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STATE OF FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Florida Elections Commission, Petitioner,

v.

Case No.: FEC 17-103

Nicolas Garcia, Respondent.

ORDER OF PROBABLE CAUSE

THIS MATTER was heard by the Florida Elections Commission (Commission) at its regularly scheduled meeting on November 15, 2018, in Tallahassee, Florida.

On October 3, 2018, 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 November 28, 2016, Nicolas Garcia violated Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes, when he failed to file the campaign's 2016 Termination Report within 90 days after being eliminated as a candidate.

Count 2:

On or around November 28, 2016, Nicolas Garcia violated Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, when he deliberately failed to include information required to be reported by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, when he failed to file a 2016 Termination Report.

The Commission finds that there is no probable cause to charge Respondent with violating

Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes.

DONE AND ORDERED by the Florida Elections Commission on November 15, 2018.

M. Scott Thomas, Chairman Florida Elections Commission

Copies furnished to: Wilson Brantley, Florida Elections Commission Nicolas Garcia, Respondent Division of Elections, Complainant

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO A HEARING

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

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

THIS FILE CONTAINS INFORMATION THAT IS CONFIDENTIAL AND EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 119, FLORIDA STATUTES

STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In Re: Nicolas Garcia

TO: Nicolas Garcia 2547 Dale Ann Drive Hines City, FL 33844-3844 Case No.: FEC 17-103

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

NOTICE OF HEARING (PROBABLE CAUSE DETERMINATION)

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, November 15, 2018 at 8:30 am, or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard, at the following location: Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Room 110-S, Tallahassee, Florida 32399.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

See further instructions on the reverse side.

<u>Eric M. Lipman</u>

General Counsel for Executive Director Florida Elections Commission October 29, 2018 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 failer, 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

In Re: Nicolas Garcia

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Case No.: FEC 17-103

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 Sections 106.141(1), and 106.19(1)(c), and **no probable cause** to charge Respondent with violating Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes. Based upon a thorough review of the Report of Investigation submitted on July 17, 2018, the following facts and law support this staff recommendation:

1. On March 14, 2017, the Florida Elections Commission ("Commission") received a referral from the Department of State, Division of Elections ("Division" or "Complainant"), alleging that Nicolas Garcia ("Respondent") violated Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.

2. Respondent was a 2016 candidate for State Representative, District 41. (ROI Exhibit 1)¹

3. By letter dated April 24, 2018, 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 2016 candidate for State Representative, may have failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because he had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2016 termination reporting period.

Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2016 candidate for State Representative, failed to timely file his 2016 Termination Report reflecting the disposition of all remaining campaign funds.

Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2016 candidate for State Representative, may have falsely reported or deliberately failed to include information in his 2016 Termination Report, as required by Chapter 106.

Staff Recommendation FEC 17-103

¹ The Report of Investigation is referred to herein as "ROI."

4. By letter dated October 14, 2015, Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief, Bureau of Election Records, sent Respondent a letter acknowledging that the Division had received his Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Candidates form and that his name was placed on the 2016 active candidate list. (ROI Exhibit 8, page 1)

5. The acknowledgment letter advised Respondent that all candidates 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 8, page 1) The letter further advised Respondent that all 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 8, page 3)

Alleged Violation: Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes

6. Complainant alleged that Respondent violated Florida's election laws by failing to file the campaign's 2016 Termination Report.

7. On August 30, 2016, Respondent was defeated in the 2016 primary election. Respondent was required to file the campaign's 2016 Termination Report within 90 days after being eliminated as a candidate.

8. The Division routinely mails letters to eliminated candidates to provide notice of the designated due date for a campaign's Termination Report. The Division's *Calendar of Reporting Dates* also shows the due date for the 2016 Termination Report for a candidate who was defeated in the 2016 primary election, i.e., November 28, 2016. (Attachment 1) The DS-DE 9 acknowledgement letter directed Respondent to print out the *Calendar of Reporting Dates* as well as other relevant documents. (ROI Exhibit 8, page 3).

9. On November 29, 2016, January 12, 2017, and February 2, 2017, the Division sent letters notifying Respondent that the report had not been received. (ROI Exhibits 2-4). The final notification was confirmed delivered on February 4, 2017, (ROI Exhibit 4, page 2).

10. A subpoena was issued to Respondent's campaign depository to ascertain whether any financial activity occurred during the relevant reporting period, i.e., August 26, 2016 – November 28, 2016. Bank records show that Respondent had reportable financial activity during the termination reporting period. (ROI Exhibit 5).

11. Respondent stated on May 3, 2017, that he did not realize that he had to file a final report. Respondent was thinking about running again and believed that he could keep the account open until the next election. (ROI page 2, \P 10).

12. As it appears that Respondent had reportable financial activity during the relevant reporting period, Respondent was required to file the 2016 Termination Report within 90 days after being eliminated as a candidate, but as of September 26, 2018, has failed to do so. (Attachment 2).

Alleged Violation: Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes

13. Complainant alleged that Respondent violated Florida's election laws by falsely reporting or deliberately failing to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, on the campaign's 2016 Termination Report.

