

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

**In Re: Save Our State**

**Case No.: FEC 21-502**

**TO:** Stephen T. Simeonidis, Chair  
1430 South Dixie Highway, Suite 105-220  
Coral Gables, FL 33146

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

**NOTICE OF HEARING (INFORMAL HEARING)**

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, **May 17, 2023 at 8:30**, or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard, at the following location: Via Webinar Registration URL:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/571953185404345941>

Audio participation:  
1-877-309-2074

Attendee – muted:  
966-952-589

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

Failure to appear in accordance with this notice will constitute a waiver of your right to participate in the hearing. Continuances will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

This hearing will be conducted pursuant to Section 106.25, Florida Statutes, which governs your participation as follows:

**If you are the Respondent**, you may attend the hearing, and you or your attorney will have *5 minutes* to present your case to the Commission. However, some cases (including those in which consent orders or recommendations for no probable cause are being considered) may be decided by an *en masse* vote and, unless you request to be heard or the Commission requests that your case be considered separately on the day of the hearing, your case will *not* be individually heard.

**If you are the Complainant**, you may attend the hearing, but you will *not* be permitted to address the Commission. In addition, some cases (including those in which consent orders or recommendations for no probable cause are being considered) may be decided by an *en masse* vote and, unless the Respondent requests to be heard or the Commission requests that the case be considered separately on the day of the hearing, the case will *not* be individually heard.

**If you are an Appellant**, and you have requested a hearing, you may attend the hearing, and you or your attorney will have *5 minutes* to present your case to the Commission.

Please be advised that both confidential and public cases are scheduled to be heard by the Florida Elections Commission on this date. As an Appellant, Respondent or Complainant in one case, you will *not* be permitted to attend the hearings on other confidential cases.

The Commission will electronically record the meeting. Although the Commission's recording is considered the official record of the hearing, the Respondent may provide, at his own expense, a certified court reporter to also record the hearing.

If you require an accommodation due to a disability, contact Donna Ann Malphurs at (850) 922-4539 or by mail at 107 West Gaines Street, The Collins Building, Suite 224, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, at least 5 days before the hearing.

**See further instructions on the reverse side.**

***Tim Vaccaro***

Executive Director  
Florida Elections Commission  
May 2, 2023

Please refer to the information below for further instructions related to your particular hearing:

If this is a hearing to consider **an appeal from an automatic fine**, the Filing Officer has imposed a fine on you for your failure to file a campaign treasurer's report on the designated due date and, by filing an appeal, you have asked the Commission to consider either (1) that the report was in fact timely filed; or (2) that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure to file the report timely. You are required to prove your case. If the Commission finds that the report was filed timely or that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure, it may waive the fine, in whole or in part. The Commission may reduce a fine after considering the factors in Section 106.265, Florida Statutes. If the Commission finds that the report was not timely filed and there were no unusual circumstances, the fine will be upheld.

If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order before a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed and become public. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the case will remain confidential, unless confidentiality has been waived.

If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order after a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the Respondent will be entitled to another hearing to determine if the Respondent committed the violation(s) alleged.

If this is a **probable cause hearing**, the Commission will decide if there is probable cause to believe that the Respondent committed a violation of Florida's election laws. Respondent should be prepared to explain how the staff in its recommendation incorrectly applied the law to the facts of the case. *Respondent may not testify, call others to testify, or introduce any documentary or other evidence at the probable cause hearing.* The Commission will only decide whether Respondent should be *charged* with a violation and, before the Commission determines whether a violation has occurred or a fine should be imposed, Respondent will have an opportunity for another hearing at which evidence may be introduced.

If this is an **informal hearing**, it will be conducted pursuant Sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes; Chapter 28 and Commission Rule 2B-1.004, Florida Administrative Code. At the hearing, the Commission will decide whether the Respondent committed the violation(s) charged in the Order of Probable Cause. The Respondent will be permitted to testify. However, the Respondent may not call witnesses to testify.

Respondent may argue why the established facts in the Staff Recommendation do not support the violations charged in the Order of Probable Cause. At Respondent's request, the Commission may determine whether Respondent's actions in the case were willful. The Respondent may also address the appropriateness of the recommended fine. If Respondent claims that his limited resources make him unable to pay the statutory fine, *he must provide the Commission with written proof of his financial resources* at the hearing. A financial affidavit form is available from the Commission Clerk.

STATE OF FLORIDA  
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Florida Elections Commission,  
Petitioner,

Case No.: FEC 21-502

v.

Save Our State,  
Respondent.

\_\_\_\_\_ /

**ORDER OF PROBABLE CAUSE**

**THIS MATTER** was heard by the Florida Elections Commission (Commission) at its regularly scheduled meeting on January 24, 2023, in Tallahassee, Florida.

On November 2, 2022, Staff recommended to the Commission that there was probable cause to believe that the Florida Election Code was violated. The facts articulated in Staff's Recommendation are adopted by reference and incorporated herein. Based on the Complaint, Report of Investigation, Staff's Recommendation, and oral statements (if any) made at the probable cause hearing, the Commission finds that there is **probable cause** to charge Respondent with the following violation(s):

**Count 1:**

On or about September 10, 2021, Save Our State violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because it had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2021 M8 reporting period.

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**Count 2:**

On or about October 12, 2021, Save Our State violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because it had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2021 M9 reporting period.

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

**DONE AND ORDERED** by the Florida Elections Commission on January 24, 2023.



Tim Vaccaro, J.D., Executive Director  
For Nicholas Primrose, Chairman  
Florida Elections Commission

Copies furnished to:  
Stephanie Cunningham, General Counsel  
Save Our State, Respondent  
Division of Elections, Complainant

**NOTICE OF RIGHT TO A HEARING**

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

Second, you may request an informal hearing held before the Commission, if you do not dispute any material fact in the Staff Recommendation. You have 30 days from the date the Order of Probable Cause is filed with the Commission to request such a hearing. The date this order was filed appears in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of the order. At the hearing, you will have the right to make written or oral arguments to the Commission concerning the legal issues



related to the violation(s) and the potential fine. At the request of Respondent, the Commission will consider and determine willfulness at an informal hearing. Otherwise, live witness testimony is unnecessary.

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

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

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

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

**In Re: Save Our State**

**Case No.: FEC 21-502**

**TO:** Stephen T. Simeonidis, Chair  
1430 S. Dixie Highway, Suite 105-220  
Coral Gables, FL 33146

Division of Elections  
500 S. Bronough Street, Room 316  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-6596

**NOTICE OF HEARING (PROBABLE CAUSE DETERMINATION)**

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, **January 24, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard, at the following location: Join Zoom Meeting - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86542842462?pwd=VjdKeGRjcFAvZko2Y1pTZmo1cU5pdz09>

Meeting ID: 865 4284 2462

Passcode: 5UuWmT

**AUDIO PARTICIPATION:**

1-301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 865 4284 2462

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:

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**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.

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The Commission will electronically record the meeting. Although the Commission's recording is considered the official record of the hearing, the Respondent may provide, at his own expense, a certified court reporter to also record the hearing.

If you require an accommodation due to a disability, contact Donna Ann Malphurs at (850) 922-4539 or by mail at 107 West Gaines Street, The Collins Building, Suite 224, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, at least 5 days before the hearing.

**See further instructions on the reverse side.**

***Tim Vaccaro***

Executive Director  
Florida Elections Commission  
January 9, 2023

Please refer to the information below for further instructions related to your particular hearing:

If this is a hearing to consider **an appeal from an automatic fine**, the Filing Officer has imposed a fine on you for your failure to file a campaign treasurer's report on the designated due date and, by filing an appeal, you have asked the Commission to consider either (1) that the report was in fact timely filed; or (2) that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure to file the report timely. You are required to prove your case. If the Commission finds that the report was filed timely or that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure, it may waive the fine, in whole or in part. The Commission may reduce a fine after considering the factors in Section 106.265, Florida Statutes. If the Commission finds that the report was not timely filed and there were no unusual circumstances, the fine will be upheld.

If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order before a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed and become public. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the case will remain confidential, unless confidentiality has been waived.

