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STATE OF FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

## STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In Re: James Grant

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Case No.: FEC 14-457 F.O. No.: FOFEC 15-067A Report: 2014 G5

#### FINAL ORDER

THIS MATTER was heard by the Florida Elections Commission (Commission) at its regularly scheduled meeting held on February 25, 2015, in Tallahassee, Florida

### FINDINGS OF FACT

1 The Commission is charged with enforcing Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, the campaign financing law

2. Respondent's campaign treasurer's report was not filed with the filing officer on October 17, 2014, the designated due date

3. The filing officer fined the Respondent \$5,650 00 for the late filing of the report Respondent timely appealed claiming that his treasurer was unaware a report was required to be filed because he believed reports were due every two weeks leading up to the general election, and that his treasurer was confused regarding a write-in candidate being removed from the State Representative, District 64 race

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

4. The Commission has jurisdiction over the parties to and subject matter of this case, pursuant to Section 106 07, Florida Statutes

5. Respondent's claim that his treasurer was unaware a report was required to be filed because he believed reports were due every two weeks leading up to the general election, and that his treasurer was confused regarding a write-in candidate being removed from the State Representative, District 64 race does not justify the Respondent's failure to timely file the report.

6. In determining the amount of the fine, if any, to be waived the Commission considered the mitigating and aggravating circumstances set forth in Section 106 265(2), Florida Statutes

#### ORDER

Based on the foregoing facts and conclusions of law, the Commission finds that the Respondent failed to file the report on October 17, 2014, the designated due date. However, it is

**ORDERED** that the assessed fine of \$5,650.00 is reduced to \$700.00. The fine shall be paid to the Division of Elections, 500 S. Bronough Street, Room 316, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250 within 30 days of the date this Final Order is filed with the Commission.

**DONE AND ORDERED** by the Florida Elections Commission on February 25, 2015.

Kaelar Tim Holladay, Chairman

Florida Elections Commission

Copies furnished to: Stephanie J Cunningham, Assistant General Counsel Emmett Mitchell, IV, Attorney for Respondent Division of Elections, Complainant

### NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

This order is final agency action Any party who is adversely affected by this order has the right to seek judicial review pursuant to Section 120 68, Florida Statutes, by filing a notice of administrative appeal pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure, with the Clerk of the Florida Elections Commission at 107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224, Collins Building, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050, and by filing a copy of the notice of appeal with the appropriate district court of appeal The party must attach to the notice of appeal a copy of this order and include with the notice of appeal filed with the district court of appeal the applicable filing fees The notice of administrative appeal must be filed within 30 days of the date this order is filed with the Commission. The date this order was filed with the Commission appears in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of this order.

Final Order – NUC – Uphold Fine docx (07/14) FEC Case # 14-457

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# Notice to Filing Officer

The Clerk of the Florida Elections Commission will send a copy of this order to Respondent. The Final Order directs the Respondent to pay the Filing Officer. If the Filing Officer is not paid within 30 days of the date this order is filed with the Commission, the Filing Officer can file an enforcement action in circuit court to enforce the fine that is due and owing to the county or municipality The date this order was filed with the Commission appears in the upper right-hand corner of the front page of this order.