14. Respondent had reportable financial activity during the relevant reporting period. Respondent's bank records show a \$1000 deposit on August 29, 2016. (ROI Exhibit 5, page 1). Additionally, Respondent's bank records show two expenditures. On August 29, 2016, there is an expenditure of \$538.74. (ROI Exhibit 5, page 1). On August 30, 2016, there was an expenditure for \$615.25. (ROI Exhibit 5, page 7). Respondent was required to disclose the financial activity on the campaign's 2016 Termination Report. Respondent deliberately failed to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, on the campaign's 2016 Termination Report.

Alleged Violation: Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes

15. Complainant alleged that Respondent violated Florida's election laws by failing to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed for the 2016 Termination reporting period.

16. Because Respondent had financial activity during the TR reporting period, he was not required to submit a notice of no activity for the 2016 Termination reporting period as there was reportable financial activity that Respondent was required to disclose on his 2016 Termination Report.

17. "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).

18. The facts set forth above show that Respondent was a 2016 candidate for State Representative, District 41. Respondent failed to file a 2016 Termination Report within 90 days after being eliminated as a candidate. Respondent deliberately failed to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, on the campaign's 2016 Termination Report. Respondent was not required to notify the filing officer that he would not be filing his 2016 Termination Report because the campaign had reportable financial activity.

Based upon these facts and circumstances, I recommend that the Commission find **probable cause** to charge Respondent with the following violations:

Count 1:

On or about November 28, 2016, Nicolas Garcia violated Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes, when he failed to file the campaign's 2016 Termination Report within 90 days after being eliminated as a candidate.

Count 2:

On or around November 28, 2016, Nicolas Garcia violated Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, when he deliberately failed to include information required to be reported by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, when he failed to file a 2016 Termination Report.

Based upon these facts and circumstances, I recommend that the Commission find no probable cause to charge Respondent with violating Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes.

Respectfully submitted on October 3, 2018.

Wilson Brantley, J.

Respectfully submitted on October <u>3</u>, 2018.

Stephanie J. Cunningham

I reviewed this Staff Recommendation this $\underline{3}$ day of October 2018.

Emple

Eric M. Lipman General Counsel on behalf of the Executive Director

Attachment

Calendar of Reporting Dates

for 2016 Candidates registered with the Division of Elections

Report Code	Due Date
2015 M12	01/11/16
2016 M1	02/10/16
2016 M2	03/10/16
2016 M3	04/11/16
2016 M4	05/10/16
2016 M5	06/10/16
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2016 P1	07/01/16
2016 P2	07/15/16
2016 P3	07/29/16
2016 P4	08/05/16
2016 P5	08/12/16
2016 P6	08/19/16
2016 P7	08/26/16
2016 G1	09/09/16
2016 G2	09/23/16
: 2016 G3	10/07/16
2016 G4	10/14/16
2016 G5	10/21/16
2016 G6	10/28/16
	2015 M12 2016 M1 2016 M2 2016 M3 2016 M3 2016 M4 2016 P1 2016 P1 2016 P2 2016 P3 2016 P3 2016 P4 2016 P5 2016 P5 2016 P6 2016 P7 2016 G1 2016 G3 2016 G3 2016 G4 2016 G5

Termination R	lep	orts
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2016 G7

10/22/16 - 11/03/16

Cover Period	Report Code	Due Date
After May Qualifying	TR	08/04/16
After June Qualifying	TR	09/22/16
Primary Election	TR	11/28/16
General Election	TR	02/06/17

Attachment

11/04/16

FEC - Candidate/Committee Filing History Report



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Florida Election System Reports

∿Florida.com

10. 10

Cano	didate/Committee Look	up	Candida	te Na	ame: Nicolas	s Garcia					X.
Name:				Acco	o unt: <u>64977</u>						
Election:	1		Date Due	Туре	Date Filed	Status	Days Late	Fine Assessed	Appealed	Amount Fined	Amount Paid
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Acct: 64	4977	8	B /26/201 6	P7	8/26/2016						
Туре: С	Candidate	▼ 8	8/19/2016	P6	8/19/2016			· .			
		8	8/12/2016	P5	8/12/2016					٢	
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		· 4	4/11/2016	М3	4/11/2016	•					
		3	3/10/2016	M2	3/10/2016						
		` 2	2/10/2016	M1	2/10/2016						
			1/11/2016	M12	1/11/2016						
			12/10/2015	M11	12/10/2015						
			11/10/2015	M10	11/10/2015						

nchment 2

Respondent: Nicolas Garcia Counsel for Respondent: None

Complainant: Division of Elections Counsel for Complainant: None

Pursuant to Section 106.25, Florida Statutes, on March 14, 2017, the Florida Elections Commission (Commission) received information from the Division of Elections (Division) that Respondent violated Chapter 106, Florida Statutes. Commission staff, therefore, investigated whether Respondent violated the following statutes:

> Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, failure of a candidate 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;

> Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes, failure of a candidate to file a termination report reflecting the disposition of all remaining funds in his campaign account within 90 days after he withdrew, became unopposed, was eliminated, or elected; and

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

I. Preliminary Information:

1. Respondent was a student at the University of Pennsylvania and a candidate for State Representative, District 41.

2. Respondent's filing officer is Kristi Willis, Chief, Bureau of Election Records.

3. On October 13, 2015, Respondent filed an Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Candidates form (DS-DE 9). He appointed Donna Fellows as treasurer. To review a copy of the DS-DE 9 form, refer to Exhibit 1.

4. Complainant is the Division.

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

5. I investigated whether Respondent violated this section of the election laws by not timely filing a written notice with the filing officer that no report would be filed.

