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STATE OF FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

# STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In Re: Harry Howle	Case No.: FEC 14-367
	F.O. No.: FOFEC 15-038 W

## CONSENT ORDER

Respondent, Harry Howle, and the Florida Elections Commission (Commission) agree that this Consent Order resolves all of the issues between the parties in this case. The parties jointly stipulate to the following facts, conclusions of law, and order

### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1 Respondent was candidate for Vero Beach City Council
- 2. On October 14, 2014, the Commission received a sworn complaint alleging that Respondent violated the following section(s) of the Florida Election Code on one occasion:

Section 106.143(3), Florida Statutes: Respondent, a 2014 candidate for Vero Beach City Council, campaigned based on his party affiliation, even though the office for which he was running was nonpartisan.

- No other legally sufficient violation of Chapters 104 or 106, Florida Statutes, was alleged in the complaint.
- 4 Respondent against whom the complaint was filed has not been notified of an allegation of the same violation before the conduct about which the complaint was filed

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

5 The Commission has jurisdiction over the parties to and subject matter of this

cause, pursuant to Section 106 26, Florida Statutes

- The Commission considers the allegation contained in the complaint a minor violation, pursuant to Rule 2B-1 003, Florida Administrative Code
- 7. Respondent neither admits nor denies that he violated Section 106.143(3), Florida Statutes.

#### ORDER

- 8. Respondent and the staff of the Commission have entered into this Consent Order voluntarily and upon advice of counsel.
- 9. Respondent shall pay his own attorney fees and costs that are in anyway associated with this case
- Respondent understands that before the Consent Order is final agency action, it is must be approved by the Commission The Commission will consider the Consent Order at its next available meeting
- Respondent voluntarily waives the right to any further proceedings under Chapters 106 and 120, Florida Statutes, and the right to appeal the Consent Order.
- 12. Respondent will carefully review Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, and avoid any future violation of the chapter
- Respondent agrees to correct immediately, if feasible, the violations alleged in the complaint
- If the Commission does not receive the signed Consent Order and the fine payment by the close of business on January 9, 2014, the staff withdraws this offer of settlement and will proceed with an investigation of the allegations in the complaint.
- Respondent shall remit to the Commission a civil penalty in the amount of \$200.

  The civil penalty shall be paid by cashier's check, money order, or attorney trust account check

and be valid for 120 days from the date of its issuance. The civil penalty shall be made payable to the Florida Elections Commission and sent to 107 West Gaines Street, Collins Building, Suite 224, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050.

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

JALUARY 28<sup>+1-</sup>
, 2015

Harry Howle 765 Broadway Street Vero Beach, FL 32960

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

February 3, 2015

Amy McKeever Toman, Executive Director

Florida Flections Commission 107 West Gaines Street Collins Building, Suite 224

Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050

Approved by the Florida Elections Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on

Feb. 24-25 2015

Chairman

Florida Elections Commission

Copies furnished to: Amy Toman, Executive Director John French, Respondent Dian S. George, Complainant

IEY ORDER

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