNER
Secretary of State

August 20, 2015

Heather L. Gray, Registered Agent Equal Marriage Florida (60477) 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, Florida 33157

RE: INITIAL NOTICE OF INTENT TO REVOKE

Dear Ms. Gray:

Pursuant to Section 106.03(7), Florida Statutes, and Rule 1S-2.021, Florida Administrative Code, you are hereby notified of the Division's intent to revoke the registration of this political committee based on the following:

The committee has failed to file campaign treasurer's reports for more than six months.

The committee's aggregate reported financial activity during the 2014 calendar year was less than \$500.

If you object to this revocation you must provide documentation showing that the committee's registration should not be revoked. Documentation must be provided within 30 days of the date of this letter to the Department of State, Division of Elections, Bureau of Election Records, The R.A. Gray Building, Room 316, 500 South Bronough Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250.

To avoid an involuntary revocation, the committee may submit a notice of termination of the political committee within the 30-day period specified above.

Please be advised that all further notifications regarding revocation of registration shall be sent only to the most recent address on file for the registered agent.

If you have any questions, please call (850) 245-6280.

Sincerely,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

KRB/zjs Enclosure



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/

Promoting Florida's History and Culture VivaFlorida.org



#### 1S-2.021 Revocation of Registration of Political Committees and Electioneering Communications Organizations.

- (1) Definition: "Most recent address on file" means, as applicable, the last address provided in a written statement of change to the filing officer for the registered agent pursuant to Section 106.022, F.S., or the last address provided to the filing officer for the committee's chairperson or organization's top-ranking official as contained in the statement of organization or in any written statement of change to the statement of organization made pursuant to Section 106.03, F.S.
- (2) Conduct warranting revocation. The filing officer shall revoke the registration of a political committee (hereinafter committee) or an electioneering communications organization (hereinafter organization) for one or more of the following reasons:
- (a) The committee or organization fails to maintain a registered office and a registered agent as required by Section 106.022, F.S.;
- (b) The committee or organization fails to file the appointment of a successor within 10 days after the death, resignation or removal of its treasurer;
- (c) The committee fails to file the appointment of a successor within 10 days after the death, resignation or removal of its chairperson;
  - (d) The committee or organization fails to file treasurers' reports for more than 6 months;
- (e) The committee's aggregate reported financial activity during the calendar year of an even-numbered year is less than \$500 unless the committee is only registered and required to report as the sponsor of a proposed constitutional amendment by initiative who intended to seek the signatures of registered voters;
  - (f) The organization's aggregrate reported financial activity during the calendar year of an even-numbered year is \$5000 or less;
- (g) The organization fails to file the appointment of a successor within 10 days after the death, resignation or removal of its top-ranking principal officer; or
- (h) The committee or organization has an unpaid fine or civil penalty imposed under Chapter 106, F.S., which has become final, meaning all appeals regarding the imposition of the fine or civil penalty have been exhausted or the time for such appeals has passed.
  - (3) Revocation procedures.
- (a) Initial notice of intent to revoke. The filing officer shall notify the committee's chairperson or organization's top-ranking principal officer and its registered agent of the intent to revoke the registration and include the facts and conduct which warrant the intended revocation. The notice shall be sent to the most recent address on file for both the chairperson or top-ranking principal officer, as applicable, and registered agent. The initial notice shall state that all future notifications regarding revocation of the committee's or organization's registration shall be sent only to the most recent address on file for the registered agent. The committee or organization has 30 days from the date of the initial notice to provide additional documentation to the filing officer showing that the committee's or organization's registration should not be revoked.
- (b) Final notice of intent to revoke. After receiving the documentation under paragraph (a) from the committee or organization or after the 30-day deadline to provide additional information, whichever occurs first, the filing officer shall review all information and determine whether the registration should still be revoked.
- 1. If the filing officer determines that the registration should not be revoked, then the filing officer shall send notification to the most recent address on file for the registered agent.
- 2. If the filing officer determines that the registration should be revoked, then the filing officer shall send a final notice of intent to revoke to the most recent address on file for the registered agent.
- (c) Notice returned as undeliverable. If the initial notices of intent to revoke are returned as undeliverable, and the committee or organization's most recent address on file has not changed since the filing officer sent the initial notices, then the filing officer need not send a final notice of intent to revoke and shall instead send the final order of revocation. If the initial notices of intent to revoke are returned as undeliverable, but the committee or organization's most recent address on file has changed since the filing officer sent the initial notices, then the filing officer will provide an initial notice of the intent to revoke to that updated address; thereafter, the filing officer shall follow the procedures in this rule.
- (d) Final order of revocation. The final order of revocation shall be sent to the most recent address on file for the registered agent, notwithstanding that the final order may be returned as undeliverable due to previous undelivered notices.
  - (4) Appeals
- (a) Appeal of Final Notice of Intent to Revoke. A committee or organization may appeal a final notice of intent to revoke within 30 days of the date of such final notice. The appeal may be accompanied by any documentation or evidence supporting the claim.

The appeal must be filed with the filing officer. The filing officer will forward the appeal to the Florida Elections Commission.

- 1. Failure to timely file an appeal shall constitute a waiver of any such entitlement.
- 2. A committee or organization desiring a hearing before the Florida Elections Commission must include in the appeal a separate request for hearing.
- 3. Appeals to the Florida Elections Commission under this rule are exempt from the confidentiality provisions of Section 106.25, F.S.
- (b) Appeal of Final Order. A committee or organization may appeal the Division of Elections' final order of revocation to the District Court of Appeal within 30 days of the date that the final order is filed in the official records of the Department of State as indicated in the Certificate of Service on the final order.

Rulemaking Authority 20.10(3), 97.012(1), 106.03(7), 106.22(9) FS. Law Implemented 106.03 FS. History-New 2-28-90, Amended 10-29-03, 11-15-09, 9-27-10, 10-30-13, 10-6-14.

#### STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OCT 27 2015

AGENCY CLERK

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, DIVISION OF ELECTIONS.

Petitioner.

V,

EQUAL MARRIAGE FLORIDA (60477).

Respondent.

Final Order No. DOS 15-49 DE 91 7108 2133 3934 9642 9978

#### FINAL ORDER

The Division of Elections. Florida Department of State (the "Division") having jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Section 106.03(7), Florida Statutes, and rules promulgated thereunder, hereby enters its Final Order of Revocation revoking the registration of Equal Marriage Florida (the "Respondent") as a political committee in the State of Florida. The Division, being fully advised as to the premises, finds and orders as follows:

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. Respondent is a registered political committee. The Respondent's registration number is 60477.
- 2. On August 20, 2015, the Division mailed an Initial Notice of Intent to Revoke (attached and incorporated by reference) to the most recent address on file for both the Respondent's chairperson and the Registered Agent. The notice stated that Respondent had failed to file campaign reports for more than six months. The notice informed Respondent

Page 1 of 3

of the opportunity to provide documentation to the Division to show why the Respondent's registration should not be revoked.

- 3. The Notice of Intent was not returned as being undeliverable and the Respondent did not respond to the Notice of Intent to Revoke.
- 4. On September 23, 2015, the Division mailed Respondent's registered agent a Final Notice of Revocation (attached and incorporated by reference). The notice informed Respondent of the right to a hearing and advised Respondent that if a request for hearing was not made within 30 days of the date of the notice, the right to hearing would be waived and final action taken by the Division.
- 5. Respondent did not respond to the Final Notice of Revocation or otherwise timely request a hearing.

# **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 6. As provided in Section 106.03, Florida Statutes, the Division is the agency having jurisdiction to administer and enforce the provisions of the section.
- 7. Rule 1S-2.021. Florida Administrative Code, establishes procedures for the Division to dissolve and cancel the registration of a political committee. Subsection (2)(d) mandates the filing officer to revoke the registration when "the committee fails to file campaign treasurer's reports for more than six months."

#### **CONCLUSION**

Based upon the foregoing and a complete review of the record, it is ORDERED that the Respondent's registration as a political committee with the Department of State, Division of

Page 2 of 3

Elections, is hereby REVOKED pursuant to Section 106.03(7). Florida Statutes, and Rule 1S-2.021(2)(d), Florida Administrative Code.

DONE AND ORDERED at Tallahassee, Florida, this 24 day of 1960 2015.

Maria I. Matthews, Director Division of Elections

#### **NOTICE OF RIGHTS**

This Order constitutes final agency action. Judicial review of this proceeding may be instituted by filing a notice of appeal, with the filing fee prescribed by law in the District Court of Appeal, pursuant to Section 120.68, Florida Statutes, and a copy with the clerk of the Department of State. Such notice must be filed within 30 calendar days of the date this order is filed in the official records of the Department of State as indicated in the Certificate of Service. Review proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the original of the foregoing Final Order was hand-delivered to the Agency Clerk, Department of State, R.A. Gray Building, 500 South Bronough Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250 and that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Final Order was mailed on this 27 day of October, 2015, by certified U.S. mail to Heather L.Gray, 15820 Palmetto Club Drive, Miami, Florida 33157.

Jordan/Jones

Assistant General Counsel Florida Department of State Florida Bar No. 0087766 500 S. Bronough Street

Tallahassee, Florida 32399



KEN DETZNER
Secretary of State

August 20, 2015

Heather L. Gray, Registered Agent Equal Marriage Florida (60477) 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, Florida 33157

RE: INITIAL NOTICE OF INTENT TO REVOKE

Dear Ms. Gray:

Pursuant to Section 106.03(7), Florida Statutes, and Rule 1S-2.021, Florida Administrative Code, you are hereby notified of the Division's intent to revoke the registration of this political committee based on the following:

The committee has failed to file campaign treasurer's reports for more than six months.

The committee's aggregate reported financial activity during the 2014 calendar year was less than \$500.

If you object to this revocation you must provide documentation showing that the committee's registration should not be revoked. Documentation must be provided within 30 days of the date of this letter to the Department of State, Division of Elections, Bureau of Election Records, The R.A. Gray Building, Room 316, 500 South Bronough Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250.

To avoid an involuntary revocation, the committee may submit a notice of termination of the political committee within the 30-day period specified above.

Please be advised that all further notifications regarding revocation of registration shall be sent only to the most recent address on file for the registered agent.

If you have any questions, please call (850) 245-6280.

Sincerely,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

KRB/zjs Enclosure





KEN DETZNER
Secretary of State

September 23, 2015

Heather L. Gray, Registered Agent Equal Marriage Florida (60477) 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, Florida 33157

RE: FINAL NOTICE OF INTENT TO REVOKE

Dear Ms. Gray:

On August 20, 2015 the Division provided you with a Notice of Intent to Revoke the registration of this political committee pursuant to Section 106.03(7), Florida Statutes, and Rule 1S-2.021, Florida Administrative Code. The notice advised you to provide documentation showing that the committee's certification should not be revoked. The Division did not receive a response to this notification. Accordingly, the Division hereby issues a Final Notice of Intent to Revoke based on the following:

#### The committee has failed to file campaign treasurer's reports for more than six months.

If you object to this revocation you must file a request for hearing within 30 days of the date of this Notice of Revocation. The request must be filed with the Department of State, Division of Elections, Bureau of Election Records, R.A. Gray Building, Room 316, 500 South Bronough Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250 and will be forwarded to the Florida Elections Commission for a hearing based upon the notice and any supporting documentation. If you desire a personal appearance before the Commission, you must include in your request for hearing a separate request for a personal appearance. Failure to file a request for a hearing constitutes a waiver of your right to a hearing and will cause a final order to be entered revoking the committee's certification.

As stated in the initial notice to you, to avoid an involuntary revocation, the committee may still submit a notice of termination of the political committee within the 30-day period specified above.

If you have any questions, please call (850) 245-6280.