..

6. According to Complainant, Respondent's 2016 termination report (TR) was due on November 28, 2016. The report covered the period from August 26, 2016 through November 27, 2016. Complainant states that Respondent did not file the TR nor a notice of no reportable activity.

7. On November 29, 2016, the Division mailed Ms. Fellows and Respondent (Respondent was copied on the letter that was mailed to Ms. Fellows.) letters informing them that the 2016 TR had not been filed. The letter reads, "Our records indicate that you have not filed either your termination report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable." To review the letter from the Division, refer to Exhibit 2.

8. On January 12, 2017, the Division mailed a second notification to Ms. Fellows and Respondent (Respondent was copied on the letter.). The letter has "Final Notice" at the top and informed them that the TR had not been filed and that the report or a notification of no reportable activity should be filed within 7 days of receiving the letter. To review the Final Notice to Ms. Fellows and delivery confirmation, refer to Exhibit 3.

9. On February 2, 2017, the Division mailed Respondent a final notification with delivery confirmation that the 2016 TR had not been filed. The letter has "Final Notice" at the top and similar verbiage as the previous letter. To review the Final Notice to Respondent and delivery confirmation, refer to Exhibit 4.

10. On May 3, 2018, I interviewed Respondent by telephone. He stated that he did not realize he had to file a final report. I asked if he had closed his campaign account. He stated that he had not. He stated that he was thinking about running again so he thought he could just keep the account open until the next election.

11. I subpoenaed the bank records from the campaign depository, Centennial Bank. Bank records show that there was reportable activity during the TR period; therefore, it appears that Respondent should have file a TR. To review the bank records, refer to Exhibit 5.

12. No record of Respondent having previously violated this section of the election laws was found.

III. Alleged Violation of Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes:

13. I investigated whether Respondent violated this section of the election laws by not timely filing his 2016 TR disclosing the disposition of all remaining campaign funds.

14. Complainant stated that Respondent did not file his 2016 termination report. Records from the Division show that the last report filed by Respondent was the 2016 P7 Report that covers the period from August 13, 2016 through August 25, 2016. The records appear to show that the campaign account had a remaining balance of approximately \$1,154.17 at the end of the P7 reporting period. To review the Campaign Finance Activity printout, refer to Exhibit 6.

15. As discussed in paragraph 11 of this report, bank records showed reportable activity during the TR period. Bank records show a \$1000 deposit on August 29, 2016. The contribution appears to be an electronic transfer from Donna Fellows. To review bank records, refer to Exhibit 5.

16. Bank records also show two expenditures during the TR period. On August 29, 2016, there was a debit card purchase to Voice Broadcasting for \$538.74. Additionally, check # 1507 was issued on August 30, 2016, to Hollywood Signs for \$615.25. To review the bank records, refer to Exhibit 5.

17. The TR period ended on November 27, 2016; the TR was due on November 28, 2016; the balance in the campaign depository on November 28, 2016 was \$245.01. I asked Respondent why he did not dispose of all remaining funds in the campaign depository, he stated that he wanted to keep the account open in case he ran for office again. To review the bank records, refer to Exhibit 5.

18. On July 3, 2018, I emailed Ms. Willis to query whether Respondent had filed his 2016 TR. Ms. Willis stated that Respondent had not filed the 2016 TR. To review the email from Ms. Willis, refer to Exhibit 7.

19. No record of Respondent having previously violated this section of the election laws was found.

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

20. I investigated whether Respondent violated this section of the election laws by falsely reporting or deliberately failing to report information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.

21. According to Complainant, Respondent did not file his 2016 TR nor a notice that he had no reportable activity.

22. To review the information pertaining to this section of law, refer to paragraphs 14 through 18 of this report.

23. No record of Respondent having previously violated this section of the election laws was found.

V. FEC History:

24. Respondent has not previously appeared before the Commission.

Conclusion:

25. I made three attempts to contact Respondent by telephone for the final interview; however, Respondent did not return my calls.

26. On October 14, 2015, the Division mailed Respondent a letter informing him that his name had been placed on the 2016 active candidate list. The letter informs the reader that all of the Division's publications and reporting forms are available on their website. The letter reads, "It is your responsibility to read, understand and follow the requirements of Florida's election laws." The letter advises the reader to "print a copy of the following documents: Chapters 104 and 106, Florida Statutes, *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook*,

Calendar of Reporting Dates, and Rule 1S-2.017, Florida Administrative Code. To review the letter from the Division, refer to Exhibit 8. To review relevant pages from the Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook, refer to Exhibit 9.

27. On October 13, 2015, Respondent signed his Statement of Candidate form, certifying that he had been provided access to read and understand the requirements of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes. To review the Statement of Candidate form, refer to Exhibit 10.

28. During my investigation of the allegations contained in the sworn complaint, I found that Respondent accepted a contribution on August 29, 2016, which was within 5 days of the primary election. However, because this potential violation was not alleged in the complaint, I did not further investigate this information.

Respectfully submitted on July 17, 2018.