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If this is a **probable cause hearing**, the Commission will decide if there is probable cause to believe that the Respondent committed a violation of Florida's election laws. Respondent should be prepared to explain how the staff in its recommendation incorrectly applied the law to the facts of the case. *Respondent may not testify, call others to testify, or introduce any documentary or other evidence at the probable cause hearing.* The Commission will only decide whether Respondent should be *charged* with a violation and, before the Commission determines whether a violation has occurred or a fine should be imposed, Respondent will have an opportunity for another hearing at which evidence may be introduced.

If this is an **informal hearing**, it will be conducted pursuant Sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes; Chapter 28 and Commission Rule 2B-1.004, Florida Administrative Code. At the hearing, the Commission will decide whether the Respondent committed the violation(s) charged in the Order of Probable Cause. The Respondent will be permitted to testify. However, the Respondent may not call witnesses to testify.

Respondent may argue why the established facts in the Staff Recommendation do not support the violations charged in the Order of Probable Cause. At Respondent's request, the Commission may determine whether Respondent's actions in the case were willful. The Respondent may also address the appropriateness of the recommended fine. If Respondent claims that his limited resources make him unable to pay the statutory fine, *he must provide the Commission with written proof of his financial resources* at the hearing. A financial affidavit form is available from the Commission Clerk.

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

**In Re: Save Our State**

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**Case No.: FEC 21-502**

**TO:** Save Our State  
Stephen T. Simeonidis, Chair  
1430 S. Dixie Highway, Suite 105-  
220  
Coral Gables, FL 33146

Division of Elections  
500 S. Bronough Street, Room 316  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-6596

**NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF HEARING**  
**(PROBABLE CAUSE DETERMINATION)**

You are hereby notified that **the previously scheduled hearing for December 14, 2022, is cancelled.** It is anticipated that your case will be heard at the next regularly scheduled meeting, which will be scheduled for a date to be determined in either January 2023 or February 2023.

**A Notice of Hearing will be mailed to you approximately 14 days prior to the new hearing date.**

*Tim Vaccaro*

Executive Director  
Florida Elections Commission  
December 13, 2022

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

**In Re: Save Our State**

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**Case No.: FEC 21-502**

**TO:** Stephen T. Simeonidis, Chair  
1430 S. Dixie Highway, Suite 105-220  
Coral Gables, FL 33146

Division of Elections  
500 S. Bronough Street, Room 316  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-6596

**NOTICE OF HEARING (PROBABLE CAUSE DETERMINATION)**

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, **December 14, 2022 at 10:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard**, at the following location: **House Office Building, 402 South Monroe Street, 306 HOB, Mashburn Hall, 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.

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**See further instructions on the reverse side.**

***Tim Vaccaro***

Executive Director  
Florida Elections Commission  
November 30, 2022



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If this is a **probable cause hearing**, the Commission will decide if there is probable cause to believe that the Respondent committed a violation of Florida's election laws. Respondent should be prepared to explain how the staff in its recommendation incorrectly applied the law to the facts of the case. *Respondent may not testify, call others to testify, or introduce any documentary or other evidence at the probable cause hearing.* The Commission will only decide whether Respondent should be *charged* with a violation and, before the Commission determines whether a violation has occurred or a fine should be imposed, Respondent will have an opportunity for another hearing at which evidence may be introduced.

If this is an **informal hearing**, it will be conducted pursuant Sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes; Chapter 28 and Commission Rule 2B-1.004, Florida Administrative Code. At the hearing, the Commission will decide whether the Respondent committed the violation(s) charged in the Order of Probable Cause. The Respondent will be permitted to testify. However, the Respondent may not call witnesses to testify.

Respondent may argue why the established facts in the Staff Recommendation do not support the violations charged in the Order of Probable Cause. At Respondent's request, the Commission may determine whether Respondent's actions in the case were willful. The Respondent may also address the appropriateness of the recommended fine. If Respondent claims that his limited resources make him unable to pay the statutory fine, *he must provide the Commission with written proof of his financial resources* at the hearing. A financial affidavit form is available from the Commission Clerk.

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

**In Re: Save Our State**

**Case No.: FEC 21-502**

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOLLOWING INVESTIGATION**

Pursuant to Section 106.25(4)(c), Florida Statutes, undersigned staff counsel files this written recommendation for disposition of the referral in this case recommending that there is **probable cause** to charge Respondent with violating **Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes**, and **no probable cause** to charge Respondent with violating **Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes**. Based upon a thorough review of the Report of Investigation submitted on September 13, 2022, the following facts and law support this staff recommendation:

1. On December 3, 2021, the Florida Elections Commission (“Commission”) received a referral from the Department of State, Division of Elections (“Division”), alleging that Save Our State (“Respondent”) violated Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.
2. Respondent was a political committee formerly registered with the Division. Respondent’s treasurer submitted a letter of disbandment to the Division, which was received on February 16, 2022. (ROI, page 1, ¶1; ROI Exhibit 1, page 1)<sup>1</sup> By letter dated February 18, 2022, the Division acknowledged Respondent’s disbandment. (ROI Exhibit 1, page 2)
3. By letter dated February 4, 2022, the Executive Director notified Respondent that Commission staff would investigate the following statutory provisions:

**Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes:** As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a political committee registered with the Division of Elections, failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because it had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the following reporting periods:

- 2021 M8
- 2021 M9

**Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes:** As alleged in the Complaint, Respondent, a political committee registered with the Division of Elections, may have falsely reported, or deliberately failed to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, during the following reporting periods:

- 2021 M8
- 2021 M9

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<sup>1</sup> The Report of Investigation is referred to herein as “ROI.”

4. By letter dated August 24, 2020, Donna S. Brown for Kristi Reid Willis, Chief, Bureau of Election Records, sent Respondent a letter acknowledging that the Division had received its Statement of Organization (“DS-DE 5”) and Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Political Committees forms. (ROI Exhibit 4, page 1)

5. The acknowledgement letter advised Respondent that all 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 4, page 1)

6. The acknowledgement letter further advised Respondent that each of the Division’s publications and reporting forms were available on its website and directed Respondent to print out the *Calendar of Reporting Dates* as well as other relevant documents. (ROI Exhibit 4, page 2)

7. Respondent’s 2021 M8 report was due on September 10, 2021, and Respondent’s 2021 M9 report was due on October 12, 2021. (ROI, page 2, ¶9; ROI Exhibit 8, page 1) However, Respondent failed to timely file the reports or notify the filing officer that no reports would be filed. *See Compl.*

8. By letters dated September 13, 2021, and October 13, 2021, the Division notified Respondent that neither the 2021 M8 report nor a corresponding notice of no activity had been filed. (ROI Exhibit 5, pages 1 & 2) A Final Notice letter was confirmed delivered to the address provided on the DS-DE 5 on November 4, 2021. (ROI Exhibit 6, page 2)

9. By letters dated October 13, 2021, and November 1, 2021, the Division notified Respondent that neither the 2021 M9 report nor a corresponding notice of no activity had been filed. (ROI Exhibit 5, pages 3 & 4) A Final Notice letter was confirmed delivered to the address provided on the DS-DE 5 on November 24, 2021. (ROI Exhibit 7, page 2)

10. A subpoena was issued to Respondent’s designated campaign depository to ascertain whether any financial activity occurred during the relevant reporting periods: August 1, 2021 – August 31, 2021, and September 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021. (ROI Exhibit 6, page 1; ROI Exhibit 7, page 1; ROI, page 2, ¶9, n.1)

11. The campaign depository was revealed to have been zeroed-out and closed since December 2020. (ROI, page 2, n.1; ROI Exhibit 9, page 1)

12. Respondent’s treasurer stated that she believed that Save Our State was disbanded since December 2020 and indicated that she wanted to correct Respondent’s issues. (ROI Exhibit 11, page 1) Respondent’s treasurer stated that she had not received any documents since she did not feel she needed to check the post office box assigned to the committee or the email account assigned to the committee. (ROI Exhibit 11, page 3) Respondent’s treasurer stated she had not read Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, and she did not have a copy of the Political Committee Handbook. (ROI Exhibit 11, pages 2 & 3)



13. Respondent ultimately filed a notice of no activity for the 2021 M8 report on February 16, 2022—159 days late. (ROI, page 2, n.2; ROI Exhibit 8) Respondent filed a notice of no activity for the 2021 M9 report on the same day—127 days late. (ROI, page 2, n.3; ROI Exhibit 8)

14. “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).