Sincerely,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

KRL/zjs

VIVA FIRRINA

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/

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FLORIDA FLECTIONS

# 18-2.021 Revocation of Registration of Political Committees and Electioneering Communications Organizations.

- (1) Definition: "Most recent address on file" means, as applicable, the last address provided in a written statement of change the filing officer for the registered agent pursuant to Section 106.022, F.S., or the last address provided to the filing officer for committee's chairperson or organization's top-ranking official as contained in the statement of organization or in any writ statement of change to the statement of organization made pursuant to Section 106.03, F.S.
- (2) Conduct warranting revocation. The filing officer shall revoke the registration of a political committee (hereinal committee) or an electioneering communications organization (hereinafter organization) for one or more of the following reasons:
- (a) The committee or organization fails to maintain a registered office and a registered agent as required by Section 106.0 F.S.;
- (b) The committee or organization fails to file the appointment of a successor within 10 days after the death, resignation removal of its treasurer;
- (c) The committee fails to file the appointment of a successor within 10 days after the death, resignation or removal of chairperson;
  - (d) The committee or organization fails to file treasurers' reports for more than 6 months;
- (c) The committee's aggregate reported financial activity during the calendar year of an even-numbered year is less than \$5 unless the committee is only registered and required to report as the sponsor of a proposed constitutional amendment by initiati who intended to seek the signatures of registered voters;
  - (f) The organization's aggregate reported financial activity during the calendar year of an even-numbered year is \$5000 or les
- (g) The organization fails to file the appointment of a successor within 10 days after the death, resignation or removal of its to ranking principal officer; or
- (h) The committee or organization has an unpaid fine or civil penalty imposed under Chapter 106, F.S., which has become fin meaning all appeals regarding the imposition of the fine or civil penalty have been exhausted or the time for such appeals h passed.
  - (3) Revocation procedures,
- (a) Initial notice of intent to revoke. The filing officer shall notify the committee's chairperson or organization's top-ranki principal officer and its registered agent of the intent to revoke the registration and include the facts and conduct which warrant t intended revocation. The notice shall be sent to the most recent address on file for both the chairperson or top-ranking princip officer, as applicable, and registered agent. The initial notice shall state that all future notifications regarding revocation of t committee's or organization's registration shall be sent only to the most recent address on file for the registered agent. T committee or organization has 30 days from the date of the initial notice to provide additional documentation to the filing offic showing that the committee's or organization's registration should not be revoked.
- (b) Final notice of intent to revoke. After receiving the documentation under paragraph (a) from the committee or organization after the 30-day deadline to provide additional information, whichever occurs first, the filing officer shall review all informatic and determine whether the registration should still be revoked.
- 1. If the filing officer determines that the registration should not be revoked, then the filing officer shall send notification to the most recent address on file for the registered agent.
- 2. If the filing officer determines that the registration should be revoked, then the filing officer shall send a final notice of inte to revoke to the most recent address on file for the registered agent.
- (c) Notice returned as undeliverable. If the initial notices of intent to revoke are returned as undeliverable, and the committee or ganization's most recent address on file has not changed since the filing officer sent the initial notices, then the filing officer necessary not send a final notice of intent to revoke and shall instead send the final order of revocation. If the initial notices of intent to revoke are returned as undeliverable, but the committee or organization's most recent address on file has changed since the filing office sent the initial notices, then the filing officer will provide an initial notice of the intent to revoke to that updated address; thereafte the filing officer shall follow the procedures in this rule.
- (d) Final order of revocation. The final order of revocation shall be sent to the most recent address on file for the register agent, notwithstanding that the final order may be returned as undeliverable due to previous undelivered notices.
  - (4) Appeals.
- (a) Appeal of Final Notice of Intent to Revoke. A committee or organization may appeal a final notice of intent to revoke with 30 days of the date of such final notice. The appeal may be accompanied by any documentation or evidence supporting the clair



The appeal must be filed with the filing officer. The filing officer will forward the appeal to the Florida Elections Commission.

- 1. Failure to timely file an appeal shall constitute a waiver of any such entitlement.
- 2. A committee or organization desiring a hearing before the Florida Elections Commission must include in the appeal separate request for hearing.
- 3. Appeals to the Florida Elections Commission under this rule are exempt from the confidentiality provisions of Section 106.25, F.S.
- (b) Appeal of Final Order. A committee or organization may appeal the Division of Elections' final order of revocation to the District Court of Appeal within 30 days of the date that the final order is filed in the official records of the Department of State a indicated in the Certificate of Service on the final order.

Rulemaking Authority 20.10(3), 97.012(1), 106.03(7), 106.22(9) FS. Law Implemented 106.03 FS. History-New 2-28-90, Amended 10-29-03, 1 15-09, 9-27-10, 10-30-13, 10-6-14

Committee Tracking System

#### **Equal Marriage Florida**

Type: Political Committee

Status: Active

Address: 15820 Palmetto Club Drive

Miami, FL 33157

Phone: (786)547-8084

Chairperson: Vanessa Brito

Treasurer: Vanessa Brito

15820 Palmetto Club Drive

Miami, FL 33157

Registered Heather L Gray

Agent: 15820 Palmetto Club Drive

Míami, FL 331570000

Purpose:

Affiliates:

Campaign Finance Activity

Campaign Documents



Enöllsh

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# USPS Tracking®



Customer Service : Have questions? We're here to help.



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Tracking Number: 9171082133393496429978

# **Product & Tracking Information**

Postal Product:

Features:

Certified Mail™

DATE & TIME

STATUS OF ITEM

LOCATION

November 2, 2015, 10:55

Delivered

MIAMI, FL 33157

Your item was delivered at 10:55 am on November 2, 2015 in MIAMI, FL 33157.

October 31, 2015 , 12:30 am

Departed USPS Facility

OPA LOCKA, FL 33054

October 30, 2015 , 10:30 am

Arrived at USPS Facility

OPA LOCKA, FL 33054

October 28, 2015 , 10:26 pm

Departed USPS Facility

TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301

October 28, 2015, 10:17 pm

Arrived at USPS Facility

TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301

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Tracking (or receipt) number

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EXHIBIT D. Praye 9

# Committee Tracking System

# **Equal Marriage Florida**

Type:Political Committee

Status:Revoked

Address: 15820 Palmetto Club Drive

Miami, FL 33157

Phone:(786)547-8084 Chairperson:Vanessa Brito Treasurer:Vanessa Brito

15820 Palmetto Club Drive

Miami, FL 33157

Registered Agent: Heather L. Gray

15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 331570000

Purpose: Affiliates:

Campaign Finance Activity

Campaign Documents



FILED

16 MAR -3 AM 9: 34

ELECTIONS COMPISSION

## STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Florida Elections Commission, Petitioner,

Case No.: FEC 14-290

Equal Marriage Florida, Respondent.

v.

#### **ORDER**

THIS MATTER came before the Florida Elections Commission (Commission) for an Informal Hearing at its regularly scheduled meeting on February 17, 2016, in Tallahassee, Florida. After the Informal Hearing, the Commission deliberated and took final agency action

However, after the Commission took final agency action, but prior to the entry of a final order, there were intervening circumstances and the Commission's Chairman decided that this case should be placed on the agenda of the next available Commission meeting for possible reconsideration and if necessary, a new Informal Hearing.

Therefore, it is

**ORDERED**, that this case be placed on the agenda of the next available Commission meeting for possible reconsideration and if necessary, a new Informal Hearing.

DONE AND ORDERED in Tallahassee, Florida, on February 18, 2016.

M Scott Thomas, Chairman Florida Elections Commission

Copies furnished to:
Eric M. Lipman, General Counsel
Equal Marriage Florida, Respondent
Division of Elections, Complainant

In Re:	Equal Marriage Florida	Case No.:	FEC 14-290

**TO:** Equal Marriage Florida

Vanessa Brito, Chair 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157-3157 Division of Elections 500 S 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, **February 17, 2016 at 10:00 am,** or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard, at the following location: **Florida State Conference Center, 555 West Pensacola Street, Room #108, Tallahassee, Florida 32306.** 

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.

Amy McKeever Toman

Executive Director Florida Elections Commission February 2, 2016 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.

TO SEP 15 PM OF 18
STATE OF TRANSPA

# STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

_Florida-Elections-Commission <del>,</del> Petitioner,	
<b>v</b> •	Case No.: FEC 14-290
Equal Marriage Florida, Respondent.	
	/

#### ORDER OF PROBABLE CAUSE

**THIS MATTER** was heard by the Florida Elections Commission (Commission) at its regularly scheduled meeting on August 27, 2015, in Tallahassee, Florida.

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 May 12, 2014, Respondent violated Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, by deliberately failing to include information required to be reported by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, when Respondent failed to file its 2014 M4 Report.

## Count 2:

On or about June 10, 2014, Respondent violated Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, by deliberately failing to include information required to be reported by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, when Respondent failed to file its 2014 M5 Report.

#### Count 3:

On or about June 27, 2014, Respondent violated Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, by deliberately failing to include information required to be reported by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, when Respondent failed to file its 2014 P1 Report.

#### Count 4:

On or about July 4, 2014, Respondent violated Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, by deliberately failing to include information required to be reported by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, when Respondent failed to file its 2014 P1A Report.

The Commission also finds 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 August 27, 2015.

M. Scott Thomas, Chairman Florida Elections Commission

Copies furnished to: Eric M. Lipman, General Counsel Equal Marriage Florida, Respondent Division of Elections, Complainant

#### NOTICE OF RIGHT TO A HEARING

As the Respondent, you may elect to resolve this case in several ways. First, you may elect to resolve this case by <u>consent order</u> where you and Commission staff agree to resolve the violation(s)s and agree to the amount of the fine. The consent order is then presented to the Commission for its approval. To discuss a consent order, contact the FEC attorney identified in the Order of Probable Cause.

Second, you may request an <u>informal hearing</u> held before the Commission, if you <u>do not</u> dispute any material fact in the Staff Recommendation. You have 30 days from the date the Order of Probable Cause is filed with the Commission to request such a hearing. The date this order was filed appears in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of the order. At the hearing, you will have the right to make written or oral arguments to the Commission concerning the legal issues related to the violation(s) and the potential fine. At the request of Respondent, the Commission will consider and determine willfulness at an informal hearing. Otherwise, live witness testimony is unnecessary.

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

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

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

In Re: Equal Marriage Florida Case No.: FEC 14-290

**TO:** Equal Marriage Florida

Attn: Vanessa Brito, Chair 15820 Palmetto Club Drive

Miami, FL 33157

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

# AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING (PROBABLE CAUSE DETERMINATION) (the only change made was to correct case number)

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on August 27, 2015, at 8:30 am, or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard, at the following location: Senate Office Building, Room 110-S, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 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.

This hearing will be conducted pursuant to Section 10625, 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.

Amy McKeever Toman
Executive Director
Florida Elections Commission
August 13, 2015

In Re: Equal Marriage Florida Case No.: FEC 15-290

TO: Equal Marriage Florida

Attn: Vanessa Brito, Chair 15820 Palmetto Club Drive

Miami, FL 33157

Division of Elections 500 S 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 August 27, 2015, at 8:30 am, or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard, at the following location: Senate Office Building, Room 110-S, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 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.

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.

Amy McKeever Toman
Executive Director
Florida Elections Commission
August 11, 2015

In Re:	n Re: Equal Marriage Florida		<b>Case No.: FEC 14-290</b>	
		/		

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOLLOWING INVESTIGATION

Pursuant to Section 106.25(4)(c), Florida Statutes, undersigned staff counsel files this written recommendation for disposition of the complaint 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 June 8, 2015, the following facts and law support this staff recommendation:

- On September 3, 2014, the Florida Elections Commission ("Commission") received a referral from the Division of Elections ("Division") alleging that Equal Marriage Florida ("Respondent" or "Committee") violated Chapter 106, Florida Statutes
- Respondent is a political committee registered with the Division of Elections. The Committee filed its Statement of Organization of Political Committee form ("DS- DE 5") with the Division on June 26, 2013 Vanessa Brito was identified as Respondent's chairperson and treasurer. On October 16, 2013, Respondent filed an Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Political Committees form ("DS-DE 6") with the Division re-appointing Ms Brito as the Committee's treasurer (ROI Exhibits 1 and 2)<sup>2</sup>
- 3 On or about April 29, 2015, the Executive Director sent Respondent notification that Commission staff would investigate the following sections of law:

Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting dates that no reports would be filed on those dates because it had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the following reporting periods:

- 2014 M4
- 2014 M5
- 2014 P1
- 2014 P1A

At all times pertinent to the issues in this case, Vanessa Brito was Respondent's chairperson and treasurer

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Report of Investigation shall be referred to herein as "ROI."

Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent falsely reported or deliberately failed to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, when it failed to file reports on the prescribed reporting dates for the following reporting periods:

- 2014 M4
- 2014 M5
- 2014 P1
- 2014 P1A
- By letter dated June 27, 2013, Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief, Bureau of Election Records, notified Ms. Brito that the name of the Committee had been placed on the Division's active committee list as a political committee that supports issues. The letter advised Ms. Brito 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)
- 5. Ms. Bronson's June 27, 2013 letter further advised Ms. Brito that all of the Division's publications and reporting forms were on its website. Additionally, the letter directed Ms. Brito to print a copy of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, the *Political Committee Handbook* ("Handbook"), and the 2013 Calendar of Reporting Dates (ROI Exhibit 3, page 3)
  - 6. Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, provides:

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, in any reporting period during which a candidate or political committee has not received funds, made any contributions, or expended any reportable funds, the filing of the required report for that period is waived. However, the next report filed must specify that the report covers the entire period between the last submitted report and the report being filed, and any candidate or political committee not reporting by virtue of this subsection on dates prescribed elsewhere in this chapter shall notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that no report is being filed on that date.

(Emphasis added)

#### 2014 M4 Report

Respondent's 2014 M4 Report covering the dates of April 1, 2014 through April 30, 2014, was due on May 12, 2014 However, Respondent failed to file its 2014 M4 Report (Attachment A and ROI Exhibit 15)

- Respondent's April 1, 2014, through April 30, 2014 campaign account bank statement reflects an April 28, 2014 debit and an April 25, 2014 credit during the 2014 M4 reporting period. (ROI Exhibit 9)
- 9. Although Respondent was not required to inform the filing officer that it would not be submitting a 2014 M4 Report, Respondent was required to, and should have filed a 2014 M4 Report listing the April 28, 2014 debit and April 25, 2014 credit.
- By letters dated May 14, 2014, and May 20, 2014, the Division sent Ms Brito notification that the Committee's 2014 M4 Report had not been received (ROI Exhibit 4)
- By letter dated July 8, 2014, the Division sent Ms Brito a Final Notice that the Committee's 2014 M4 Report had not been filed. The July 8, 2014 letter was confirmed delivered on July 11, 2014. (ROI Exhibit 8)
- 12. As of June 5, 2015, Respondent's 2014 M4 Report had not been filed. (ROI Exhibit 15)
- 13. Based upon the foregoing, it appears that Respondent deliberately failed to include information required to be reported by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, when Respondent failed to file its 2014 M4 Report.

## 2014 M5 Report

- Respondent's 2014 M5 Report covering the dates of May 1, 2014 through May 31, 2014, was due on June 10, 2014 However, Respondent failed to file its 2014 M5 Report (Attachment A and ROI Exhibit 15)
- Respondent's May 1, 2014, through May 31, 2014 campaign account bank statement reflects a May 27, 2014 debit and a May 14, 2014 credit during the 2014 M5 reporting period (ROI Exhibit 10)
- Although Respondent was not required to inform the filing officer that it would not be submitting a 2014 M5 Report, Respondent was required to, and should have filed a 2014 M5 Report listing the May 27, 2014 debit and May 14, 2014 credit.
- By letter dated June 11, 2014, the Division sent Ms Brito notification that the Committee's 2014 M5 Report had not been received. (ROI Exhibit 5)
- By letter dated July 8, 2014, the Division sent Ms. Brito a Final Notice that the Committee's 2014 M5 Report had not been filed. The July 8, 2014 letter was confirmed delivered on July 11, 2014. (ROI Exhibit 8)
- 19. As of June 5, 2015, Respondent's 2014 M5 Report had not been filed (ROI Exhibit 15)

20. Based upon the foregoing, it appears that Respondent deliberately failed to include information required to be reported by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, when Respondent failed to file its 2014 M5 Report.

## **2014 P1 Report**

- Respondent's 2014 P1 Report covering the dates of June 1, 2014, through June 20, 2014 was due on June 27, 2014. However, Respondent failed to file its 2014 P1 Report (Attachment A and ROI Exhibit 15)
- Respondent's June 1, 2014, through June 30, 2014 campaign account bank statement reflects a June 2, 2014 credit during the 2014 P1 reporting period (ROI Exhibit 11)
- 23. Although Respondent was not required to inform the filing officer that it would not be submitting a 2014 P1 Report, Respondent was required to, and should have filed a 2014 P1 Report listing the June 2, 2014 credit.
- By letter dated June 30, 2014, the Division sent Ms. Brito notification that the Committee's 2014 P1 Report had not been received. (ROI Exhibit 6)
- By letter dated July 8, 2014, the Division sent Ms Brito a Final Notice that the Committee's 2014 P1 Report had not been filed. The July 8, 2014 letter was confirmed delivered on July 11, 2014 (ROI Exhibit 8)
- 26. As of June 5, 2015, Respondent's 2014 P1 Report had not been filed. (ROI Exhibit 15)
- 27. Based upon the foregoing, it appears that Respondent deliberately failed to include information required to be reported by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, when Respondent failed to file its 2014 P1 Report.

# 2014 P1A Report

- Respondent's 2014 P1A Report covering the dates of June 21, 2014, through June 27, 2014 was due on July 4, 2014. However, Respondent failed to file its 2014 P1A Report. (Attachment A and ROI Exhibit 15)
- 29. Respondent's June 1, 2014, through June 30, 2014 campaign account bank statement reflects a June 23, 2014 debit and a June 25, 2014 credit during the 2014 P1A reporting period (ROI Exhibit 11)
- Although Respondent was not required to inform the filing officer that it would not be submitting a 2014 P1A Report, Respondent was required to, and should have filed a 2014 P1A Report listing the June 23, 2014 debit and June 25, 2014 credit

- 31. By letter dated July 7, 2014, the Division sent Ms. Brito notification that the Committee's 2014 P1A Report had not been received. (ROI Exhibit 7)
- 32 By letter dated July 8, 2014, the Division sent Ms. Brito a Final Notice that the Committee's 2014 P1A Report had not been filed. The July 8, 2014 letter was confirmed delivered on July 11, 2014 (ROI Exhibit 8)
- As of June 5, 2015, Respondent's 2014 P1A Report had not been filed (ROI Exhibit 15)
- 34 Based upon the foregoing, it appears that Respondent deliberately failed to include information required to be reported by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, when Respondent failed to file its 2014 P1A Report
- "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).
- 36. The facts above show that Respondent is a political committee registered with the Division of Elections At all times relevant to the issues in this case, Vanessa Brito was Respondent's chairman and treasurer Respondent's bank account statements reveal that Respondent had reportable financial activity during the 2014 M4, 2014 M5, 2014 P1 and 2014 P1A reporting periods and that Respondent deliberately failed to include information required to be reported by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, when Respondent failed to file its 2014 M4, 2014 M5, 2014 P1 and 2014 P1A Reports.

Based on the foregoing, I recommend the Commission find probable cause to charge Respondent with the following violations

#### Count 1:

On or about May 12, 2014, Respondent violated Section 106 19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, by deliberately failing to include information required to be reported by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, when Respondent failed to file its 2014 M4 Report

#### Count 2:

On or about June 10, 2014, Respondent violated Section 106 19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, by deliberately failing to include information required to be reported by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, when Respondent failed to file its 2014 M5 Report.

## Count 3:

On or about June 27, 2014, Respondent violated Section 106 19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, by deliberately failing to include information required to be reported by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, when Respondent failed to file its 2014 P1 Report

## Count 4:

On or about July 4, 2014, Respondent violated Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, by deliberately failing to include information required to be reported by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, when Respondent failed to file its 2014 P1A Report

I also recommend that the Commission find no probable cause to charge Respondent with violating Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes

Eric M. Lipman General Counsel

I have reviewed this Staff Recommendation on the

, 2013

Amy McKeever Toman

**Executive Director** 

# 2014 Calendar of Reporting Dates for Political Committees/Independent Expenditure-Only Organizations that file with the Division of Elections

Cover Period	Report Code	<u>Due Date</u>
12/01/13 - 12/31/13	2013 M12	01/10/14
01/01/14 - 01/31/14	2014 M1	02/10/14
02/01/14 - 02/28/14	2014 M2	03/10/14
03/01/14 - 03/31/14	2014 M3	04/10/14
04/01/14 - 04/30/14	2014 M4	05/12/14
05/01/14 - 05/31/14	2014 M5	06/10/14
11/01/13 - 12/31/13*	2014 MUC*	06/27/14
06/01/14 - 06/20/14	2014 P1	06/27/14
06/21/14 - 06/27/14	2014 P1A	07/04/14
06/28/14 - 07/04/14	2014 P2	07/11/14
07/05/14 - 07/11/14	2014 P2A	07/18/14
07/12/14 - 07/18/14	2014 P3	07/25/14
07/19/14 - 07/25/14	2014 P4	08/01/14
07/26/14 - 08/01/14	2014 P5	08/08/14
08/02/14 - 08/08/14	2014 P6	.08/15/14
08/09/14 - 08/21/14	2014 P7	08/22/14
08/22/14	2014 P7A	08/29/14
08/23/14 - 08/29/14	2014 G1	09/05/14
08/30/14 - 09/05/14	2014 G1A	09/12/14
09/06/14 - 09/12/14	2014 G2	09/19/14
09/13/14 - 09/19/14	2014 G2A	09/26/14
09/20/14 - 09/26/14	2014 G3	10/03/14
09/27/14 - 10/03/14	2014 G4	10/10/14
10/04/14 - 10/10/14	2014 G5	10/17/14
10/11/14 - 10/17/14	2014 G6	10/24/14
10/18/14 - 10/24/14**	2014 D1**	10/25/14**
10/25/14**	2014 D2**	10/26/14**
10/26/14**	2014 D3**	10/27/14**
10/27/14**	2014 D4**	10/28/14**
10/28/14**	2014 D5**	10/29/14**
10/29/14**	2014 D6**	10/30/14**
10/18/14 - 10/30/14***	2014 G7***	10/31/14***
10/31/14	2014 8410	11/10/14
11/01/14 - 11/30/14	2014 M10	11/10/14
	2014 M11	12/10/14
12/01/14 - 12/31/14	2014 M12	01/12/15

<sup>\*</sup> If not reported as individual contributions when received, a political committee must report contributions that comprise multiple uniform contributions from the same person aggregating no more than \$250 per calendar year, collected by an organization that is the affiliated sponsor of the political committee. The report must list the name, address, and occupation of the person making the contribution; however, the occupation need not be listed if the aggregate contribution from the person is \$100 or less. (Because the law containing this provision did not go into effect until 11/01/13, this first report will not cover a full calendar year.)

<sup>\*\*</sup> These reports need only contain information on all previously unreported contributions received as of the preceding day; however, expenditures can be reported if desired

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> If expenditures for 10/18/14 – 11/02/14 have already been reported during the daily reports, <u>do not</u> duplicate expenditures in this report

Attachment

# FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION REPORT OF INVESTIGATION Case No.: FEC 14-290

Respondent: Equal Marriage Florida

Complainant: Division of Elections

Pursuant to Section 106.25, Florida Statutes, on September 3, 2014, the Florida Elections Commission received information from the Division of Elections alleging that Respondent violated Chapter 106, Florida Statutes. The Division's referral was mandated pursuant to Section 106 07(8), Florida Statutes. Commission staff, therefore, investigated whether Respondent violated the following statutes:

Section 106 07(7), Florida Statutes, failure of a 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; and

Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, prohibiting a person or organization from falsely reporting or deliberately failing to report information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes

# I. Preliminary Information:

- 1. Respondent, Equal Marriage Florida, is a political committee currently registered with the Division of Elections.
  - 2. Complainant is the Division of Elections (Division).
- Respondent's filing officer is Kristi Reid-Bronson, Chief, Bureau of Election Records.
- 4. On June 26, 2013, a Statement of Organization of Political Committee form (DS-DE 5) was filed with the Division. The committee's area, scope and jurisdiction are "Constitutional Amendment Initiative." Vanessa Brito was named as Respondent's chairperson To review a copy of DS-DE 5 form, refer to Exhibit 1
- 5. On October 16, 2013, an Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository form (DS-DE 6) was filed with the Division<sup>1</sup> Ms Brito was appointed as campaign treasurer To review a copy of the DS-DE 6 form, refer to Exhibit 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Initially, a DS-DE 6 form was filed on June 27, 2013 and Wells Fargo was designated as the campaign depository. In the October 16, 2013 filing of the DS-DE 6 form, US Century was designated as the campaign depository