Margie B/ Wade

Investigation Specialist

Current address of Respondent

Nicolas Garcia 2547 Dale Ann Drive Haines City, Florida 33844-3844

Current Address of Complainant:

Division of Elections 500 South Bronough Street R.A. Gray Building, Room 316 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Name and Address of Filing Officer:

Ms. Kristi Willis, Chief Bureau of Election Records 500 South Bronough Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Copy furnished to:

David Flagg, Investigations Manager





FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION REPORT OF INVESTIGATION Nicolas Garcia -- FEC 17-103

	LIST OF EXHIBITS
Exhibits #s	Description of Exhibits
Exhibit 1	DS-DE 9
Exhibit 2	Letter from the Division
Exhibit 3	Final Notice to Ms. Fellows
Exhibit 4	Final Notice to Respondent
Exhibit 5	Bank Records
Exhibit 6	Campaign Finance Activity
Exhibit 7	Email from Ms. Willis
Exhibit 8	Acknowledgement Letter
Exhibit 9	Relevant Pages from the Handbook
Exhibit 10	Statement of Candidate

	PEOF (
APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER	RECEIVELI DEPARTMENT TO ANY
AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN	2015 OCT 13 AM 9: 22
DEPOSITORY FOR CANDIDATES (Section 106.021(1), F.S.)	
(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)	General Continues
NOTE: This form must be on file with the qualifying officer before opening the campaign account.	OFFICE USE Of
1. CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX(ES):	
	reasurer/Deputy Depository Office P
2. Name of Candidate (in this order: First, Middle, Last)	3. Address (include post office box or street, city, state, zip code)
Nicolas Garcia	2547 Dale Ann Dr.
4. Telephone 5. E-mail address	Haines City, FL 33844
(863) 588-5741 nicolasgar ciqfl@gmail.con	<u>a</u>
6. Office sought (include district, circuit, group number)	7. If a candidate for a <u>nonpartisan</u> office, check i applicable:
Florida House of Representatives Di	Strict 4) My intent is to run as a Write-In candida
8. If a candidate for a <u>partisan</u> office, check block and fill	in name of party as applicable: My intent is to run as a
Write-In 🔲 No Party Affiliation 🛛 Demo	Crat Party candidate.
9. I have appointed the following person to act as my	Campaign Treasurer Deputy Treasurer
10. Name of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer	
Ponna tellows	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
11. Mailing Address PO Box 3013	12. Telephone (863) 287-5639
13. City Davenport 14. County 15. Sta Polk FL	ite 16. Zip Code 17. E-mail address 33836 donnafellows@fellowstrucking.(
18. I have designated the following bank as my	Primary Depository Secondary Depository
19. Name of Bank	20. Address
Centennial Bank	1606 1st Street South
21. City 22. County Winter Haven Polk	23. State24. Zip CodeFL33080
UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, I DECLARE THAT I HAVE READ TH	E FOREGOING FORM FOR APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER / AND THAT THE FACTS STATED IN IT ARE TRUE.
25. Date	26. Signature of Candidate
10/9/15	X Nicola Garcia
27. Treasurer's Acceptance of Appointment	(fill in the blanks and check the appropriate block)
1. Donna Fellows	, do hereby accept the appointment
(Please Print or Type Name)	
designated above as: X Campaign Treasurer	Deputy Treasurer.
10/9/15 XC	June Folle
Date	Signature of Campaign Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer
EXHIBIT	1

.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Ken Detzner Secretary of State DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

November 29, 2016

Donna Fellows, Treasurer Post Office Box 3013 Davenport, FL 33836-3836

Dear Ms. Fellows:

Our records indicate that you have not filed either your termination report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable. The filing date was November 28, 2016.

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 \$50 per day until you file your report. 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,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

cc: Nicolas Garcia Candidate for State Representative, District 41

EXHIBIT <u>2</u>

CAN 64977



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Ken Detzner

Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

Final Notice USPS TRACKII Delivery Confirmation: B CUSTOMER RECEIPT

USPS TRACKING # 9114 9014 9645 0956 1028 28 & CUSTOMER RECEIPT or tracking or inquiries go to USPS.com or call 1-800-222-1811

January 12, 2017

Donna Fellows, Treasurer Post Office Box 3013 Davenport, FL 33836-3836

CAN 64977

Dear Ms. Fellows:

A recent review of the Division's records show that the Division has not yet received your termination report or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable.

The Division has previously notified you of the unfiled report or notification. Please file your report or notification. If the report or notification 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,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

cc: Nicolas Garcia Candidate for State Representative, District 41

EXHIBIT <u>Jpasel Q2</u>

The R A Gray Building-Room 316 • 500 South Bronough Street • Tallahassee FL 32399-0250 • (850) 245-6240

USPS.com® - USPS T	racking®		Page 1 of 2	
USPS Tracking	J®		Still Have Questions? Browse our FAQs >	
			Get Easy Tracking Updates > Sign up for My USPS.	The second se
Tracking Number: 91149014	9645 0956102828			* F *
Updated Delivery Day: Satu	rday, January 14, 2017			
Product & Tracking	g Information	(Available Actions	
Postal Product:	Features: USPS Tracking [®]			
DATE & TIME	STATUS OF ITEM	LOCATION		1.
January 14, 2017 , 9:38 am	Delivered, PO Box	DAVENPORT, FL 33836		
Your item has been delivered ar DAVENPORT, FL 33836.	nd is available at a PO Box at 9:38 a	im on January 14, 2017 in		
January 14, 2017 , 4:55 am	Arrived at Post Office	DAVENPORT, FL 33837		·
January 14, 2017 , 4:14 am	Arrived at USPS Facility	DAVENPORT, FL 33837		A ALMAN A A
January 14, 2017 , 3:05 am	Departed USPS Facility	LAKELAND, FL 33805		10 X
January 13, 2017 , 11:14 pm	Arrived at USPS Facility	LAKELAND, FL 33805		the statement of the
January 13, 2017, 9:58 pm	Departed USPS Facility	TAMPA, FL 33605		
January 13, 2017 , 2:21 pm	Arrived at USPS Facility	TAMPA, FL 33605		1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.
January 12, 2017 , 8:41 pm	Arrived at USPS Facility	TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301		ALC: NAME OF
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Track Another Package