15. The facts set forth above show that Respondent was a political committee formerly registered with the Division. Respondent failed to notify the filing officer by the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because it had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2021 M8 and M9 reporting periods.

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

**Count 1:**


On or about September 10, 2021, Save Our State violated **Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes**, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because it had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2021 M8 reporting period.

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**Count 2:**

On or about October 12, 2021, Save Our State violated **Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes**, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because it had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2021 M9 reporting period.

Respectfully submitted on November 2, 2022.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Todd Smith-Schoenwalder, J.D.

I reviewed this Staff Recommendation this 2 day of November 2022.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephanie J. Cunningham  
General Counsel



**FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

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

**Case Number: FEC 21-502**

Sections 106.07(7) and 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, failure of a candidate or 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 or failure to file a campaign report to reflect financial activity.

**Respondent:** Save Our State

**Respondent’s Atty:** N/A

**Division of Elections (Division)**

**Referral Filed:** December 3, 2021

**Respondent Type:** Political Committee

**I. Preliminary Information:**

1. Respondent was a political committee formerly registered with the Division. To review Respondent’s disbandment letter, refer to Exhibit 1.

2. An Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository (DS-DE 6) was filed on August 21, 2020. Maria Lopez was appointed as campaign treasurer. To review the DS-DE 6, refer to Exhibit 2.

3. A Statement of Organization (DS-DE 5) for the political committee was filed with the Division on August 21, 2020. To review the Statement of Organization, refer to Exhibit 3.

4. An acknowledgement letter was mailed to the address provided on the DS-DE 6 on August 24, 2020, advising the Respondent that all political committee filing reports with the Division are required to file by means of the Division’s electronic filing system (EFS). The Respondent was provided with a user identification number and initial password allowing access to the EFS.

5. The acknowledgement letter also advised Respondent that all of the Division’s publications and reporting forms are available on their website, including Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, the *Political Committee Handbook*, and the *Calendar of Reporting Dates*. The letter further advised that it was Respondent’s responsibility to read, understand, and follow the requirements of Florida’s election laws. To review the acknowledgement letter, refer to Exhibit 4.

6. The Division sent correspondence to the address provided on the DS-DE 6 notifying Respondent that the following campaign reports, or the required notifications that no reportable activity occurred, had not been filed: 2021 M8 and M9. The letters included reference to the filing dates for the reports. To review the failure to file correspondence, refer to Exhibit 5.

7. On November 1, 2021, the Division sent a letter marked “Final Notice” with delivery confirmation to the address provided on the DS-DE 6 notifying Respondent that the following campaign report, or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, had not been filed: 2021 M8. The letter was confirmed delivered on November 4, 2021. To review the letter marked “Final Notice” and delivery confirmation, refer to Exhibit 6.

8. On November 22, 2021, the Division sent a letter marked “Final Notice” with delivery confirmation to the address provided on the DS-DE 6 notifying Respondent that the following campaign report, or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, had not been filed: 2021 M9. The letter was confirmed delivered on November 24, 2021. To review the letter marked “Final Notice” and delivery confirmation, refer to Exhibit 7.

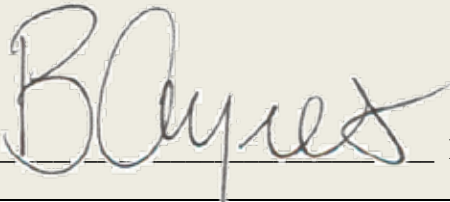
**II. Alleged Violation of Sections 106.07(7), and 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes:**

9. I investigated whether Respondent violated these sections of the election laws either by not notifying the filing officer, in writing, that no report would be filed due to not receiving any contributions or making expenditures during the following reporting periods or by not filing campaign reports to reflect financial activity for the reporting periods. To review the filing history, refer to Exhibit 8.

Report	Report Cover Period	Due Date	Report or Waiver Required	Exhibit 9 <sup>1</sup>
2021 M8	8/01 – 8/31/2021	9/10/2021	Waiver <sup>2</sup>	9
2021 M9	9/01 – 9/30/2021	10/12/2021	Waiver <sup>3</sup>	9

10. Respondent did not respond to the referral, but Respondent’s Treasurer provided a handwritten letter in another matter stating that Respondent ceased to exist after the election in November 2020 and asserting that Respondent has no bank account and has not been active since that time. To review the letter from Respondent’s Treasurer, refer to Exhibit 10.

11. On February 10, 2022, I called Respondent’s Treasurer for the purpose of providing an opportunity to discuss the allegations made in the referral. Ms. Lopez stated that she believed Respondent had been disbanded since December 2020. Ms. Lopez added that, due to this belief, she had not checked Respondent’s P.O. Box in a while, and she deactivated her access to Respondent’s email address. Respondent stated that she has not read Chapter 106, F.S., and she does not have a copy of the *Political Committee Handbook*. To review the phone log, refer to Exhibit 11

**SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATOR:**  **Date:** September 13, 2022

<sup>1</sup> I subpoenaed campaign account records from the designated campaign depository. The bank provided notification that the campaign account was closed in December 2020, after the account was zeroed out.

<sup>2</sup> Respondent filed a waiver of the 2021 M8 report on February 16, 2022, which was 159 days late.

<sup>3</sup> Respondent filed a waiver of the 2021 M9 report on February 16, 2022, which was 127 days late.

**FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**  
**REPORT OF INVESTIGATION**  
**Save our State – FEC 21-502**

<b>LIST OF EXHIBITS</b>	
<b>Exhibits #s</b>	<b>Description of Exhibits</b>
Exhibit 1	Disbandment Letter & Division Acknowledgment
Exhibit 2	Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Political Committees (DS-DE 6)
Exhibit 3	Statement of Organization
Exhibit 4	Division Acknowledgement Letter
Exhibit 5	First and Second Notification Letters
Exhibit 6	Final Notification Letter for 2021 M8 and Delivery Confirmation
Exhibit 7	Final Notification Letter for 2021 M9 and Delivery Confirmation
Exhibit 8	Filing History
Exhibit 9	Email to Bank
Exhibit 10	Treasurer Letter Response
Exhibit 11	Investigation Phone Log

RECEIVED

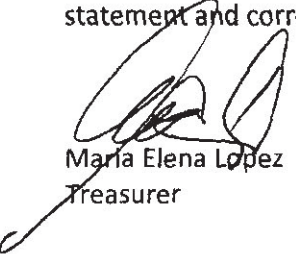
Division of Elections  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

2022 FEB 16 PM 4:58

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
TALLAHASSEE, FL

RE: SAVE OUT STATE  
PAC 78905

Please be advised that this PAC was closed in December 31, 2020. I am attaching a copy of the last bank statement and correspondence of June 21, 2021 advising the same.



Maria Elena Lopez  
Treasurer



## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT *of* STATE

**RON DESANTIS**  
Governor

**LAUREL M. LEE**  
Secretary of State

February 18, 2022

Stephen T. Simeonidis, Chairperson  
Save Our State (78905)  
1430 South Dixie Highway  
Suite 105-220  
Coral Gables, Florida 33146

Dear Mr. Simeonidis:

This will acknowledge receipt of your committee's letter informing us of the disbandment of **Save Our State** as a political committee. This information has been placed on file in our office. Your final report (2022 M2) may be filed at any time but is due no later than **March 10, 2022**. This report must be filed via the Division's Electronic Filing System (EFS). If you have no activity to report, you are still required to file a waiver. Should you need to file amendments after the final report has been filed, please contact our office to have your account activated.

If you have any questions, or if we may be of further assistance to you at any time, please do not hesitate to call (850) 245-6280.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna S. Brown" followed by a horizontal line.

Donna S. Brown, Chief  
Bureau of Election Records

DSB/tds

pc: Maria Lopez, Treasurer

**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](http://DOS.MyFlorida.com/elections)





**APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER  
AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN  
DEPOSITORY FOR  
POLITICAL COMMITTEES**  
(Sections 106.011(2) and 106.021(1), F.S.)