- On June 27, 2013, Ms. Bronson sent Ms. Brito—in her capacity as Respondent's chairperson—a letter acknowledging that Respondent had been placed on the Division's active committee list as a political committee that supports issues. The letter advised Ms. Brito that all committees filing reports with the Division are required to use the electronic filing system (EFS). Ms. Brito was provided a user identification number and initial password allowing access to the EFS.
- 7. The letter also advised Ms. Brito 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 Ms. Brito that it was her responsibility to read, understand, and follow the requirements of Florida's election laws. To review a copy of the acknowledgement letter, refer to Exhibit 3.
- 8 On May 14, 2014, the Division sent Ms. Brito—in her capacity as Respondent's treasurer—a letter informing her that the committee's report due May 12, 2014 (2014 M4 report) had not been received; a second failure-to-file letter dated May 20, 2014, was mailed to Ms. Brito Both letters were mailed to Ms. Brito at the address provided on the committee's DS-DE 5 form (Exhibit 1) To review copies of the letters relative to the 2014 M4 report, refer to Exhibit 4
- 9 On June 11, 2014, the Division sent Ms Brito—in her capacity as Respondent's treasurer—a letter informing her that the committee's report due June 10, 2014 (2014 M5 report) had not been received. The letter was mailed to Ms Brito at the address provided on the committee's DS-DE 5 form (Exhibit 1) To review a copy of the letter, refer to Exhibit 5
- On June 30, 2014, the Division sent Ms Brito—in her capacity as Respondent's treasurer—a letter informing her that the committee's report due June 27, 2014 (2014 P1 report) had not been received. The letter was mailed to Ms Brito at the address provided on the committee's DS-DE 5 form (Exhibit 1) To review a copy of the letter, refer to Exhibit 6
- On July 7, 2014, the Division sent Ms Brito—in her capacity as Respondent's treasurer—a letter informing her that the committee's report due July 4, 2014 (2014 P1A report) had not been received. The letter was mailed to Ms Brito at the address provided on the committee's DS-DE 5 form (Exhibit 1) To review a copy of the letter, refer to Exhibit 7.
- On July 8, 2014, the Division sent Ms Brito—in her capacity as Respondent's treasurer—a letter marked "Final Notice" stating that the committee's 2014 M4, M5, P1 and P1A reports had not been filed. Copies of the failure-to-file letters previously provided (Exhibits 4 through 7) were included with the Final Notice. The Final Notice was mailed to Ms Brito at the address provided on the committee's DS-DE 5 form (Exhibit 1) and was delivered on July 11, 2014. To review copies of the Final Notice and, without attachments, and the delivery confirmation, refer to Exhibit 8
- On September 3, 2014, the Commission received a referral from the Division alleging that Respondent failed to report campaign activity during the 2014 M4, M5, P1 and P1A reporting periods, or in the alternative, failed to notify the filing officer that no reports would be filed. The allegations will be discussed in the paragraphs that follow.

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

- I investigated whether Respondent violated this section of the election laws by failing to notify their filing officer, in writing, that no reports would be filed for the 2014 M4, M5, P1 and P1A reporting periods
- Respondent's campaign account records were secured from Respondent's designated campaign depository, US Century Bank. Review of the records reflects a credit to the account on April 25, 2014, in the amount of \$9.21<sup>2</sup> and a debit from the account on April 28, 2014, in the amount of \$9.99<sup>3</sup> The two transactions occurred during the 2014 M4 report cover period of April 1 to April 30, 2014. To review the bank records relative to the 2014 M4 report cover period, refer to Exhibit 9
- 16. Bank records also reflect a credit to the account on May 14, 2014, in the amount of \$12 89<sup>4</sup> and a debit from the account of May 27, 2014, in the amount of \$9.99<sup>5</sup> The two transactions occurred during the 2014 M5 report cover period of May 1 to May 30, 2014 To review the bank records relative to the 2014 M5 report cover period, refer to Exhibit 10
- Bank records also reflect a credit to the account on June 2, 2014, in the amount of \$9.21<sup>6</sup>; the transaction occurred during the 2014 P1 report cover period of June 1 to June 20, 2014 To review bank records relative to the 2014 P1 report cover period, refer to Exhibit 11.
- Further review of the records reflects a debit from the account on June 23, 2014, in the amount of \$9 99<sup>7</sup> and a credit to the account on June 25, 2014, in the amount of \$9 21<sup>8</sup>. The two transactions occurred during the 2014 P1A report cover period of June 21 to June 27, 2014 To review bank records relative to the 2014 P1A report cover period, refer to Exhibit 12.
- Based upon Respondent's campaign account records, it appears Respondent was not required to notify their filing officer in writing that no reports would be filed for the 2014 M4, M5, P1 and P1A reporting periods; rather, it appears Respondent was required to disclose these transactions by filing a 2014 M4, M5, P1 and P1A report.
- 20. Respondent has been found to have previously violated this section of the election laws. Additional information will be addressed under the section of this report titled, "FEC History."

# III. Alleged Violation of Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Description of credit listed as "WePay EDI Pymnts"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Description of debit listed as "Force Over Balance HOOTSUITE IAT PAYPAL."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Same description as Footnote 2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Same description as Footnote 3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Same description as Footnote 2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Same description as Footnote 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Same description as Footnote 2.

- I investigated whether Respondent violated this section of the election laws by failing to report campaign activity during the 2014 M4, M5, P1 and P1A reporting periods
- To review the circumstances relative to the committee's campaign activity, please refer to paragraphs 15 through 18 of this report.
- Based on Respondent's campaign account records (Exhibits 9-12), it appears Respondent was required to file a 2014 M4 report disclosing two transactions from the campaign account. Respondent was required to file a 2014 M5 report disclosing two transactions from the campaign account. Respondent was required to file a 2014 P1 report disclosing one transaction from the campaign account and Respondent was required to file a 2014 P1A report disclosing two transactions from the campaign account.
- Respondent has been found to have previously violated this section of the election laws and will be addressed in the paragraphs that follow

## IV: FEC History:

- As per paragraphs 20 and 24, Respondent has been found to have previously violated Section 106 07(7) and Section 106 19(1)(c), Florida Statutes. In FEC 14-286, Respondent was found to have violated Section 106 07(7), Florida Statutes on three occasions. In FEC 14-325, Respondent was found to have violated Section 106 07(7), Florida Statutes on five occasions. Additionally, in FEC 14-144, Respondent was found to have violated Section 106 19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, on two occasions.
- 26. Vanessa Brito, in her capacity as Respondent's chairperson and treasurer, was found to have violated Section 106 07(1), Florida Statutes, on three separate occasions, in FEC 13-332, FEC 14-035, and FEC 14-078

#### Conclusion:

- On September 4, 2014, the Commission staff sent Ms Brito a letter via certified mail informing her that it received a referral from the Division alleging violations of Florida's election laws The letter was eventually served on Ms Brito via a process server on February 9, 2015. The letter advised Ms Brito that she had 14 days to respond to the referral on behalf of Respondent; she did not provide a response on behalf of Respondent. To review a copy of the Commission staff's letter and affidavit of service of process, refer to Exhibit 13.
- On April 29, 2015, the Commission sent Ms. Brito—in her capacity as Respondent's chairperson—a letter informing her that the Division's referral was found to be legally sufficient and the Commission would be investigating Respondent's alleged failure to file the committee's 2014 M4, M5, P1 and P1A reports, or in the alternative, failed to notify the filing officer that no reports would be filed. The letter advised Ms. Brito she could file a notarized statement providing any information regarding facts surrounding the allegation. Ms. Brito did not provide a statement of any kind on behalf of Respondent. To review a copy of the Commission staff's letter of April 29, 2015, refer to Exhibit 14.
- On May 18, 2014, I sent Respondent an affidavit asking her to state the reason she has not filed the committee's 2014 M4, M5, P1 and P1A reports As of the date of this report,

4

Respondent has not returned the affidavit and the affidavit has not been returned by the Post Office.

- 30. On June 4, 2015, I left a voicemail message asking Ms. Brito to return my call so that she may have an opportunity to respond to the allegations in the Division's referral. As of the date of this report, Ms. Brito has not returned my call?
- The committee's filing history reflects that as of the date of this report, the 2014 M4, M5, P1 and P1A reports have not been filed. To review the committee's filing history, refer to Exhibit 15.
- 32 Because Ms. Brito has not returned my telephone calls or an affidavit, I am unable to ascertain whether she has read Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, and/or the *Political Committee Handbook*.

Respectfully submitted on June 8, 2015

Keith Smith

Investigation Specialist

## Current address of Respondent

Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, Florida 33157

# Name and Address of Filing Officer:

Ms Kristi Reid-Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records 500 South Bronough Street – Room 316 Tallahassee, Florida 32399

# Current address of Complainant

Division of Elections
500 South Bronough Street – Room 316
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

#### Chair of Committee

Ms Vanessa Brito, Chairperson 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, Florida 33157

Copy furnished to: Mr David Flagg, Investigations Manager

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> In the cases referenced in paragraphs 25 and 26, Respondent also did not return any telephone calls

# FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

# REPORT OF INVESTIGATION Equal Marriage Florida -- FEC 14-290

	LIST OF EXHIBITS
Exhibits #s	Description of Exhibits
Exhibit 1	DS-DE 5 form
Exhibit 2	DS-DE 6 form
Exhibit 3	Acknowledgement letter
Exhibit 4	Notification letters re: 2014 M4 report
Exhibit 5	Notification letter re: 2014 M5 report
Exhibit 6	Notification letter re: 2014 P1 report
Exhibit 7	Notification letter re: 2014 P1A report
Exhibit 8	Final Notice letter & delivery confirmation
Exhibit 9	Bank records re: 2014 M4 report cover period
Exhibit 10	Bank records re: 2014 M5 report cover period
Exhibit 11	Bank records re: 2014 P1 report cover period
Exhibit 12	Bank records re: 2014 P1A report cover period
Exhibit 13	Commission staff's letter of 09/4/14 and affidavit of service
Exhibit 14	Commission staff's letter of 04/29/15
Exhibit 15	Committee's filing history

		استنبسيات وسيبي والسنان والمسا		
OF POLITIC	OF ORGANIZATION CAL COMMITTEE	OFFICEORISE ONLY 1013		
1. Full Name of Committee	The state of the s		Telephone	
EQUAL ME	ARRIAGE FLORIDA		786-547-8084	
Mailing Address (include cit	ty, state and zip code)			
15820 PAL	netto club Dr.			
Miami, FL	33/57			
Street Address (include city,	state and zip code)	•		
SAME	AS ABOVE			
2. Affiliated or Connected Of committees)	rganizations (includes other committee	es of continuous exi	istence and political	
Name of Affiliated or Connected Organization	Mailing Address		Relationship	
N/A	N/A	N/,	<b>A</b>	
3. Area, Scope and Jurisdict		<u> </u>		
Constitution	al Amendment Ini-	tiative		
4 Nature of Organization or 0	Organization's Special Interest (e.g., m		tion, etc.)	
MARRIAGE EC	PUALITY; FREEDOM O	of Religion		
5 Identify by Name, Address	and Position, the Custodian of Books	and Accounts (incl	ude treasurer's name)	
Full Name	Mailing Address		nittee Title or Position	
VANESSA BRITO	15820 Palmetto Cho Miami, FL 33157	Dr. CHAi	R TREASURER.	
	Miami, FL 33157			
	1			

(continued on reverse side)

DS-DE 5 (Rev. 05/06)

	s and Position, Other Principal f Any (include chairman's name		s and Members of the
Full Name	Mailing Add	dress (	Committee Title or Position
N/A	N/A	N	A
	s, Office Sought and Party Affil ting (if none, please indicate)	liation Each Candidate or C	ther Individual that this
. Full Name	Mailing Address	Office Sough	t Party
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
3. List Any Issues this C List Any Issues this C	ommittee is Supporting: MA	rpiage Equali	TY; RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
9. If this Committee is Si  N  →	upporting the Entire Ticket of a	Party, Give Name of Party	
0. In the Event of Disso	lution, What Disposition will be	Made of Residual Funds?	
CHARITA BL	E CONTRIBU	TION	
1. List all Banks, Safety	Deposit Boxes, or Other Depo	sitories Used for Committe	e Funds
Name of Bank or De	pository & Account Number	Mailin	g Address
WELLS FA	RGO	148 01 S. DIX MIAMI, FL 33	tie Hwy. 3176
2. List all Reports Requ and Positions of Suc	ired to be Filed by this Commit h Officials, If Any	tee with Federal Officials a	nd the Names, Addresses
Report Title	Dates Required to be Filed	Name & Position of Official	Mailing Address
A/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
STATE OF FLOR	IDA	MiAMi-D	A DE COUNTY
VANESS	ia Brito	certify that the information	on in this Statement of
rganization is complete, t	rue and correct.		6/25/13

0000°5

# APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN **DEPOSITORY FOR**

POLITICAL COMMITTEES (Sections 106.011(1) and 106.021(1), F.S.)