Tracking (or receipt) number

Track It

Manage Incoming Packages

Track all your packages from a dashboard. No tracking numbers necessary.

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EXHIBIT <u>3 page 242</u>

https://tools.usps.com/go/TrackConfirmAction?tLabels=9114901496450956102828

3/9/2017



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Ken Detzner Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

Final Notice Delivery Confirmation:

USPS TRACKING # 9114 9014 9645 0956 1029 58 & CUSTOMER RECEIPT or call 1-800-222-1811

February 2, 2017

Nicolas Garcia Candidate for State Representative, District 41 2547 Dale Ann Drive Haines City, FL 33844-3844

CAN 64977

Dear Mr. Garcia:

A recent review of the Division's records show that the Division has not yet received your termination report or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable.

The Division has previously notified you of the unfiled report or notification. Please file your report or notification. If the report or notification 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.

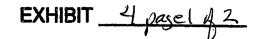
As we stated in the prior notices, even if you now file the report or notification, the untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida 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.

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

cc: Donna Fellows, Treasurer



The R A Gray Building-Room 316 • 500 South Bronough Street • Tallahassee FL 32399-0250 • (850) 245-6240

USPS.com® - USPS Tracking



Postal Product:



Tracking Number: 9114901496450956102958

Product & Tracking Information

Features:

USPS Tracking®

Email Updates DATE & TIME STATUS OF ITEM LOCATION February 4, 2017, 12:57 Delivered, In/At Mailbox HAINES CITY, FL 33844 pm Your item was delivered in or at the mailbox at 12:57 pm on February 4, 2017 in HAINES CITY, FL 33844. LAKELAND, FL 33805 February 4, 2017, 2:50 am Departed USPS Facility February 3, 2017, 9:28 pm Arrived at USPS Facility LAKELAND, FL 33805 February 3, 2017, 8:37 pm Departed USPS Facility TAMPA, FL 33605 February 3, 2017, 5:12 pm Arrived at USPS Facility TAMPA, FL 33605 February 2, 2017, 10:29 pm Arrived at USPS Facility TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301

Track Another Package

Tracking (or receipt) number

Track If

Manage Incoming Packages

Track all your packages from a dashboard. No tracking numbers necessary.

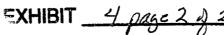
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https://tools.usps.com/go/TrackConfirmAction.action?tRef=fullpage&tLc=1&text28777=&t... 3/8/2017



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Available Actions

Text Updates

 Get Easy Tracking Updates > Sign up for My USPS.

501605576

w compliancesystems com

ACCOUNT INFORMATION CHECKING ACCOUNT



ny shudhur (Cu-

4508 WINTER HAVEN BRANCH 1606 IST STREET SOUTH WINTER HAVEN FL 33880

ACCOUNT TITLE AND ADDRESS

NICOLAS GARCIA CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT

PO BOX 3013 DAVENPORT, FL 33836

ACCOUNT OPEN DATE	ACCOUNT NUMBER	OWNERSHIP TYPE	PRODUCT NAME	INITIAL DEPOSIT
October 21, 2015		Corporation	0900 BUSINESS CK	

BUSINESS ENTITY INFORMATION

Name:	NICOLAS GARCIA CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT
Address:	2547 DALE ANN DR
	HAINES CITY, FL 33844
Contact Name:	DONNA P FELLOWS- COFFEY
Contact Title:	TREASURER/AUTHORIZED SIGNER
Contact Phone:	(863)353-2627 Ext.: 10000
E-Mail Address:	DONNAFELLOWS@FELLOWSTRUCKING.COM

 Business Filing State:
 FL

 Nature of Business:
 POLITICAL

 Resolution Date:
 October 13, 2015

 Business does not engage in Internet Gambling.

DEFINITIONS. "You," "your," and "account owner" refer to the Customer, whether or not there are one or more Customers named on the account, and the terms "we," "us," and "our" refer to the Bank, CENTENNIAL BANK.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT PROCEDURES FOR OPENING A NEW ACCOUNT

To help the government fight the funding of terrorism and money laundering activates. Lederal law requires all thinkeau is tuna lobtain, verify, and record information that identifies each person who opens an account.