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
2020 AUG 21 AM 10:08  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

**CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX:**

Initial Filing for:  Primary Treasurer  Deputy Treasurer

Re-filing to Change:  Primary Treasurer  Deputy Treasurer  Primary/Secondary Depository

**OFFICE USE ONLY**

1. Committee  
**SAVE OUR STATE**

2. Telephone  
(305 ) 520-9083

3. Name of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer  
**Mara E. Lopez**

4. Email (optional)  
saveourstate.florida@gmail.com

5. Telephone (optional)  
(305 ) 520-9083

6. Mailing Address  
1430 South Dixie Highway  
Suite 105-220  
Coral Gables, FL 33146

7. Street Address  
1430 South Dixie Highway  
Suite 105-220  
Coral Gables, FL 33146

8. The following bank has been designated as the  **Primary Depository**  **Secondary Depository**

9. Name of Bank  
**BB&T**

10. Street Address  
2000 Ponce De Leon Blvd

11. City  
Coral Gables

12. State  
FL

13. Zip Code  
33134

14. Signature of Chairman

**X** 

15. Name of Chairman (Print or Type)

Peter Hoffman

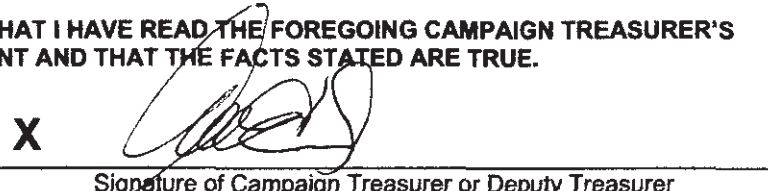
**Campaign Treasurer's Acceptance of Appointment**

I, **Maria E Lopez**, do hereby accept the appointment as  
(Please Print or Type)

treasurer or deputy treasurer for **Save Our State**  
(Committee)

**UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, I DECLARE THAT I HAVE READ THE FOREGOING CAMPAIGN TREASURER'S  
ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT AND THAT THE FACTS STATED ARE TRUE.**

8/6/2020  
Date

**X**   
Signature of Campaign Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer

# STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION OF POLITICAL COMMITTEE

(PLEASE TYPE)

OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF  
2020 AUG 21 AM 10:08

DEPARTMENT OF  
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
Telephone  
305-520 9083

**1. Full Name of Committee**

Save Our State

Mailing Address (include city, state and zip code)

1430 South Dixie Highway  
Suite 105-220  
Coral Gables, FL 33146

Street Address (include city, state and zip code)

1430 South Dixie Highway  
Suite 105-220  
Coral Gables, FL 33146

**2. Affiliated or Connected Organizations (includes other committees of continuous existence and political committees)**

Name of Affiliated or Connected Organization	Mailing Address	Relationship
NONE		

**3. Area, Scope and Jurisdiction of the Committee**

Candidate and ballot issues, statewide legislature, multi-district election

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

Government

**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
Maria E Lopez	1430 South Dixie Highway Suite 105-220 Coral Gables, FL 33146	Treasurer

**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 Address	Committee Title or Position
Maria E Lopez	1430 South Dixie Highway Suite 105-220 Coral Gables, FL 33146	Treasurer
Peter Hoffman	1430 South Dixie Highway Suite 105-220 Coral Gables, FL 33146	chairperson

**7. List by Name, Address, Office Sought and Party Affiliation Each Candidate or Other Individual that this Committee is Supporting (if none, please indicate)**

Full Name	Mailing Address	Office Sought	Party
TBD			

**8. List Any Issues this Committee is Supporting:** TBD

**List Any Issues this Committee is Opposing:** TBD

**9. If this Committee is Supporting the Entire Ticket of a Party, Give Name of Party**

NO

**10. In the Event of Dissolution, What Disposition will be Made of Residual Funds?**

Return to contributors or donate to an IRC Section 527 or 501 Organization

**11. List all Banks, Safety Deposit Boxes, or Other Depositories Used for Committee Funds**

Name of Bank or Depository & Account Number	Mailing Address
BB&T	2000 Ponce de Leon Coral Gables, FI 33134

**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
Form 8871	filed 7/27/2020	IRS	
Form 1120POL	April 15, 2021	IRS	

STATE OF Florida

Palm Beach COUNTY

I, Peter Hoffman, certify that the information in this Statement of

Organization is complete, true and correct.

X   
Signature of Chairman of Political Committee

8/4/2020  
Date



## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**RON DESANTIS**  
Governor

**LAUREL M. LEE**  
Secretary of State

August 24, 2020

Peter Hoffman, Chairperson  
Save Our State  
1430 South Dixie Highway, Suite 105-220  
Coral Gables, Florida 33146

Dear Mr. Hoffman:

This will acknowledge receipt of the Statement of Organization and Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for **Save Our State**, which were placed on file in our office on August 24, 2020. 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.

### **Campaign Treasurer's Reports**

Your first campaign treasurer's report will be due on **September 4, 2020**. The report will cover the period of August 22-28, 2020 (2020 G1A). 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).

### **EFS Access**

Below is the web address to access the EFS and the committee's user identification number. Enclosed are the committee's confidential, filing credentials.

**EFS Website Address:** <https://efs.dos.state.fl.us>  
**Identification Number:** **78905**

### **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

**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**





Peter Hoffman, Chairperson  
August 24, 2020  
Page Two

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 three days late and, thereafter, \$500 per day for each late day, not to exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report. However, for 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.

### **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.

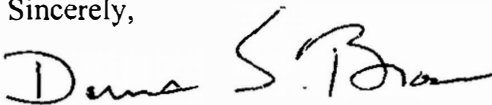
### **Instructions and Assistance**


An online instruction guide is available to you on the EFS to assist with navigation, data entry, and submission of reports. The Division of Elections will also provide assistance to all users by contacting the EFS Help Desk at (850) 245-6280.

**All of the Division's publications and reporting forms are available on the Division of Elections' website at <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections>. It is your responsibility to read, understand, and follow the requirements of Florida's election laws. Therefore, please print a copy of the following documents: Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, *Political Committee Handbook*, *Calendar of Reporting Dates*, and Rule 1S-2.017, Florida Administrative Code.**

Please let me know if you need additional information.

Sincerely,



 Kristi Reid Willis, Chief  
Bureau of Election Records

KRW/mcc

Enclosures

pc: Maria E. Lopez, Treasurer





FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Laurel M. Lee  
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

September 13, 2021

Stephen T. Simeonidis, Chairperson

PAC 78905

Save Our State

1430 South Dixie Highway

Suite 105-220

Coral Gables, FL 33146-3146

Dear Mr. Simeonidis:

Our records indicate that you have not filed either your campaign treasurer's report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable. The filing date was September 10, 2021.

The law (s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) requires the filing officer to immediately notify you about the missed filing date and the automatic fines that will be assessed for late filing of a report, if a report was due.

- If reportable activity occurred and you have not filed a report, statutory fines are automatically assessed as follows until you file your report:
  - \$50 per day for the first 3 days late
  - \$500 per day for each day after the 3rd day late
  - If the required report immediately precedes a primary and general election, the automatic fine is \$500 for each late day.

The total fine for the untimely report cannot exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the cover period. Even if you end up filing your report late, we cannot waive the statutory fines. We will notify you of the specific amount of fines owed once you file your report. You have 20 days from the day you receive the notice to pay the fine or to appeal the fine to the Florida Elections Commission.

- If no reportable activity occurred for the report date(s), you are still required to notify us in writing, via the Division's Electronic Filing System, that no reportable activity occurred. No automatic fines are statutorily assessed.

However, in all cases, failure to file and/or untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

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

Sincerely,

Donna S. Brown, Chief  
Bureau of Election Records

cc: Maria E. Lopez, Treasurer



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**Laurel M. Lee**  
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

**Second Notice**

October 13, 2021

Stephen T. Simeonidis, Chairperson  
Save Our State  
1430 South Dixie Highway  
Suite 105-220  
Coral Gables, FL 33146-3146

PAC 78905

Dear Mr. Simeonidis:

Our records indicate that you have not filed either your campaign treasurer's report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable. The filing date was September 10, 2021.

We mailed, via regular mail, the first notice of the failure to file the above-mentioned report or notification to the address on file with our office on September 13, 2021.