13 OCT 16 AM 11: 06

SECRETARY OF STATE

CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX:		OFFICE USE ONLY
Original Appointment of Treasurer Reappointment	ntment of Treasurer	Deputy Treasurer
1. Committee or Organ ∠ation	2 Telephone	
Equal MARRIAGE FLORION	1786154	7-8084
3 Name of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer 4 Email coptional	<u>.</u>	
VANESSA BRITO Vanessa Deg	qualmorriage 78654	7-8084
,b Walling Address	7	
15820 Primetto Cius.	Dowe pliam. Fr 3	3157
7 Street Address	),	
	· ·	
8 The following bank has been designated as the Prin	mary Depository Secondar	ry Depository
9 Name of Bank	10 Street Address	
U.S. CENTURY	2301 NW 87"	5 AVETUR
11 City	12 State	13 Zip Code
DORAL	FC	33172-
14 Signature of Chairman	15 Name of Chairman (Print or Type	~ /
X //w	VANESSA &	seito
Campaign Treasurer's Ac	ceptance of Appointment	
1 JANESSA BRITO	do hereb	y accept the appointment is
	AGE FLORIDA	
	Committee or Organization)	
UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, I DECLARE THAT I HA ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT AND		
10/15/13 OX 1	1/2 in	
Date EXHIBIT	Signature of Campaign Treasurer or F	Deouty Treasurer



Governor

KEN DETZNER
Secretary of State

June 27, 2013

Ms Vanessa Brito, Chairperson Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, Florida 33157

Dear Ms. Brito:

This will acknowledge receipt of the Statement of Organization and Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Equal Marriage Florida, which were placed on file in our office on June 26, 2013. 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 that supports issues

## Campaign Treasurer's Reports

Your first campaign treasurer's report will be due on July 10, 2013. The report will cover the period of April 1, 2013 - June 30, 2013. 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)

## Credentials and Sign-ons

Below is the web address to access the EFS and the committee's user identification number. The enclosed sealed envelope contains the committee's initial password. Once you have logged in using the initial password, you will be immediately prompted to change it to a confidential signon. The chairperson, campaign treasurer, and deputy treasurers are responsible for protecting this password from disclosure and are responsible for all filings using these credentials, unless the Division is notified that your credentials have been compromised.

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

Identification Number: 60477



NIVA FLODINA SOO

*-*000008

Ms. Vanessa Brito, Chairperson June 27, 2013 Page Two

## Pin Numbers

Pin numbers are confidential secure credentials that allow you to submit reports and update information. The enclosed sealed envelope provides a confidential pin number for the chairperson. By copy of this letter, a confidential pin number to access the EFS was sent to the treasurer.

Each political committee chairperson is required to provide the Division of Elections with confidential personal information that may be used to allow access in the event that the password is forgotten or lost. When you enter the campaign account screen, there will be a drop down box where you pick a question (such as What is your mother's maiden name?) and supply an answer All passwords and answers to questions are stored as encrypted data and cannot be viewed by Division staff and given out over the phone. Please notify the Division if your credentials have been compromised

# 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 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 3 days and, thereafter, \$500 per day for each 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, 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



Ms Vanessa Brito, Chairperson June 27, 2013 Page Three

## 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 <a href="http://elections.myflorida.com">http://elections.myflorida.com</a>. 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, 2012 Political Committee Handbook, 2013 Calendar of Reporting Dates, and Rule 1S-2.017, Florida Administrative Code.

Please let me know if you need additional information

Derri Su aldricke Facusm

Sincerely.

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

KRB/ljr

Enclosures

EXHIBIT 3 (pg 3&3)



#### Ken Detzner Secretary of State

#### DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

May 14, 2014

Vanessa Brito, Treasurer Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157-3157

Re: PAC 60477

Dear Ms. Brito:

Your campaign treasurer's report, which was due May 12, 2014, has not been received.

Section 106.07(8)(b), Florida Statutes, requires that the filing officer immediately notify you of the failure to file this report and that a fine will be assessed of \$50 per day for the first 3 days late and, thereafter \$500 per day, although a fine cannot 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

Once your report is filed, this office will notify you of the specific amount of your fine. Fines must be paid to the filing officer within 20 days of receipt of the payment due notice

Please be advised, however, that failure to file a campaign treasurer's report may constitute a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to file a report the division will turn the matter over to the Florida Elections Commission.

Section 106.265(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Florida Elections Commission to impose a civil penalty up to \$1,000 per count for each willful violation of Chapter 106

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

Sincerely,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

EXHIBIT  $\frac{4}{000011}$ 



#### Ken Detzner Secretary of State

#### DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

#### Second Notice

May 20, 2014

Vanessa Brito, Treasurer Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157-3157

Re: PAC 60477

Dear Ms Brito:

Your campaign treasurer's report, due May 12, 2014, has not been received.

Section 106.07(8)(b), Florida Statutes, requires that the filing officer immediately notify you of the failure to file a report

The first notice of the failure to file the above mentioned report was mailed, via regular mail, to the address on file with our office on May 14, 2014 As of this date, we do not show a record of receiving this report

If the report is not filed via the Division's electronic filing system within 14 days of receipt of this notice, this matter will be referred to the Florida Elections Commission for further action Section 106.265(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Florida Elections Commission, upon finding a willful violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, to impose a civil penalty up to \$1,000 per count

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

Sincerely,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

EXHIBIT 4 (2022)



# Ken Detzner Secretary of State

#### DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

June 11, 2014

Vanessa Brito, Treasurer Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157-3157

Re: PAC 60477

Dear Ms. Brito:

Your campaign treasurer's report, which was due June 10, 2014, has not been received

Section 106.07(8)(b), Florida Statutes, requires that the filing officer immediately notify you of the failure to file this report and that a fine will be assessed of \$50 per day for the first 3 days late and, thereafter \$500 per day, although a fine cannot 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

Once your report is filed, this office will notify you of the specific amount of your fine. Fines must be paid to the filing officer within 20 days of receipt of the payment due notice.

Please be advised, however, that failure to file a campaign treasurer's report may constitute a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to file a report the division will turn the matter over to the Florida Elections Commission.

Section 106.265(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Florida Elections Commission to impose a civil penalty up to \$1,000 per count for each willful violation of Chapter 106

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

Sincerely,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief

Bureau of Election Records

EARIBIL

000013



#### Ken Detzner Secretary of State

#### DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

June 30, 2014

Vanessa Brito, Treasurer Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157-3157

Re: PAC 60477

Dear Ms Brito:

Your campaign treasurer's report, which was due June 27, 2014, has not been received.

Section 106 07(8)(b), Florida Statutes, requires that the filing officer immediately notify you of the failure to file this report and that a fine will be assessed of \$50 per day for the first 3 days late and, thereafter \$500 per day, although a fine cannot 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

Once your report is filed, this office will notify you of the specific amount of your fine. Fines must be paid to the filing officer within 20 days of receipt of the payment due notice.

Please be advised, however, that failure to file a campaign treasurer's report may constitute a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to file a report the division will turn the matter over to the Florida Elections Commission

Section 106 265(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Florida Elections Commission to impose a civil penalty up to \$1,000 per count for each willful violation of Chapter 106

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

Sincerely,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

000014

- 500 Courth Dramannh Street - Tallakacca WI 32300\_0250 - 1850\245-624



#### Ken Detzner Secretary of State

# DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

July 7, 2014

Vanessa Brito, Treasurer Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157-3157

Re: PAC 60477

Dear Ms Brito:

Your campaign treasurer's report, which was due July 4, 2014, has not been received

Section 106.07(8)(b), Florida Statutes, requires that the filing officer immediately notify you of the failure to file this report and that a fine will be assessed of \$50 per day for the first 3 days late and, thereafter \$500 per day, although a fine cannot 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

Once your report is filed, this office will notify you of the specific amount of your fine Fines must be paid to the filing officer within 20 days of receipt of the payment due notice

Please be advised, however, that failure to file a campaign treasurer's report may constitute a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to file a report the division will turn the matter over to the Florida Elections Commission.

Section 106.265(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Florida Elections Commission to impose a civil penalty up to \$1,000 per count for each willful violation of Chapter 106

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

Sincerely,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

EXHIBIT \_\_\_\_

000015



RICK SCOTT Governor KEN DETZNER
Secretary of State

FINAL NOTICE Delivery Confirmation:

USPS TRACKING # & CUSTOMER 9114 9010 7574 2751 2918 16 For Tracking or Inquiries go to USPS com or call 1-800-222-1811

July 8, 2014

Vanessa Brito, Treasurer Equal Marriage Florida (60477) 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157

Dear Ms Brito:

According to a review of the Division's records, the organization referenced above has not filed the following reports:

Year	Report	Cover Period
2014	M4	04/01/2014 - 04/30/2014
2014	M5	05/01/2014 - 05/31/2014
2014	P1	06/01/2014 - 06/20/2014
2014	PIA	06/21/2014 - 06/27/2014

The organization has previously been notified of the reports that are outstanding. Enclosed are copies of letters sent by the Division If the reports are not filed within 7 days of receipt of this letter, the Division will forward this matter to the Florida Elections Commission for further action Section 106 265(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Florida Elections Commission to impose civil penalties of up to \$1,000 per violation

If you have any questions, please call the help desk at (850) 245-6240

Sincerely,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

KRB/dsb

Enclosure

EXHIBITO (8016 122)

Division of Elections

R.A. Gray Building, Suite 316 • 500 South Bronough Street • Tallahassee, Florida 32399

850 245.6200 • 850 245.6217 (Fax) election.dos.state.fl.us





English

Customer Service

USPS Mobile



Quick Tools

Ship a Package

Send Mail

TALLAHASSEE FL 32301

Manage Your Mail

USPS Tracking™

Tracking Number: 9114901075742751291816

# **Product & Tracking Information**

Postal Product:

Features:

USPS Tracking™

DATE & I	77E	STATUS OF FEM.	Logarion =
July 11, 2014	_11:13 am	Delivered	MIAMI, FL 33157
Your item was	delivered at 11:13 am on July 11	2014 in MIAMI FL 33157	
July 11 2014	10:55 am	Sorting Complete	MIAMI FL 33197
July 11 2014	4:50 am	Arrived at Post Office	MIAMI FL 33197
July 11 2014	1.21 am	Departed USPS Facility	OPA LOCKA FL 33054
July 10 2014	9.21 pm	Arrived at USPS Facility	OPA LOCKA FL 33054
July 10 2014	3 16 am	Departed USPS Facility	TALLAHASSEE FL 32301

Track Another Package

July 9 2014 10.27 pm

XHIBIT 8 (04.22 00002

Arrived at USPS Facility

ACCOUNT NO

STATEMENT PERIOD FROM:

04/01/2014

TO:

04/30/2014

EQUAL MARRIAGE FLORIDA 15820 PALMETTO CLUB DR MIAMI, FL 33157

**PAGE** 

1 of 1

Balance Last Statement \$ 14.47	and the second s	e Have Added er Deposits/Credits \$ 9 21	We Have Subtracted Number Checks/Debits 1 \$ 9 99	Ending Balance \$ 13.69	
Items Enclosed 0		Minimum Balance \$ 13.69	Average Balance \$ 15 31	Average Available Balance \$ 15.31	
<u>DATE</u> 04/28/2014	<u>AMOUNT</u> \$9.99	DESCRIPTION Force Over Balance HOOTSUITE IAT PAY	PAL		
<u>DATE</u> 4/25/2014	<u>AMOUNT</u> \$9 21	DESCRIPTION ACH Deposit WePay EDI PYMNI'S	CREDITS		····
<u>DATE</u> 03/31/2014	BALANCE 14 47	DAILY BALAI <u>DATE</u> 04/25/2014	NCE INFORMATION —— BALANCE 23 68	<u>DATE</u> <u>BA</u> 04/28/2014	<u>۱۸</u>

NOTICE: By federal law, as of 1/1/2013, funds in a non-interest bearing transaction account (including an IOLTA/IOLA) will no longer receive unlimited deposit insurance coverage, but will be FDIC-insured to the legal maximum of \$250,000 for each ownership category. For more information, visit: http://www.fdic.gov/deposit/deposits/unlimited/expiration.html

EXMIBIT 7

ACCOUNT NO...