What this means for you: When you open an account, we will ask for your name, address, date of birth, and other information that will allow us to identify you. We may also ask to see your driver's license or other identifying documents.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT. By signing this document, you acknowledge that you have opened the type of account designated above. The undersigned certify that all information provided to the Bank is true and accurate. As the account is in the name of a business entity, you acknowledge that you are acting on behalf of the business entity, and with respect to which you have legal authority to transact business. Your signature acknowledges the receipt of the appropriate Account Agreement for the type of account designated above and that you agree to be bound by the Account Agreement. You acknowledge that you have received a Funds Availability Policy Disclosure. You have also received a copy of our Privacy Policy, if one was not previously provided to you. All signers authorize this Bank to make inquiries from any consumer reporting agency, including a check protection service, in connection with this account. You also acknowledge that you have requested a change to your account and the terms of the Account Agreement and the Disclosures related to your existing account have been revised in their entirety effective on March 11, 2016.

One Signer Required for Withdrawals

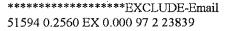
NICOLAS GARCIA CAMPAIGN ACCOL 3-14-16 By: DONNA P FELLOWS- COFFEY Its: TREASURER/AUTHORIZED SIGNER

45 2001-2015 Compliance Systems, Inc. 66690607-096d1368 - 2015 5.2.1042 Account Information - Checking Account DDM002

Page 1 of 2

EXHIBIT <u>5 page 1 ml</u>





NICOLAS GARCIA CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT PO BOX 3013 DAVENPORT FL 33836



IMAGES 1 CYCLE-031

*** CHECKING	0900 BUSINESS CK		
ACCOUNT NUMBER			
PREVIOUS STATEN	ENT BALANCE AS OF 07/31/16	765.67	
PLUS 1	DEPOSITS AND OTHER CREDITS	1,000.00	
LESS 2	CHECKS AND OTHER DEBITS	713.74	
CURRENT STATEME	NT BALANCE AS OF 08/31/16	1,051.93	
NUMBER OF DAYS	IN THIS STATEMENT PERIOD 31	<u>,</u>	
		-	

	CHECKING ACCOUNT TRANSACTIONS	•	,	
DATE	DESCRIPTION	DEBITS	CREDITS	
08/10	CKCD DEBIT 7176 08/09 00:00 ' HAINES CITY CHAMBER OF 0863 FL	175.00		
,	DEPOSIT		1,000.00	
08/30	CKCD DEBIT 7176 08/29 00:00 VOICEBROADCASTINGCOM 817 46 TX	538.74		·
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~ 7 (117)	BALANCE BY DATE	DAT MICH		DATAMON

DATE	BALANCE	DATE	BALANCE	DATE	BALANCE	DATE	BALANCE
07/31	765.67	08/10	590.67	08/29	1,590.67	08/30	1,051.93

EXHIBIT <u>5 page 2</u> 17 <u>u</u> D

CHECKS AS FOLLOWS 8/29/16 - Zinus NAME DICOOS CONO 19 ADDRESS_ CRECRS DR TOTAL FROM OTHER EIDE SUBTOTAL 229-22-622 1 SIGNATURE_ 1000.00 08/29/2016 \$1,000.00 Long Street CHECKS 3

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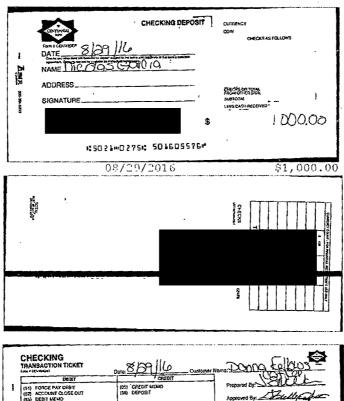
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2 of 2

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EXHIBIT <u>5 page 3 -17</u>



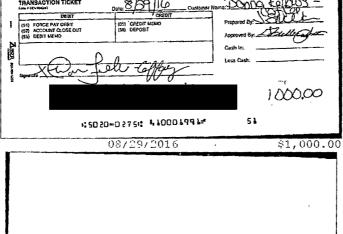


EXHIBIT 5 page 4 y 17

ABOUT YOUR ELE	CTR	DNIC TRANSFERS:		STAT	EMEN		ECONCII	LIATI	ON	
888-372-9788 as soon statement or receipt is information about a trans	as you s wron sfer on	the statement or receipt.			TO BALAN	CE YOU	S FORM JR CHECKBOO STATEMENT	ж		
We must hear from after we sent you the F error or problem appear (1) Tell us your name	IRST : ed.	statement on which the	OUTS	TANDIN	IG CHEC	CKS	OUTSTAN	IDING	CHEC	s
(if any). (2) Describe the erro about, and explayou you believe ther more information (3) Tell us the dollar	or or the ain as e is an amour	e transfer you are unsure clearly as you can why a error or why you need at of the suspected error.	NO.	\$			NO.	\$		
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vour account at least one	can ca	direct deposits made to y 60 days from the same ill us at 888-372-9788 to osit has been made.								
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BALANCE AS OF THIS STATEMENT		\$								
PLUS DEPOSITS NOT CREDITED ON THIS STATEMENT	I (+)	\$								
TOTAL	(=)	\$								
LESS TOTAL OF OUTSTANDING CHECKS	(-)	\$	<hr/>							
BALANCE	(=)	\$								
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HAVE ALL CHECKS WRITTEN AND OTHER WITHDRAWALS BEEN DEDUCTED FROM YOUR CHECKBOOK?

PLEASE ADVISE OF ANY CHANGES OF ADDRESS OR STATEMENT IRREGULARITY WITHIN 10 DAYS.

HAVE ALL CHARGES BEEN DEDUCTED FROM YOUR CHECKBOOK?