The first notice which we provided to you specifically explained the automatic fine provisions in the law (s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) for failure to file a required report. Such fines are continuing to accrue for a late-filed report. Also, that notice explained that if no reportable activity occurred for the report date(s), you are still required to provide notification in writing that no reportable activity occurred. Our initial notice further indicated that, in all cases, failure to file and/or untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

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

Sincerely,

Donna S. Brown, Chief  
Bureau of Election Records

cc: Maria E. Lopez, Treasurer



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**Laurel M. Lee**  
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

October 13, 2021

Stephen T. Simeonidis, Chairperson  
Save Our State  
1430 South Dixie Highway  
Suite 105-220  
Coral Gables, FL 33146-3146

PAC 78905

Dear Mr. Simeonidis:

Our records indicate that you have not filed either your campaign treasurer's report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable. The filing date was October 12, 2021.

The law (s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) requires the filing officer to immediately notify you about the missed filing date and the automatic fines that will be assessed for late filing of a report, if a report was due.

- If reportable activity occurred and you have not filed a report, statutory fines are automatically assessed as follows until you file your report:
  - \$50 per day for the first 3 days late
  - \$500 per day for each day after the 3rd day late
  - If the required report immediately precedes a primary and general election, the automatic fine is \$500 for each late day.

The total fine for the untimely report cannot exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the cover period. Even if you end up filing your report late, we cannot waive the statutory fines. We will notify you of the specific amount of fines owed once you file your report. You have 20 days from the day you receive the notice to pay the fine or to appeal the fine to the Florida Elections Commission.

- If no reportable activity occurred for the report date(s), you are still required to notify us in writing, via the Division's Electronic Filing System, that no reportable activity occurred. No automatic fines are statutorily assessed.

However, in all cases, failure to file and/or untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

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

Sincerely,

Donna S. Brown, Chief  
Bureau of Election Records

cc: Maria E. Lopez, Treasurer





FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**Laurel M. Lee**  
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

**Second Notice**

November 1, 2021

Stephen T. Simeonidis, Chairperson  
Save Our State  
1430 South Dixie Highway  
Suite 105-220  
Coral Gables, FL 33146-3146

PAC 78905

Dear Mr. Simeonidis:

Our records indicate that you have not filed either your campaign treasurer's report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable. The filing date was October 12, 2021.

We mailed, via regular mail, the first notice of the failure to file the above-mentioned report or notification to the address on file with our office on October 13, 2021.

The first notice which we provided to you specifically explained the automatic fine provisions in the law (s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) for failure to file a required report. Such fines are continuing to accrue for a late-filed report. Also, that notice explained that if no reportable activity occurred for the report date(s), you are still required to provide notification in writing that no reportable activity occurred. Our initial notice further indicated that, in all cases, failure to file and/or untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

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

Sincerely,

Donna S. Brown, Chief  
Bureau of Election Records

cc: Maria E. Lopez, Treasurer



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Laurel M. Lee  
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

**Final Notice**  
**Delivery Confirmation:**

USPS TRACKING # **9114 9022 0078 9649 8721 54**  
& CUSTOMER RECEIPT For Tracking or inquiries go to USPS.com  
or call 1-800-222-1811.

November 1, 2021

Stephen T. Simeonidis, Chairperson  
Save Our State  
1430 South Dixie Highway  
Suite 105-220  
Coral Gables, FL 33146-3146

PAC 78905

Dear Mr. Simeonidis:

A recent review of the Division's records show that the Division has not yet received the below-referenced campaign treasurer's report or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable, during the following cover period:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Report</u>	<u>Cover Period</u>
2021	M8	8/1/21 - 8/31/21

The Division has previously notified you of the unfiled report or notification. Please file your report or notification. If the report is not filed within 7 days of receipt of this letter, the Division will refer this matter to the Florida Elections Commission, which may impose civil penalties of up to \$1000 per violation, apart from that automatic fine provisions of s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) that are applicable only to campaign finance reports.

As we stated in the prior notices, even if you now file the report or notification, the untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

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

Sincerely,

Donna S. Brown, Chief  
Bureau of Election Records

cc: Maria E. Lopez, Treasurer

**Track Another Package +**

**Tracking Number:** 9114902200789649872154

[Remove X](#)

Your item was delivered to the front desk, reception area, or mail room at 10:58 am on November 4, 2021 in MIAMI, FL 33146.

## **Delivered, Front Desk/Reception/Mail Room**

November 4, 2021 at 10:58 am  
MIAMI, FL 33146

**Get Updates** 

---

**Text & Email Updates**



---

**Tracking History**



---

**Product Information**



---

**See Less** 

## **Can't find what you're looking for?**

Go to our [FAQs](#) section to find answers to your tracking questions.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Laurel M. Lee  
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

**Final Notice**  
**Delivery Confirmation:**

USPS TRACKING # **9114 9022 0078 9644 8020 95**  
& CUSTOMER RECEIPT For Tracking or Inquiries go to USPS.com  
or call 1-800-222-1811.

November 22, 2021

Stephen T. Simeonidis, Chairperson  
Save Our State  
1430 South Dixie Highway  
Suite 105-220  
Coral Gables, FL 33146-3146

PAC 78905

Dear Mr. Simeonidis:

A recent review of the Division's records show that the Division has not yet received the below-referenced campaign treasurer's report or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable, during the following cover period:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Report</u>	<u>Cover Period</u>
2021	M9	9/1/21 - 9/30/21

The Division has previously notified you of the unfiled report or notification. Please file your report or notification. If the report is not filed within 7 days of receipt of this letter, the Division will refer this matter to the Florida Elections Commission, which may impose civil penalties of up to \$1000 per violation, apart from that automatic fine provisions of s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) that are applicable only to campaign finance reports.

As we stated in the prior notices, even if you now file the report or notification, the untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

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

Sincerely,

Donna S. Brown, Chief  
Bureau of Election Records

cc: Maria E. Lopez, Treasurer



**Track Another Package +**

**Tracking Number:** 9114902200789644802095

[Remove X](#)

Your item was delivered to the front desk, reception area, or mail room at 8:01 am on November 24, 2021 in MIAMI, FL 33146.

## **Delivered, Front Desk/Reception/Mail Room**

November 24, 2021 at 8:01 am  
MIAMI, FL 33146

**Get Updates** 

---

**Text & Email Updates**



---

**Tracking History**



---

**Product Information**



---

**See Less** 

## **Can't find what you're looking for?**

Go to our [FAQs](#) section to find answers to your tracking questions.





Florida Department of State - Division of Elections

Florida Election System Reports

Candidate/Committee Lookup

Name: Save Our State

Committee Name: Save Our State

Account: 78905

Election:

Acct: 78905

Type: Committee

Search Reset

Date Due	Type	Date Filed	Status	Days Late	Fine Assessed	Appealed	Amount Fined	Amount Paid
3/10/2022	M2	3/8/2022						
2/10/2022	M1	2/16/2022	CLO	6	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
2/10/2022	SG1	2/16/2022	CLO	6	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
1/10/2022	M12	2/16/2022	CLO	37	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
1/7/2022	SP2	2/16/2022	CLO	40	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
12/10/2021	SP1	2/16/2022	CLO	68	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
12/10/2021	M11	2/16/2022	CLO	68	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
11/10/2021	M10	2/16/2022	CLO	98	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
10/12/2021	M9	2/16/2022	CLO	127	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
9/10/2021	M8	2/16/2022	CLO	159	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
8/10/2021	M7	2/16/2022	CLO	190	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
7/12/2021	M6	2/16/2022	CLO	219	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
6/10/2021	M5	2/16/2022	CLO	251	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
5/10/2021	M4	2/16/2022	CLO	282	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
4/12/2021	M3	2/16/2022	CLO	310	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
3/10/2021	M2	2/16/2022	CLO	343	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
2/10/2021	M1	2/16/2022	CLO	371	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
1/11/2021	M12	2/16/2022	CLO	401	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
12/10/2020	M11	12/10/2020						
11/10/2020	M10	11/1/2020						
10/30/2020	G6	10/30/2020						
10/29/2020	D6	10/30/2020	CLO	1	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
10/28/2020	D5	10/30/2020	CLO	2	\$87.50		\$87.50	\$87.50
10/27/2020	D4	10/30/2020	CLO	3	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
10/26/2020	D3	10/30/2020	CLO	4	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
10/25/2020	D2	10/30/2020	CLO	5	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
10/24/2020	D1	10/23/2020						
10/23/2020	G5	10/22/2020						
10/16/2020	G4A	10/9/2020						
10/9/2020	G4	10/2/2020						
10/2/2020	G3A	9/25/2020						
9/25/2020	G3	9/18/2020						
9/18/2020	G2A	9/11/2020						
9/11/2020	G2	9/4/2020						
9/4/2020	G1A	9/4/2020						