STATEMENT PERIOD FROM:

05/01/2014

TO:

05/31/2014

EQUAL MARRIAGE FLORIDA 15820 PALMETTO CLUB DR MIAMI, FL 33157

PAGE

1 of 1

TYPE OF ACC	OUNT Bus	iness DDA Checl	king			
Balance Last Statement \$ 13 69		Have Added Deposits/Credits \$ 12.89		ive Subtracted Checks/Debi \$ 9 99		
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<u>DATE</u> 04/30/2014	<u>BALANCE</u> 13.69	<u>DATE</u> 05/14/2014	<u>B/</u>	ALANCE 26 58	<u>DATE</u> 05/27/2014	<u>BALANCE</u> 16 59

NOTICE: By federal law, as of 1/1/2013, funds in a non-interest bearing transaction account (including an IOLI A/IOLA) will no longer receive unlimited deposit insurance coverage, but will be FDIC-insured to the legal maximum of \$250,000 for each ownership category. For more information, visit: http://www.fdic.gov/deposit/deposits/unlimited/expiration.html

EXHIBIT 10

ACCOUNT NO.

STATEMENT PERIOD FROM:

06/01/2014

TO:

06/30/2014

EQUAL MARRIAGE FLORIDA 15820 PALMETTO CLUB DR MIAMI, FL 33157

**PAGE** 

1 of 1

Balance Last Statement \$ 16 59		Have Added r Deposits/Credits \$ 18 42	We Have Subtracted Number Checks/Debits 1 \$ 9 99	Ending Balance \$ 25.02	
Items Enclosed 0	-	Minimum Balance \$ 15.81	Average Balance \$ 24.67	Average Available Balance \$ 24,67	• · · ·
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06/25/2014	\$9.21	ACH Deposit WePay EDI PYMNTS			-
		DAILY BALA	NCE INFORMATION		
DATE	BALANCE	DATE	BALANCE	DATE	BALANC
05/31/2014	16 59	06/23/2014	15.81		
06/02/2014	25,80	06/25/2014	25.02		

NOTICE: By federal law, as of 1/1/2013, funds in a non-interest bearing transaction account (including an IOLTA/IOLA) will no longer receive unlimited deposit insurance coverage, but will be FDIC-insured to the legal maximum of \$250,000 for each ownership category. For more information, visit: http://www.fdic.gov/deposit/deposits/unlimited/expiration.html

EXHIBIT \_\_\_\_\_

ACCOUNT NO.

STATEMENT PERIOD FROM:

06/01/2014

TO:

06/30/2014

EQUAL MARRIAGE FLORIDA 15820 PALMETTO CLUB DR MIAMI, FL. 33157

PAGE

1 of 1

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Balance Last		e Have Added	We Have Sub		Ending	
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DATE	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION				
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06/02/2014	25.80	06/25/2014	25 02	2		

NOTICE: By federal law, as of 1/1/2013, funds in a non-interest bearing transaction account (including an IOLI A/IOLA) will no longer receive unlimited deposit insurance coverage, but will be FDIC-insured to the legal maximum of \$250,000 for each ownership category. For more information, visit: http://www.fdic.gov/deposit/deposits/unlimited/expiration lami

EXHIBIT <u>12</u>



# FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

107 W. Gaines Street, Suite 224 Collins Building Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050 Telephone: (850) 922-4539 Fax: (850) 921-0783

September 4, 2014

## CERTIFIED MAIL 70051820000798047802

Vanessa Brito, Treasurer Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157-3157

RE: Case No.: FEC 14-290; Respondent: Equal Marriage Florida

Dear Ms Brito:

On September 3, 2014, the Florida Elections Commission received the enclosed complaint alleging that you violated Florida's election laws. Section 106.25(2), Florida Statutes states:

The respondent shall have 14 days after receipt of the complaint to file an initial response, and the executive director may not determine the legal sufficiency of the complaint during that time period.

If you choose to file a response to the complaint, please send it to my attention at the address listed above. To ensure that I receive your response in a timely manner, you may also want to send it via e-mail to my attention, at <a href="mailto:fec@myfloridalegal.com">fec@myfloridalegal.com</a>. You will be notified by letter whether the complaint is determined legally sufficient.

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

Under section 106 25, Florida Statutes, complaints, Commission investigations, investigative reports, and other documents relating to an alleged violation of Chapters 104 and 106, Florida Statutes, are confidential until the Commission finds probable cause or no probable cause. The confidentiality provision does not apply to the person filing the complaint. However, it does apply to you, the Respondent, unless you waive confidentiality in writing.

June 2002 (Revers

for two years

t-Class Mail<sub>®</sub> or emational mail ) with Certifie f Mail

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cted to the mark the mail

ed, please premark on the postage and ring ivailable on

EXHIBIT 13 (g 123)

The confidentiality provision does not preclude you from seeking legal counsel. However, if 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

Sincerely,

Erin Riley

Deputy Agency Clerk

IP/enr

Enclosure: Complaint w/attachments

# VERIFIED RETURN OF SERVICE VANESSA BRITO, TREASURER, EQUAL MARRIAGE FLORIDA

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION
THE STATE OF FLORIDA

CASE: FEC-14-290

LETTER, AFFIDAVIT, COMPLAINT, EXHIBITS

FLORIDA ELECTIOSN COMMISSION

\_\_\_\_\_\_

vs.

EQUAL MARRIAGE FLORIDA

Pursuant to the request of Florida Elections Commission, 107 W Gaines Street, Tallahassee, FL WF GREENBERG & COMPANY, LLC, received this process on January 21, 2015 at 12:52 P.M.

I, EDUARDO A SAUMELL served same on <u>VANESSA BRITO, TREASURER, EQUAL MARRIAGE</u>
<u>FLORIDA</u>, at 15820 PALMETTO CLUB DRIVE, MIAMI, FL 33157 on FEBRUARY 9, 2015 at 09:25 A.M.

#### INDIVIDUAL SERVICE

By serving the within named person a copy of the above named document(s). FS 48.031(1)

#### COMMENTS

1/24 21PM NO ANS , DODGE TAG COBEO3, 1/28 605PM NO ANS, DODGE THERE, 1/31 101PM NO ANS , 2/4 740AM NO ANS , DODGE THERE // APPROX DESC: WHITE FEMALE, 35 Y/O, 5' 100LBS, SALT & PEPPER HAIR, NOT WEARING GLASSES

MILITARY STATUS: Based upon inquiry of party served, defendant is not in the military service of the United States.

I ACKNOWLEDGE that I am authorized to serve process, in good standing in the jurisdiction wherein this process was served and I have no interest in the above action. No Notary required pursuant to F.S. 92.525 (2)

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read the forgoing document and that the facts stated in it are true.

February 12th, 2015/

EDUARDO A SAUMELL CPS# 780

INDEX 97148

WF GREENBERG & COMPANY, LLC.
7040 SEMINOLE PRATT RD SUITE 25-169
LOXAHATCHEE, FL 33470
OFFICE (561) 422-3190

EXHIBIT 13 (6) 3d 3)



#### FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

107 W. Gaines Street, Suite 224 Collins Building Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050 Telephone: (850) 922-4539

Fax: (850) 921-0783

April 29, 2015

Vanessa Brito, Chair Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157

RE: Case No.: FEC 14-290; Respondent: Equal Marriage Florida

Dear Ms Brito:

On September 3, 2014, 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 failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting dates that no reports would be filed on those dates because it had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the following reporting periods:

- 2014 M4
- 2014 M5
- 2014 P1
- 2014 P1A

Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent falsely reported or deliberately failed to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, when it failed to file reports on the prescribed reporting dates for the following reporting periods:

- 2014 M4
- 2014 M5
- 2014 P1
- 2014 P1A

EXHIBIT 14 (03 102)

You may respond to the allegations above by filing a notarized statement providing any information regarding the facts and circumstances surrounding the allegations. Your response will be included as an attachment to the investigator's report.

When we conclude the investigation, a copy of the Report of Investigation will be mailed to you at the above address. You may file a response to the report within 14 days from the date the report is mailed to you. Based on the results of the investigation, legal staff will make a written recommendation to the Commission on whether there is probable cause to believe you have violated Chapter 104 or 106, Florida Statutes. A copy of the Staff Recommendation will be mailed to you and you may file a response within 14 days from the date the recommendation is mailed to you. Your timely filed response(s) will be considered by the Commission when determining probable cause

The Commission will then hold a hearing to determine whether there is probable cause to believe you have violated Chapters 104 or 106, Florida Statutes. You and the complainant will receive a notice of hearing at least 14 days before the hearing. The notice of hearing will indicate the location, date, and time of your hearing. You will have the opportunity to make a brief oral statement to the Commission, but you will not be permitted to testify or call others to testify, or introduce any documentary or other evidence.

At any time before a probable cause finding, you may notify us in writing that you want to enterinto negotiations directed towards reaching a settlement via consent agreement.

The Report of Investigation, Staff Recommendation, and Notice of Hearing will be mailed to the above address as this letter. Therefore, if your address changes, you must notify this office of your new address. Otherwise, you may not receive these important documents. Failure to receive the documents will not delay the probable cause hearing.

Under section 106 25, Florida Statutes, complaints, Commission investigations, investigative reports, and other documents relating to an alleged violation of Chapters 104 and 106, Florida Statutes, are confidential until the Commission finds probable cause or no probable cause. The confidentiality provision does not apply to the person filing the complaint. However, it does apply to you unless you waive confidentiality in writing. The confidentiality provision does not preclude you from seeking legal counsel. However, if 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

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Keith Smith, the investigator assigned to this case

Sincerely.

Amy McKeever/Toman

Executive Director

AMT/enr

EXHIBIT 14 (pg 2 a2)



search | directory | contact us | 411 | subscribe | tour | help

# Florida Department of State - Division of Elections

## Florida Election System Reports

C	andidate/Cor	nmittee Loo	Kup	
Name.	equal marr	iage		
Election:				
				V
Acct:	60477			
Type:	Pol Action	Comm	~	
	Search	Reset		

Pol Action Comm Name: Equal Marriage Florida **Account: 60477** 

Date Due Type	Date Filed Status	Days Late	Fine Appealed	Amount Fined	Amount Paid
5/11/2015 M4	SNT	0	\$0 00	\$0.00	\$0 00
4/10/2015 M3	SNT	0	\$0 00	\$0.00	\$0 00
3/10/2015 M2	SNT	0	\$0 00	\$0.00	\$0 00
2/10/2015 M1	SNT	0	\$0 00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1/12/2015 M12	FEC	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0 00
12/10/2014 M11	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0.00	\$0 00
11/10/2014 M10	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0 00
10/31/2014 G7	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0 00
10/30/2014 D6	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0.00
10/29/2014 D5	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0 00
10/28/2014 D4	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0.00	\$0 00
10/27/2014 D3	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0 00
10/26/2014 D2	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0.00	\$0 00
10/25/2014 D1	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0.00	\$0 00
10/24/2014 G6	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0 00
10/17/2014 G5	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0 00
10/10/2014 G4	FEC	0	\$0.00	\$0 00	\$0 00
10/3/2014 G3	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0 00
9/26/2014 G2A	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0.00	\$0 00
9/19/2014 G2	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0 00
9/12/2014 G1A	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0.00
9/5/2014 G1	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0.00
8/29/2014 P7A	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0 00
8/22/2014 P7	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0 00
8/15/2014 P6	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0 00
8/8/2014 P5	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0 00
8/1/2014 P4	FEC	0	<b>\$0</b> 00	\$0 00	\$0 00
7/25/2014 P3	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0 00
7/18/2014 P2A	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0.00
7/11/2014 P2	FEC	0	<b>\$0</b> 00	\$0 00	\$0 00
7/4/2014 P1A	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0.00
6/27/2014 P1	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0 00
6/10/2014 M5	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0 00
5/12/2014 M4	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0 00
4/10/2014 M3	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0.00
3/10/2014 M2	FEC	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0 00
2/10/2014 M1	FOI	0	\$0 00	\$0 00	\$0.00
1/10/2014 M12	FOI	0	\$0.00	\$0 00	\$0 00
12/10/2013 M11	FOI	0	\$0.00	\$0 00	\$0 00
11/12/2013 M10	FOI	0	\$0.00	\$0 00	\$0.00
	11/13/2013 CLO	34	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
7/10/2013 Q2	7/30/2013 CLO	20	\$0.00	\$0 00	\$0 00



## FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

107 W. Gaines Street, Suite 224 Collins Building Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050 Telephone: (850) 922-4539 Fax: (850) 921-0783

April 29, 2015

Vanessa Brito, Chair Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157

RE: Case No.: FEC 14-290; Respondent: Equal Marriage Florida

Dear Ms. Brito:

On September 3, 2014, 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 failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting dates that no reports would be filed on those dates because it had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the following reporting periods:

- 2014 M4
- 2014 M5
- 2014 P1
- 2014 P1A

Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent falsely reported or deliberately failed to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, when it failed to file reports on the prescribed reporting dates for the following reporting periods:

- 2014 M4
- 2014 M5
- 2014 P1
- 2014 P1A

You may respond to the allegations above by filing a notarized statement providing any information regarding the facts and circumstances surrounding the allegations. Your response will be included as an attachment to the investigator's report.