EXHIBIT <u>5 page 5 AL</u>?

CENTENNIAL BANK

NICOLAS GARCIA CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT PO BOX 3013 DAVENPORT FL 33836



IMAGES 1 CYCLE-031

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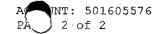
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SERIAL	DATE	AMOUNT	SERIAL	DATE	AMOUNT	SERIAL	DATE	AMOUNT
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· CHECKING ACCOUNT TRANSACTIONS		
DATE DESCRIPTION	DEBITS	CREDITS
09/01 CKCD DEBIT 7176 08/31 00:00 FACEBK 4QRFGAAEV2 650 61877 CA	191.67	
BALANCE BY DATE		C.

DATE	BALANCE	DATE	BALANCE	DATE	BALANCE	DATE	BALANCE
08/31	1,051.93	09/01	860.26	09/02	245.01		

EXHIBIT <u>5 page 6 1</u>7

5



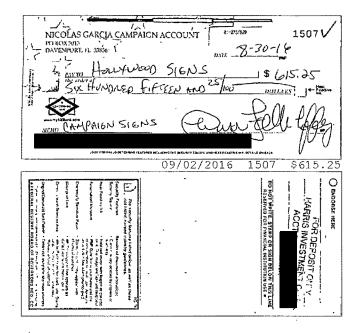


EXHIBIT <u>5 page 7 of 17</u>

ABOUT YOUR ELECTRONIC TRANSFERS:

WRITE US AT P.O. Box 966, Conway AR, 72033 or call WHITE US AT P.O. Box 966, Conway AH, 72033 or call 888-372-9788 as soon as you can, if you think your statement or receipt is wrong or if you need more information about a transfer on the statement or receipt. We must hear from you no later than 60 days after we sent you the FIRST statement on which the error or problem appeared.
(1) Tell us your name and account number (if any).
(2) Describe the error or the transfer you are unsure about and explain as clearly as you can why

MONTH _____

BALANCE AS OF THIS STATEMENT

PLUS DEPOSITS NOT CREDITED ON THIS STATEMENT

TOTAL

LESS TOTAL OF OUTSTANDING CHECKS

BALANCE

about, and explai you believe there more information.

(3) Tell us the dollar a We will investigate your of error promptly. If we take to do this, we will recredit you think is in error, so th money during the time investigation.

If you have arranged to your account at least once person or company you c find out whether that

STATEMENT RECONCILIATION

USE THIS FORM TO BALANCE YOUR CHECKBOOK WITH YOUR STATEMENT

OUTSTANDING CHECKS OUTSTANDING CHECKS

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THIS STATEMENT.		-				7-

IF YOUR ACCOUNT DOES NOT BALANCE, PLEASE CHECK THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY:

- HAVE YOU ENTERED THE AMOUNT OF EACH CHECK IN YOUR CHECKBOOK CORRECTLY?
- ARE ALL DEPOSIT AMOUNTS, INCLUDING INTEREST, ENTERED IN YOUR CHECKBOOK THE SAME AS SHOWN ON THIS STATEMENT?
- HAVE ALL CHARGES BEEN DEDUCTED FROM YOUR CHECKBOOK?
- HAVE YOU DOUBLE-CHECKED THE ADDITIONS AND SUBTRACTIONS IN YOUR CHECKBOOK?
- HAVE YOU BROUGHT THE CORRECT BALANCE FORWARD FROM ONE CHECKBOOK PAGE TO ANOTHER?
- HAVE ALL CHECKS WRITTEN AND OTHER WITHDRAWALS BEEN DEDUCTED FROM YOUR CHECKBOOK?

PLEASE ADVISE OF ANY CHANGES OF ADDRESS OR STATEMENT IRREGULARITY WITHIN 10 DAYS.

EXHIBIT _ 5 page st 1/7



NICOLAS GARCIA CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT PO BOX 3013 DAVENPORT FL 33836