## Brian Ayres

---

**From:** Leviner, Amanda <Amanda.Leviner@truist.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 14, 2021 7:53 AM  
**To:** Brian Ayres  
**Subject:** RE: #secure# DOWNLOAD REQUIRED WITHIN 14 DAYS SAVE OUR STATE 183311

Good morning Investigator Ayres,

You are correct. The account was closed in December 2020.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

**Amy Leviner**  
Financial Crimes Analyst II



Financial Intelligence Unit  
Fulfillment Services – FUSE  
Phone 910-272-4803  
Fax 844-234-9280

---

**From:** Brian Ayres [mailto:Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 14, 2021 7:40 AM  
**To:** Leviner, Amanda  
**Subject:** RE: #secure# DOWNLOAD REQUIRED WITHIN 14 DAYS SAVE OUR STATE 183311

Thank you very much,

I see the final statement we received for the account as of 12/31/2020, was zeroed out. Was the account closed after being zeroed out? I wanted to be sure and double check.

I appreciate any help,

***Brian Ayres***

Investigation Specialist  
Florida Elections Commission  
107 W Gaines St., #224  
(850) 404-5616  
[Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com](mailto:Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com)

---

**From:** Leviner, Amanda <Amanda.Leviner@truist.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 13, 2021 4:58 PM  
**To:** Brian Ayres <Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com>  
**Subject:** #secure# DOWNLOAD REQUIRED WITHIN 14 DAYS SAVE OUR STATE 183311

Good afternoon Investigator Ayres,

I am the processor that researched your production. You can email me and I can assist with your questions. Thank you.

**Respectfully,**

**Amy Leviner**  
**Financial Crimes Analyst II**



Financial Intelligence Unit  
Fulfillment Services – FUSE  
Phone 910-272-4803  
Fax 844-234-9280

---

**From:** Brian Ayres [<mailto:Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 13, 2021 12:52 PM  
**To:** Adams, Amber  
**Subject:** RE: DOWNLOAD REQUIRED WITHIN 14 DAYS SAVE OUR STATE 183311

Good Morning,

I have a follow up question to the subpoena received for SAVE OUR STATE 183311.

Please let me know if you prefer to speak over the phone or if I may contact you via email.

Respectfully,

***Brian Ayres***

Investigation Specialist  
Florida Elections Commission  
107 W Gaines St., #224  
(850) 404-5616  
[Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com](mailto:Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com)

---

**From:** Amber Adams <[Amber.Adams@truist.com](mailto:Amber.Adams@truist.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 24, 2021 3:11 PM

To: Brian Ayres <Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com>

Subject: DOWNLOAD REQUIRED WITHIN 14 DAYS SAVE OUR STATE 183311



Amber Adams has sent you files.

Expires 9/7/21

A note from Amber :

Attached are documents requested in the above referenced case. For security purposes, your ability to view and download these documents will be limited to the next 14 days. Please email any further requests or questions to [FIU-Fulfillmentservices@truist.com](mailto:FIU-Fulfillmentservices@truist.com). The use of other phone numbers or email addresses will limit the FIU Fulfillment Services' ability to adequately process your request

Thank you,

Truist FIU Fulfillment Services

[Download](#)

Trouble with the above link? You can copy and paste the following URL into your web browser:

<https://bbt.sharefile.com/d-a7b589e317784383>

ShareFile is a tool for sending, receiving, and organizing your business files online. It can be used as a password-protected area for sharing information with clients and partners, and it's an easy way to send files that are too large to e-mail.

Powered By Citrix ShareFile 2021

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*The information transmitted is intended solely for the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of or taking action in reliance upon this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer.*

Jun 27, 2021

Mrs Donna Ann Macpherson  
Florida Elects Commission  
107 West Gann Street  
Suite 224  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-6596

Re. Jan our State  
FEQ 21380

Dear Ms Macpherson,

Jan our State ceased to exist  
after the November 2020 election.  
It has no bank account and is  
not active since then.

Sincerely,  
Mau Elean Hoff  
Treasurer

RECEIVED

2021 JUL 22 PM 17

STATE OF FLORIDA

MIAMI FL 330

7 JUL 2021 PM 5 L



868110517130515

FOREVER



USA

Ms Dawn Ann Raynes  
Agency Clerk  
Florida Electric Commission  
107 W. Gause Street  
Suite 224  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-6796

Electric

02099-859874



**FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION  
PHONE LOG  
Case No.: FEC 21-502**

**Respondent: Save Our State**

**Complainant: Division of Elections**

1. **Date and time:** February 8, 2022 @ 10:00am  
**Name:** Save our State  
**Phone #:** 305-520-9083  
**Summary:** I called the number associated with R. No one answered and I left a detailed voice message asking to be called back.  
**Entered by:** Brian Ayres
  
2. **Date and time:** February 9, 2022 @ 9:00am  
**Name:** Save our State  
**Phone #:** 305-520-9083  
**Summary:** I called the number associated with R. No one answered and I left a detailed voice message asking to be called back.  
**Entered by:** Brian Ayres
  
3. **Date and time:** February 10, 2022 @ 9:00am  
**Name:** Marie E. Lopez – Save our State Treasurer/Respondent  
**Phone #:** 305-520-9083  
**Summary:** I called the number associated with R using my personal device and \*67. Respondent answered and we discussed issues with the case. Respondent stated she had been away and believed that Save our State had been disbanded since December 2020. She deactivated her access to the email account associated with it and believed my phone calls were going to the “Spam” folder in her message inbox. I asked if she had received any documentation from the FEC or the Division and she stated it was tied into a P.O. Box and she had not checked it in a while. Respondent wanted to know how to fix this issue. I told her it is between SOS and The Division to conclude the closing of Save our State. Respondent was more focused on correcting mistakes so we discussed concluding the conversation at a different time. During this conversation I will ask the standard questions highlighted. I sent a follow-up email to Respondent’s personal email account. I attached all reports that SOS have not filed since December that is from the Divisions website.  
**Entered by:** Brian Ayres
  
4. **Date and time:** Februray 10, 2022 @ 2:45 pm  
**Name:** Save our State  
**Phone #:** 305-520-9083  
**Summary:** I called the number associated with R. No one answered and I left a detailed voice message asking to be called back.  
**Entered by:** Brian Ayres
  
5. **Date and time:** Februray 10, 2022 @ 2:45 pm  
**Name:** Save our State



**Phone #:** 305-520-9083

**Summary:** I called the number associated with R. I used my personal device blocked. There was no answer and I left a detailed message indicating I have reached out through email to R's personal account and tried to call multiple times using the office line.

**Entered by:** Brian Ayres

6. **Date and time:** Februray 10, 2022 @ 2:45 pm

**Name:** Save our State

**Phone #:** 305-520-9083

**Summary:** R Called and stated she received my voicemail. Respondent stated she had picked up all the documents we have previously discussed and confirmed each other's email addresses. R stated she does not have a PC Handbook. Respondent stated she has not read chapters 106 or 104 of Florida Statutes and Respondent was unfamiliar with the information attached in the acknowledgment letter sent by the Division once Save Our State was an active PC.

**Entered by:** Brian Ayres

7. **Date and time:** February 16, 2022 @ 11:45 am

**Name:** Save our State

**Phone #:** 305-775-7158

**Summary:** R Called detailing she has submitted her December CTR but needed help filing her other reports. I will call R back and provider her access to the PC Handbook as well as the best number to speak with the Division of Elections.

**Entered by:** Brian Ayres

8. **Date and time:** February 10, 2022 @ 1:00 pm

**Name:** Save our State

**Phone #:** 305-775-7158

**Summary:** I called R back and explained that I will provide materials to help her file her waivers with the Division. In a follow up email I provided a link to the Division's website, the EFS user Guise and the PC Handbook.