When we conclude the investigation, a copy of the Report of Investigation will be mailed to you at the above address. You may file a response to the report within 14 days from the date the report is mailed to you. Based on the results of the investigation, legal staff will make a written recommendation to the Commission on whether there is probable cause to believe you have violated Chapter 104 or 106, Florida Statutes. A copy of the Staff Recommendation will be mailed to you and you may file a response within 14 days from the date the recommendation is mailed to you. Your timely filed response(s) will be considered by the Commission when determining probable cause.

The Commission will then hold a hearing to determine whether there is probable cause to believe you have violated Chapters 104 or 106, Florida Statutes You and the complainant will receive a notice of hearing at least 14 days before the hearing. The notice of hearing will indicate the location, date, and time of your hearing. You will have the opportunity to make a brief oral statement to the Commission, but you will not be permitted to testify or call others to testify, or introduce any documentary or other evidence.

At any time before a probable cause finding, you may notify us in writing that you want to enter into negotiations directed towards reaching a settlement via consent agreement.

The Report of Investigation, Staff Recommendation, and Notice of Hearing will be mailed to the above address as this letter. Therefore, if your address changes, you must notify this office of your new address. Otherwise, you may not receive these important documents. Failure to receive the documents will not delay the probable cause hearing.

Under section 106.25, Florida Statutes, complaints, Commission investigations, investigative reports, and other documents relating to an alleged violation of Chapters 104 and 106, Florida Statutes, are confidential until the Commission finds probable cause or no probable cause. The confidentiality provision does not apply to the person filing the complaint. However, it does apply to you unless you waive confidentiality in writing. The confidentiality provision does not preclude you from seeking legal counsel. However, if 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.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Keith Smith, the investigator assigned to this case.

Sincerely.

Amy McKeever/Iloma

Executive Director

AMT/enr

14-290

# **DIVISION OF ELECTIONS** FEC REFERRAL FORM

\*RECEIVED

2014 SEP - 3 P 2: 01

To FEC from Division of Elections

STATE OF FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Name:

Equal Marriage Florida

Account Number: 60477

Chairperson:

Vanessa Brito

Treasurer:

Vanessa Brito

Registered Agent: Heather L. Gray

The Division of Elections is referring this issue to the Florida Elections Commission pursuant to Sections 106.25, Section 106.07(8)(d), and 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes Section 106.07(8)(d) Florida Statutes, requires the filing officer to notify the FEC of a political committees alleged failure to file reports as set forth in the notification

In the alternative, Ms. Vanessa Brito failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report was to be filed. Late filing of the required waiver notice(s) reflect a deliberate failure to provide information to the filing officer as required by Section 106 07(7), Florida Statutes.

# Report(s):

2014 M4

2014 M5

2014 P1

2014 P1A

Sent By:

Kristi Reid Bronson XCD September 2, 2014

Date:

#### **AFFIDAVIT**

#### STATE OF FLORIDA

#### County of Leon

#### Kristi Reid Bronson, being duly sworn, says:

- I am the Chief of the Bureau of Election Records of the Division of Elections (Division). In that capacity, I oversee the Division's duties related to the filing of campaign finance reports
- This affidavit is made upon my personal knowledge, including information obtained from review of the attached records, of which I am the custodian.
- 3. I am of legal age and competent to testify to the matters stated herein.
- Equal Marriage Florida (60477) is a political committee registered with the Division On June 26, 2013, Equal Marriage Florida filed the DSDE 5 and 6 with the Division of Elections indicating that Vanessa Brito was the chairperson and treasurer for the committee (See attached documents and acknowledgment letter).
- 5. The 2014 M4 campaign treasurer's report was due on May 12, 2014. At the time the 2014 M4 report was due, Vanessa Brito was the treasurer
- On May 14, 2014, the Division mailed Vanessa Brito notification that the 2014 M4 campaign treasurer's report had not been filed (See attached letter).
- On May 20, 2014, the Division mailed Vanessa Brito notification that the 2014 M4 campaign treasurer's report had not been filed (See attached letter)
- The 2014 M5 campaign treasurer's report was due on June 10, 2014. At the time the 2014 M5 report was due, Vanessa Brito was the treasurer
- 9. On June 11, 2014, the Division mailed Vanessa Brito notification that the 2014 M5 campaign treasurer's report had not been filed. (See attached letter).

- The 2014 P1 campaign treasurer's report was due on June 27, 2014. At the time the 2014 P1 report was due, Vanessa Brito was the treasurer.
- On June 30, 2014, the Division mailed Vanessa Brito notification that the 2014 P1 campaign treasurer's report had not been filed (See attached letter).
- The 2014 P1A campaign treasurer's report was due on July 4, 2014. At the time the 2014 P1A report was due, Vanessa Brito was the treasurer.
- On July 7, 2014, the Division mailed Vanessa Brito notification that the 2014 P1A campaign treasurer's report had not been filed. (See attached letter)
- On July 8, 2014, the Division mailed Vanessa Brito final notification with delivery confirmation that the 2014 M4, M5, P1 and P1A reports had not been filed. (See attached letter with delivery confirmation).
- As of September 2, 2014, Ms. Brito has failed to file the 2014 M4, M5, P1 and P1A reports.

I hereby swear or affirm that the foregoing information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Affiant

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this 2nd day

of September, 2014.

Signature of Notary Public - State of Florida

Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary

Public

Personally Known

### STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION OF POLITICAL COMMITTEE

(PLEASE TYPE)

OFFICE USE ONLY	
94	9
MASSIE HOUS	

1. Full Name of Committee

Telephone

EQUAL MARRIAGE FURIDA

Mailing Address (include city, state and zip code)

15820 PALMetto CLUB Dr.

Miami, FL 33157

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
N/A	N/A	N /A

3. Area, Scope and Jurisdiction of the Committee

## Constitutional Amendment Initiative

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

### MARRIAGE EQUALITY; FREEDOM OF RELIGION

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
VANESSA BRItO	15820 Palmetto Chb Dr. Miami, FL 33157	Chair   Treasurer.

	s and Position, Other Principal Any (include chairman's name		and Members of the	
Full Name	Mailing Add		Committee Title or Position	
N/A	N/A	N	N/A	
	s, Office Sought and Party Affili ing (if none, please indicate)	iation Each Candidate or O	ther Individual that this	
. Full Name	Mailing Address	Office Sought	t Party	
N/A	N/A	NA	N/A	
8. List Any Issues this Co	ommittee is Supporting: MAF	zriage Equali	TY: RELIGIOUS FREEDOM	
9. If this Committee is Su	upporting the Entire Ticket of a	Party, Give Name of Party		
	lution, What Disposition will be			
CHARITA BL	E CONTRIBU	TION		
11. List all Banks, Safety	Deposit Boxes, or Other Depos	sitories Used for Committe	e Funds	
Name of Bank or Dep	pository & Account Number		g Address	
WELLS FARCO 14801 S. Dixie Hwy. MIAMI, FL 33176		ie Hwy. 3176		
12. List all Reports Requi	ired to be Filed by this Committ h Officials, If Any	tee with Federal Officials a	nd the Names, Addresses	
Report Title	Dates Required to be Filed	Name & Position of Official	Mailing Address	
A/A	n/A	N/A	A/a	
STATE OF FLOR	IDA	MiAMi-D	A DE COUNTY	
I. VANESS	a Brito	, certify that the information	on in this Statement of	
Organization is complete, tr	rue and correct.  Chairman of Political Committee		6/25/13	

### APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN **DEPOSITORY FOR**

**POLITICAL COMMITTEES** 

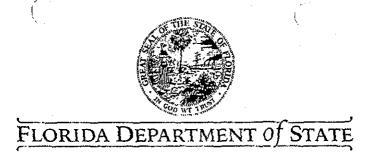
(Sections 106 011(1) and 106.021(1), F.S.)

Par of State 2013 JUN 26 Ait 9: 49 THE PHASSEE, FL

CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX:		OFFICE USE ONLY
Original Appointment of Treasurer Reappoi	ntment of Treasurer	Deputy Treasurer
1 Committee or Organization	2. Telephone	
EQUAL MARRIAGE FLORIS	DA (786) 53	17-8084
Name of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer	5 Telephone	(optional)
VANESSA BRITO VANESSA Q equ.		
6 Mailing Address	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	1
15820 PALMEHO Chippi	-, Miani, \$1 331	57
7. Street Address	<i>J</i>	
same as about		,
	mary Depository Second	ary Depository
9 Name of Bank	10 Street Address	Miami, FL
Wells Fargo	14801 S. Divie H	wy. 33176
11. City	12 State	13 Zip Code
Miami	FL	33176
14 Signature of Chairman	15 Name of Chairman (Print or Ty	pe) <b>/</b>
XVa	Vaness a Br	ito
/ Campaign Treasurer's Ac	ceptance of Appointment	
1 LANESSA Reito	do here	by accept the appointment as
(Please Print or Type)	حـــ	
treasurer or deputy treasurer for Equal M	ARRIAGE -LORIDA	
4	Committee or Organization)	
UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, I DECLARE THAT I HAT ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT AND		
$C_0/25/13$ X	1/2	
	V. Carrier and Car	•
DS-DE 6 (Rev. 7/10)	Signature of Campaign Treasurer or	Deputy Treasurer

<u>0000006</u>

REGISTERED AGENT STATEMENT OF APPOINTMENT (Section 106 022 F.S.)		2013 JUN 26 AM 9: 49	
		DIY HE GENERAL	
Original Appointment Change of Appoin	tment	HASSEF, FL	
L Change of Mailing Address L Change of Physics	al Address		
Registered Ag	ent and Offi	ce Information	
Name HEATHER L. GRAY		Telephone 786 -252-4097	
Street Address 15820 PALMeHo Club 7	Prive.		
City Miam;	State IL	Zip Code <b>33/5</b>	
Mailing Address	30 VE		
City	State 🔌	Zip Codev //	
forth in Section 106.022 F.S. I also understand statement of resignation and filing it with the application.  Signature of Registered Agent			
Former Registered Agent a	nd Office In	formation (for changes only)	
Name		Telephone	
Street Address			
City	State	Zip Code	
Committee or	Organizatio	n Information	
Name of Committee or Organization  EQUAL MARRIAGE FLORIPA			
Street Address 15820 PALMET	t	b. Dr. Telephone 7862-4017	
City Mjami	State	Zip Code 33157	
Signature of Chairperson  ANESSA BRITE  Printed Name of Chairperson			



Governor

**KEN DETZNER**Secretary of State

June 27, 2013

Ms Vanessa Brito, Chairperson Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, Florida 33157

Dear Ms. Brito:

This will acknowledge receipt of the Statement of Organization and Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Equal Marriage Florida, which were placed on file in our office on June 26, 2013. 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 that supports issues.

#### Campaign Treasurer's Reports

Your first campaign treasurer's report will be due on July 10, 2013 The report will cover the period of April 1, 2013 - June 30, 2013 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).

#### Credentials and Sign-ons

Below is the web address to access the EFS and the committee's user identification number. The enclosed sealed envelope contains the committee's initial password. Once you have logged in using the initial password, you will be immediately prompted to change it to a confidential signon. The chairperson, campaign treasurer, and deputy treasurers are responsible for protecting this password from disclosure and are responsible for all filings using these credentials, unless the Division is notified that your credentials have been compromised

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

Identification Number: 60477

000008



Ms. Vanessa Brito, Chairperson June 27, 2013 Page Two

#### Pin Numbers

Pin numbers are confidential secure credentials that allow you to submit reports and update information. The enclosed sealed envelope provides a confidential pin number for the chairperson. By copy of this letter, a confidential pin number to access the EFS was sent to the treasurer.

Each political committee chairperson is required to provide the Division of Elections with confidential personal information that may be used to allow access in the event that the password is forgotten or lost. When you enter the campaign account screen, there will be a drop down box where you pick a question (such as What is your mother's maiden name?) and supply an answer. All passwords and answers to questions are stored as encrypted data and cannot be viewed by Division staff and given out over the phone. Please notify the Division if your credentials have been compromised.