**Entered by:** Brian Ayres

### **RESPONDENT INTERVIEW MEMO – Call details at 3 & 6**

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

- Why have you not filed any CTRs or closed your PC with the Division since December 2020?

*She thought SOS was successfully closed out with the Division. She deactivated all of her contact information with SOS and had not checked in on the information sent to her.*

- Have you ever run for public office? If so, please name each office you ran for and state what year each election occurred.

*no*

- Have you ever been appointed to act as a campaign treasurer for a candidate? If so, please name each such candidate, the office each ran for, and state what year each election occurred.

*no*

- Have you ever held the office of chairperson, treasurer, or other similar position for a political committee or electioneering communications organization? If so, please name each committee, state the office you held for each, and state when you held each office.

*no*

- Have you ever prepared or signed a campaign treasurer's report? If so, please state the name of the candidate or committee whose report you prepared or signed.

*Only for SOS*

- What action have you taken to determine your responsibilities under Florida's election laws?

*none*

- Do you possess a copy of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes? If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it?

*no*

- Do you possess a copy of the *Political Committee OR Electioneering Communications Organization Handbook*? If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it?

*no*

- Did you receive any other materials from your filing officer? If so, please describe them.

*Unknown-will have to check from her records*

- Do you have anything else to add for the Commission's consideration regarding the charges specified in the letter of legal sufficiency in this case?

*She believed the PC was inactive since December 2020. She had not received any documents since she did not feel she needed to check her PO box assigned to the PC or the email account assigned to the PC.*

## **Brian Ayres**

---

**From:** Brian Ayres  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 8:11 AM  
**To:** saveourstate.florida@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Florida Elections Commission Referral - FEC Case: 21-502

Good morning,

I am reaching out to you via email first to attempt to schedule a call regarding a referral we have received from the Division of Elections regarding your 2021 M8 and M9 reports. Please let me know when the best time to reach you will be and I will be sure to call then. I will be following this email with a phone call today and tomorrow using the information provided to the Division of Elections via your DS-DE 9 - *Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository* form- around 10am to contact your organization.

Respectfully,

***Brian Ayres***

Investigation Specialist  
Florida Elections Commission  
107 W Gaines St., #224  
(850) 404-5616  
[Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com](mailto:Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com)

## **Brian Ayres**

---

**From:** Brian Ayres  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:33 AM  
**To:** saveourstate.florida@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Florida Elections Commission - 21-502  
**Attachments:** LS Ltr\_02-04-22.pdf

Good morning,

I have attempted to contact you via telephone based on the information you have provided to the Division of Elections. For your reference, attached is the Legal Sufficiency letter (LS Ltr) sent to you regarding this matter. Please call or email me anytime to discuss this matter. I will attempt to call tomorrow, February 10, 2022, at around this time so we may discuss this and any other questions you may have.

Respectfully,

***Brian Ayres***

Investigation Specialist  
Florida Elections Commission  
107 W Gaines St., #224  
(850) 404-5616  
[Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com](mailto:Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com)

## **Brian Ayres**

---

**From:** Brian Ayres  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 10, 2022 10:54 AM  
**To:** manena.lopez@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Florida Elections Commission - February 10, 2022  
**Attachments:** Filing history Report.pdf

Good morning Ms. Lopez,

Per our conversation, I am reaching out to you regarding FEC case 21-502. I wanted to make sure we can speak again to cover a few more basics of this case so I may record your response in my report. Additionally I have attached the Division's overview of Save our State's reports and how many have gone unreported due to the mistake of believing the political committee was disbanded or not.

Please let me know when the best time to finish our conversation may be. You will find my number below so we can discuss this issues when I have access to all information at my office today or whenever it is convenient for you.

Respectfully,

***Brian Ayres***

Investigation Specialist  
Florida Elections Commission  
107 W Gaines St., #224  
(850) 404-5616  
[Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com](mailto:Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com)



Florida Department of State - Division of Elections

Florida Election System Reports

Candidate/Committee Lookup

Name:

Election:

Acct:

Type:

Committee Name: Save Our State  
Account: 78905

Date Due	Type	Date Filed	Status	Days Late	Fine Assessed	Appealed	Amount Fined	Amount Paid
1/10/2022	M12		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
12/10/2021	M11		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
11/10/2021	M10		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
10/12/2021	M9		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
9/10/2021	M8		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
8/10/2021	M7		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
7/12/2021	M6		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
6/10/2021	M5		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
5/10/2021	M4		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
4/12/2021	M3		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
3/10/2021	M2		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
2/10/2021	M1		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
1/11/2021	M12		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
12/10/2020	M11	12/10/2020						
11/10/2020	M10	11/1/2020						
10/30/2020	G6	10/30/2020						
10/29/2020	D6	10/30/2020	CLO	1	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
10/28/2020	D5	10/30/2020	CLO	2	\$87.50		\$87.50	\$87.50
10/27/2020	D4	10/30/2020	CLO	3	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
10/26/2020	D3	10/30/2020	CLO	4	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
10/25/2020	D2	10/30/2020	CLO	5	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
10/24/2020	D1	10/23/2020						
10/23/2020	G5	10/22/2020						
10/16/2020	G4A	10/9/2020						
10/9/2020	G4	10/2/2020						
10/2/2020	G3A	9/25/2020						
9/25/2020	G3	9/18/2020						
9/18/2020	G2A	9/11/2020						
9/11/2020	G2	9/4/2020						
9/4/2020	G1A	9/4/2020						



## Brian Ayres

---

**From:** Brian Ayres  
**Sent:** Friday, February 11, 2022 3:45 PM  
**To:** maria-elena lopez  
**Subject:** RE: Test  
**Attachments:** LS Ltr\_02-04-22.pdf; Filing history Report.pdf

Good Afternoon Ms. Lopez,

Per our conversation, I am reaching out to you regarding FEC case 21-502. Attached is the overview of Save our State's filing history with the Division. I have also attached the most recent legal sufficiency letter for case 21-502, the current active case for Save our State.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding these matters. Per our conversation I am nearing the conclusion of the investigation for 21-502 but will make sure I can be of service should you have any questions.

Respectfully,  
Brian Ayres  
Investigation Specialist  
Florida Elections Commission  
107 W Gaines St., #224  
(850) 404-5616  
Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com

-----Original Message-----

From: maria-elena lopez <manena.lopez@gmail.com>  
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 3:36 PM  
To: Brian Ayres <Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com>  
Subject: Test

María Elena López  
Mobile: 305•775•7158  
Please excuse typos sent from my iPhone

## Brian Ayres

---

**From:** Brian Ayres  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 16, 2022 12:59 PM  
**To:** maria-elena lopez  
**Subject:** RE: Test  
**Attachments:** PC Handbook.pdf; EFS User Guide.pdf

Ms. Lopez,

Attached is the Political Committee Handbook as well as the Electronic Users Guide to filing with the Division of Elections. Please let me know if you do not receive these, this should assist with completing your CTR tasks.

This information was found at <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/candidates-committees/campaign-finance/filing-campaign-reports/campaign-reports-political-committees/>

Please refer to their website if you have any additional questions on how to file or their reporting systems.