#### 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 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 3 days and, thereafter, \$500 per day for each 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, 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

Ms. Vanessa Brito. Chairperson June 27, 2013 Page Three

#### 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 <a href="http://elections.myflorida.com">http://elections.myflorida.com</a>. 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, 2012 Political Committee Handbook, 2013 Calendar of Reporting Dates, and Rule 1S-2.017, Florida Administrative Code.

Please let me know if you need additional information.

Sincerely.

Miri Sur White Rilliam

Kristi Reid Bronson. Chief

Burcau of Election Records

KRB/ljr

Enclosures



#### Ken Detzner Secretary of State

#### **DIVISION OF ELECTIONS**

May 14, 2014

Vanessa Brito, Treasurer Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157-3157

Re: PAC 60477

Dear Ms. Brito:

Your campaign treasurer's report, which was due May 12, 2014, has not been received.

Section 106 07(8)(b), Florida Statutes, requires that the filing officer immediately notify you of the failure to file this report and that a fine will be assessed of \$50 per day for the first 3 days late and, thereafter \$500 per day, although a fine cannot 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.

Once your report is filed, this office will notify you of the specific amount of your fine. Fines must be paid to the filing officer within 20 days of receipt of the payment due notice.

Please be advised, however, that failure to file a campaign treasurer's report may constitute a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to file a report the division will turn the matter over to the Florida Elections Commission.

Section 106.265(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Florida Elections Commission to impose a civil penalty up to \$1,000 per count for each willful violation of Chapter 106.

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

Sincerely,



#### Ken Detzner Secretary of State

#### **DIVISION OF ELECTIONS**

#### **Second Notice**

May 20, 2014

Vanessa Brito, Treasurer Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157-3157

Re: PAC 60477

Dear Ms. Brito:

Your campaign treasurer's report, due May 12, 2014, has not been received

Section 106.07(8)(b), Florida Statutes, requires that the filing officer immediately notify you of the failure to file a report

The first notice of the failure to file the above mentioned report was mailed, via regular mail, to the address on file with our office on May 14, 2014 As of this date, we do not show a record of receiving this report.

If the report is not filed via the Division's electronic filing system within 14 days of receipt of this notice, this matter will be referred to the Florida Elections Commission for further action Section 106 265(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Florida Elections Commission, upon finding a willful violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, to impose a civil penalty up to \$1,000 per count

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

Sincerely,



#### Ken Detzner Secretary of State

#### DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

June 11, 2014

Vanessa Brito, Treasurer Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157-3157

Re: PAC 60477

Dear Ms Brito:

Your campaign treasurer's report, which was due June 10, 2014, has not been received

Section 106 07(8)(b), Florida Statutes, requires that the filing officer immediately notify you of the failure to file this report and that a fine will be assessed of \$50 per day for the first 3 days late and, thereafter \$500 per day, although a fine cannot 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

Once your report is filed, this office will notify you of the specific amount of your fine. Fines must be paid to the filing officer within 20 days of receipt of the payment due notice

Please be advised, however, that failure to file a campaign treasurer's report may constitute a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to file a report the division will turn the matter over to the Florida Elections Commission.

Section 106.265(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Florida Elections Commission to impose a civil penalty up to \$1,000 per count for each willful violation of Chapter 106

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

Sincerely,



Ken Detzner Secretary of State

#### DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

June 30, 2014

Vanessa Brito, Treasurer Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157-3157

Re: PAC 60477

Dear Ms. Brito:

Your campaign treasurer's report, which was due June 27, 2014, has not been received.

Section 106 07(8)(b), Florida Statutes, requires that the filing officer immediately notify you of the failure to file this report and that a fine will be assessed of \$50 per day for the first 3 days late and, thereafter \$500 per day, although a fine cannot 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

Once your report is filed, this office will notify you of the specific amount of your fine. Fines must be paid to the filing officer within 20 days of receipt of the payment due notice.

Please be advised, however, that failure to file a campaign treasurer's report may constitute a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to file a report the division will turn the matter over to the Florida Elections Commission.

Section 106 265(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Florida Elections Commission to impose a civil penalty up to \$1,000 per count for each willful violation of Chapter 106

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

Sincerely,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

utcheid &



#### Ken Detzner Secretary of State

#### DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

July 7, 2014

Vanessa Brito, Treasurer Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157-3157

Re: PAC 60477

Dear Ms Brito:

Your campaign treasurer's report, which was due July 4, 2014, has not been received.

Section 106 07(8)(b), Florida Statutes, requires that the filing officer immediately notify you of the failure to file this report and that a fine will be assessed of \$50 per day for the first 3 days late and, thereafter \$500 per day, although a fine cannot 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.

Once your report is filed, this office will notify you of the specific amount of your fine. Fines must be paid to the filing officer within 20 days of receipt of the payment due notice.

Please be advised, however, that failure to file a campaign treasurer's report may constitute a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to file a report the division will turn the matter over to the Florida Elections Commission.

Section 106.265(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Florida Elections Commission to impose a civil penalty up to \$1,000 per count for each willful violation of Chapter 106.

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

Sincerely,



RICK SCOTT Governor KEN DETZNER
Secretary of State

FINAL NOTICE Delivery Confirmation:

USPS TRACKING # & CUSTOMER RECEIPT

9114 9010 7574 2751 2918 16 For Tracking or Inquiries go to USPS.com or call 1-900-222-1811

July 8, 2014

Vanessa Brito, Treasurer Equal Marriage Florida (60477) 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157

Dear Ms. Brito:

According to a review of the Division's records, the organization referenced above has not filed the following reports:

Year	Report	Cover Period
2014	M4	04/01/2014 - 04/30/2014
2014	M5	05/01/2014 - 05/31/2014
2014	P1	06/01/2014 - 06/20/2014
2014	PIA	06/21/2014 - 06/27/2014

The organization has previously been notified of the reports that are outstanding. Enclosed are copies of letters sent by the Division. If the reports are not filed within 7 days of receipt of this letter, the Division will forward this matter to the Florida Elections Commission for further action. Section 106 265(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Florida Elections Commission to impose civil penalties of up to \$1,000 per violation.

If you have any questions, please call the help desk at (850) 245-6240

Sincerely,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

KRB/dsb

Enclosure

000016

Division of Elections
OO South Bronough Street • Tallahassee, Florida

R.A. Gray Building, Suite 316 • 500 South Bronough Street • Tallahassee, Florida 32399 850.245.6200 • 850.245.6217 (Fax) election.dos.state.fl.us







Ken Detzner Secretary of State

#### DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

May 14, 2014

Vanessa Brito, Treasurer Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157-3157

Re: PAC 60477

Dear Ms Brito:

Your campaign treasurer's report, which was due May 12, 2014, has not been received

Section 106 07(8)(b), Florida Statutes, requires that the filing officer immediately notify you of the failure to file this report and that a fine will be assessed of \$50 per day for the first 3 days late and, thereafter \$500 per day, although a fine cannot 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

Once your report is filed, this office will notify you of the specific amount of your fine. Fines must be paid to the filing officer within 20 days of receipt of the payment due notice.

Please be advised, however, that failure to file a campaign treasurer's report may constitute a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to file a report the division will turn the matter over to the Florida Elections Commission

Section 106.265(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Florida Elections Commission to impose a civil penalty up to \$1,000 per count for each willful violation of Chapter 106

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

Sincerely.



# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Ken Detzner Secretary of State

#### **DIVISION OF ELECTIONS**

Second Notice

May 20, 2014

Vanessa Brito, Treasurer Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157-3157

Re: PAC 60477

Dear Ms Brito:

Your campaign treasurer's report, due May 12, 2014, has not been received

Section 106.07(8)(b), Florida Statutes, requires that the filing officer immediately notify you of the failure to file a report.

The first notice of the failure to file the above mentioned report was mailed, via regular mail, to the address on file with our office on May 14, 2014. As of this date, we do not show a record of receiving this report

If the report is not filed via the Division's electronic filing system within 14 days of receipt of this notice, this matter will be referred to the Florida Elections Commission for further action Section 106.265(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Florida Elections Commission, upon finding a willful violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, to impose a civil penalty up to \$1,000 per count.

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

Sincerely,



#### Ken Detzner Secretary of State

#### DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

June 11, 2014

Vanessa Brito, Treasurer Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157-3157

Re: PAC 60477

Dear Ms. Brito:

Your campaign treasurer's report, which was due June 10, 2014, has not been received

Section 106 07(8)(b), Florida Statutes, requires that the filing officer immediately notify you of the failure to file this report and that a fine will be assessed of \$50 per day for the first 3 days late and, thereafter \$500 per day, although a fine cannot 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

Once your report is filed, this office will notify you of the specific amount of your fine. Fines must be paid to the filing officer within 20 days of receipt of the payment due notice

Please be advised however, that failure to file a campaign treasurer's report may constitute a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to file a report the division will turn the matter over to the Florida Elections Commission.

Section 106 265(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Florida Elections Commission to impose a civil penalty up to \$1,000 per count for each willful violation of Chapter 106

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

Sincerely,



### Ken Detzner Secretary of State

#### DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

June 30, 2014

Vanessa Brito, Treasurer Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157-3157

Re: PAC 60477

Dear Ms. Brito:

Your campaign treasurer's report, which was due June 27, 2014, has not been received.

Section 106 07(8)(b), Florida Statutes, requires that the filing officer immediately notify you of the failure to file this report and that a fine will be assessed of \$50 per day for the first 3 days late and, thereafter \$500 per day, although a fine cannot 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.

Once your report is filed, this office will notify you of the specific amount of your fine. Fines must be paid to the filing officer within 20 days of receipt of the payment due notice

Please be advised, however, that failure to file a campaign treasurer's report may constitute a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to file a report the division will turn the matter over to the Florida Elections Commission.

Section 106 265(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Florida Elections Commission to impose a civil penalty up to \$1,000 per count for each willful violation of Chapter 106

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

Sincerely,



### Ken Detzner Secretary of State

#### DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

July 7, 2014

Vanessa Brito, Treasurer Equal Marriage Florida 15820 Palmetto Club Drive Miami, FL 33157-3157

Re: PAC 60477

Dear Ms. Brito:

Your campaign treasurer's report, which was due July 4, 2014, has not been received

Section 106 07(8)(b), Florida Statutes, requires that the filing officer immediately notify you of the failure to file this report and that a fine will be assessed of \$50 per day for the first 3 days late and, thereafter \$500 per day, although a fine cannot 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

Once your report is filed, this office will notify you of the specific amount of your fine. Fines must be paid to the filing officer within 20 days of receipt of the payment due notice.

Please be advised, however, that failure to file a campaign treasurer's report may constitute a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to file a report the division will turn the matter over to the Florida Elections Commission

Section 106.265(1), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Florida Elections Commission to impose a civil penalty up to \$1,000 per count for each willful violation of Chapter 106.

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

Ruici B

Sincerely,

English

Customer Service

USPS Mobile



Quick Tools

Ship a Package

Send Mail

Manage Your Mail

USPS Tracking™

Tracking Number: 9114901075742751291816

### **Product & Tracking Information**

Postal Product:

Features:

USPS Tracking<sup>™</sup>

COCLEON STATUS CONTENT COCLEON
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July 11, 2014, 11:13 am

Delivered

MIAMI FL 33157

Your item was delivered at 11:13 am on July 11, 2014 in MIAMI, FL 33157

July 11 2014 10.55 am

Sorting Complete

MIAMI FL 33197

July 11 2014 4 50 am

Arrived at Post Office

MIAMI FL 33197

July 11 2014 1.21 am

Departed USPS Facility

OPA LOCKA FL 33054

July 10 2014 9 21 pm

Arrived at USPS Facility

OPA LOCKA FL 33054

July 10 2014 3:16 am

Departed USPS Facility

TALLAHASSEE FL 32301

July 9 2014 10.27 pm

Arrived at USPS Facility

TALLAHASSEE FL 32301

### Track Another Package

000022

	What's your tracking (or receipt) number?			
	general control of the State of			
1		Track It		
	The same of the transformation of the same with the same of the sa			
5.00	TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT	and the second s		

LEGAL

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# HISTORY NOTES Equal Marriage Florida - 60477

Unique ID	Date Recorded	Last Edited Date	Orginally Recorded By
33902	8/7/2013 2:29:00 PM		ddbeach
* .     .	eived second FF notice - mailed 7/25/13		