Respectfully,  
Brian Ayres  
Investigation Specialist  
Florida Elections Commission  
107 W Gaines St., #224  
(850) 404-5616  
Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com

-----Original Message-----

From: maria-elena lopez <manena.lopez@gmail.com>  
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 3:36 PM  
To: Brian Ayres <Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com>  
Subject: Test

María Elena López  
Mobile: 305•775•7158  
Please excuse typos sent from my iPhone



# Florida Elections Commission

107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-6596

Telephone: (850) 922-4539 · Facsimile: (850) 921-0783

[FEC@myfloridalegal.com](mailto:FEC@myfloridalegal.com) · [www.fec.state.fl.us](http://www.fec.state.fl.us)



February 4, 2022

Stephen T. Simeonidis  
Save Our State  
1430 South Dixie Hwy, Suite 105-220  
Coral Gables, FL 33146

**RE: Case No.: FEC 21-502; Respondent: Save Our State**

Dear Mr. Simeonidis:

On December 3, 2021, the Florida Elections Commission received a complaint alleging that your committee violated Florida's election laws. I have reviewed the complaint and find that it contains one or more **legally sufficient allegations**. The Commission staff will investigate the following alleged violations:

**Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes:** As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a political committee registered with the Division of Elections, failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because it had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the following reporting periods:

- 2021 M8
- 2021 M9

**Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes:** As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a political committee registered with the Division of Elections, may have falsely reported, or deliberately failed to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, during the following reporting periods:

- 2021 M8
- 2021 M9

When we conclude the investigation, a copy of the Report of Investigation (ROI) will be mailed to you at the above address. Based on the results of the investigation, a staff attorney will prepare and present a written Staff Recommendation (SR) to the Commission as to whether there is probable cause to charge the Respondent, with violating Chapters 104 or 106, Florida Statutes. You will have an opportunity to respond to both the ROI and the SR. The Commission will then hold one or more hearings to determine whether the alleged violations occurred and, if so, the amount of the fine to be imposed upon your committee. Notice will be mailed to you and the Complainant at least 14 days before any hearing at which your case is to be considered.

Stephen T. Simeonidis  
February 4, 2022  
Page 2  
FEC 21-502

Pursuant to Section 106.25(4)(i)3., Florida Statutes, the Commission may enter into a consent agreement with a Respondent to settle a complaint prior to a finding of probable cause. If you are interested in entering negotiations directed towards reaching a consent agreement to resolve this matter, please contact the Commission and request to speak with the attorney assigned to this case.

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

Pursuant to Section 106.25, Florida Statutes, complaints, investigations, investigative reports, and other documents relating to an alleged violation of Chapters 104 or 106, Florida Statutes, are confidential until the Commission finds probable cause or no probable cause, unless the Respondent files a written waiver of confidentiality with the Commission. The confidentiality provision does not apply to the Complainant or the Respondent.

Should you retain counsel, your attorney must file a notice of appearance with the Commission before any member of the commission staff can discuss this case with him or her.

For additional information, please refer to the "Frequently Asked Questions" section of the Commission's website.

If you have additional questions, please contact **Brian Ayres**, the investigator assigned to this case, by phone at (850) 922-4539 or by email at [Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com](mailto:Brian.Ayres@myfloridalegal.com).

Sincerely,

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

Tim Vaccaro  
Executive Director

TV/mw

**DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
FEC NOTICE FORM**

To FEC from Division of Elections

REC'D: FL ELECTIONS COM  
3 DEC '21 PM 3:42

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**Name:** Save Our State  
**Account Number:** 78905  
**Chairperson:** Stephen T. Simeonidis  
**Treasurer:** Maria E. Lopez  
**Registered Agent:** Maria E. Lopez

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The Division of Elections hereby provides this notice to the Florida Elections Commission pursuant to sections 106.07(8)(d), 106.22(7), and 106.25(2), Florida Statutes. An apparent violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, has occurred based upon the failure to file a report after notice or failure to file a notification to the filing officer in writing that no report was being filed on the prescribed reporting date as required by section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes.

The following reports are outstanding after notification:

2021 M8

2021 M9

- Save Our State (78905) is a political committee registered with the Division of Elections. On August 24, 2020, the committee filed the DSDE 5 and DSDE 6 with the Division indicating that Peter Hoffman was the chairperson.
- On August 24, 2020, Stephen T. Simeonidis was appointed chairperson to committee.
- The 2021 M8 campaign treasurer's report was due on September 10, 2021. On September 13, 2021, the Division mailed Save Our State notification that the 2021 M8 campaign treasurer's report had not been filed.
- On October 13, 2021, the Division mailed Save Our State notification that the 2021 M8 campaign treasurer's report had not been filed.
- On November 1, 2021, the Division mailed Save Our State final notification with delivery confirmation that the 2021 M8 report had not been filed. (See attached letter and delivery confirmation.)

- The 2021 M9 campaign treasurer's report was due on October 12, 2021. On October 13, 2021, the Division mailed Save Our State notification that the 2021 M9 campaign treasurer's report had not been filed.
- On November 1, 2021, the Division mailed Save Our State notification that the 2021 M9 campaign treasurer's report had not been filed.
- On November 22, 2021, the Division mailed Save Our State final notification with delivery confirmation that the 2021 M9 report had not been filed. (See attached letter and delivery confirmation.)
- The committee did not notify the Division of Elections prior to or on the prescribed reporting dates for the 2021 M8 and 2021 M9 reports that no reports were to be filed.
- As of December 1, 2021, Save Our State has not filed the 2021 M8 and 2021 M9 reports.

---

**Sent By:** Donna S. Brown *DSB*  
**Date:** December 1, 2021  
kaf





FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Laurel M. Lee  
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

**Final Notice**  
**Delivery Confirmation:**

USPS TRACKING # **9114 9022 0078 9649 8721 54**  
& CUSTOMER RECEIPT  
For Tracking or inquiries go to USPS.com  
or call 1-800-222-1811.

November 1, 2021

Stephen T. Simeonidis, Chairperson  
Save Our State  
1430 South Dixie Highway  
Suite 105-220  
Coral Gables, FL 33146-3146

PAC 78905

Dear Mr. Simeonidis:

A recent review of the Division's records show that the Division has not yet received the below-referenced campaign treasurer's report or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable, during the following cover period:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Report</u>	<u>Cover Period</u>
2021	M8	8/1/21 - 8/31/21

The Division has previously notified you of the unfiled report or notification. Please file your report or notification. If the report is not filed within 7 days of receipt of this letter, the Division will refer this matter to the Florida Elections Commission, which may impose civil penalties of up to \$1000 per violation, apart from that automatic fine provisions of s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) that are applicable only to campaign finance reports.

As we stated in the prior notices, even if you now file the report or notification, the untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

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

Sincerely,

Donna S. Brown, Chief  
Bureau of Election Records

cc: Maria E. Lopez, Treasurer

**Track Another Package +**

**Tracking Number:** 9114902200789649872154

[Remove X](#)

Your item was delivered to the front desk, reception area, or mail room at 10:58 am on November 4, 2021 in MIAMI, FL 33146.

## **Delivered, Front Desk/Reception/Mail Room**

November 4, 2021 at 10:58 am  
MIAMI, FL 33146

**Get Updates** 

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**Text & Email Updates**



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**Tracking History**



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**Product Information**



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**See Less** 

## **Can't find what you're looking for?**

Go to our [FAQs](#) section to find answers to your tracking questions.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Laurel M. Lee  
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

**Final Notice**  
**Delivery Confirmation:**

USPS TRACKING # **9114 9022 0078 9644 8020 95**  
& CUSTOMER RECEIPT For Tracking or Inquiries go to USPS.com  
or call 1-800-222-1811.

November 22, 2021

Stephen T. Simeonidis, Chairperson  
Save Our State  
1430 South Dixie Highway  
Suite 105-220  
Coral Gables, FL 33146-3146

PAC 78905

Dear Mr. Simeonidis:

A recent review of the Division's records show that the Division has not yet received the below-referenced campaign treasurer's report or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable, during the following cover period:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Report</u>	<u>Cover Period</u>
2021	M9	9/1/21 - 9/30/21

The Division has previously notified you of the unfiled report or notification. Please file your report or notification. If the report is not filed within 7 days of receipt of this letter, the Division will refer this matter to the Florida Elections Commission, which may impose civil penalties of up to \$1000 per violation, apart from that automatic fine provisions of s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) that are applicable only to campaign finance reports.

As we stated in the prior notices, even if you now file the report or notification, the untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

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

Sincerely,

Donna S. Brown, Chief  
Bureau of Election Records

cc: Maria E. Lopez, Treasurer

## Track Another Package +

**Tracking Number:** 9114902200789644802095

[Remove X](#)

Your item was delivered to the front desk, reception area, or mail room at 8:01 am on November 24, 2021 in MIAMI, FL 33146.

### **Delivered, Front Desk/Reception/Mail Room**

November 24, 2021 at 8:01 am  
MIAMI, FL 33146

**Get Updates** ∨

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**Text & Email Updates**



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**Tracking History**



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**Product Information**



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**See Less** ^

## Can't find what you're looking for?

Go to our [FAQs](#) section to find answers to your tracking questions.