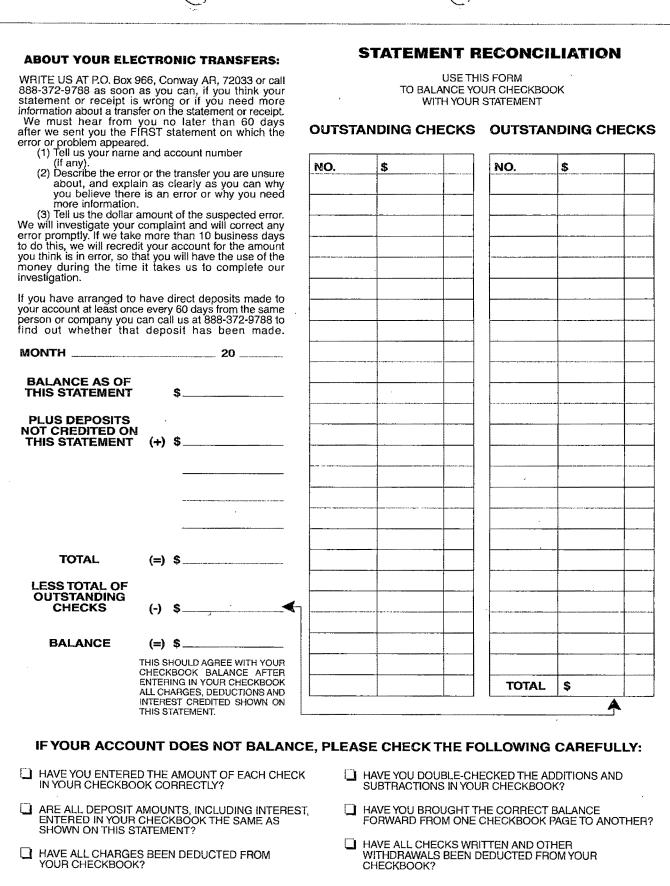
CYCLE-031

*** CHECKING *** 0900 BUSINESS CK	
ACCOUNT NUMBER	
PREVIOUS STATEMENT BALANCE AS OF 09/30/16	245.01
PLUS 0 DEPOSITS AND OTHER CREDITS	.00
LESS 0 CHECKS AND OTHER DEBITS	.00
CURRENT STATEMENT BALANCE AS OF 10/31/16	245.01
NUMBER OF DAYS IN THIS STATEMENT PERIOD 31	

BALANCE BY DATE

DATE	BALANCE	DATE	BALANCE	DATE	BALANCE	DATE	BALANCE
09/30	245.01						

EXHIBIT <u>5 page 9.9.17</u> • • -• 1



PLEASE ADVISE OF ANY CHANGES OF ADDRESS OR STATEMENT IRREGULARITY WITHIN 10 DAYS.

EXHIBIT 5 page 11 417



NICOLAS GARCIA CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT PO BOX 3013 DAVENPORT FL 33836



CYCLE-031

*** CHECKING *** 0900 BUSINESS CK	
ACCOUNT NUMBER	
PREVIOUS STATEMENT BALANCE AS OF 10/31/16	245.01
PLUS 0 DEPOSITS AND OTHER CREDITS	.00
LESS 0 CHECKS AND OTHER DEBITS	.00
CURRENT STATEMENT BALANCE AS OF 11/30/16	245.01
NUMBER OF DAYS IN THIS STATEMENT PERIOD 30	

BALANCE BY DATE

DATE	BALANCE	DATE	BALANCE	DATE	BALANCE	DATE	BALANCE
10/31	245.01				•		

EXHIBIT _____ 5 page 12 41?

ABOUT YOUR ELI	ECTRO	DNIC TRANSFERS:	S	TATEME	NT R	ECONCI	LIATIO	DN
888-372-9788 as soon statement or receipt i information about a tran	as you s wron sfer on	onway AR, 72033 or call u can, if you think your g or if you need more the statement or receipt.		TO BALA		S FORM JR CHECKBOO STATEMENT	Ж	
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MONTH								
BALANCE AS OF THIS STATEMENT		\$						
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PLEASE ADVISE	OF A	NY CHANGES OF AD	DRESS OR	STATEMENT	IRREG	ULARITY W	ITHIN 1	0 DAYS.

EXHIBIT <u>5 page 14 of 17</u>



NICOLAS GARCIA CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT PO BOX 3013 DAVENPORT FL 33836



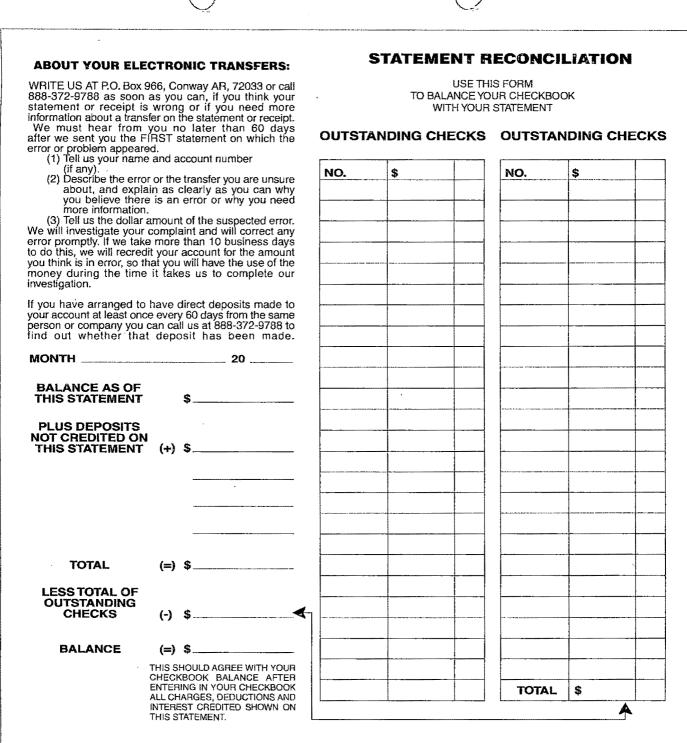
CYCLE-031

*** CHECKING *** 0900 BUSINESS CK	
ACCOUNT NUMBER	
PREVIOUS STATEMENT BALANCE AS OF 11/30/16	245.01
PLUS 0 DEPOSITS AND OTHER CREDITS	.00
LESS 0 CHECKS AND OTHER DEBITS	.00
CURRENT STATEMENT BALANCE AS OF 12/31/16	245.01
NUMBER OF DAYS IN THIS STATEMENT PERIOD 31	

#### BALANCE BY DATE

DATE	BALANCE	DATE	BALANCE	DATE	BALANCE	DATE	BALANCE
11/30	245.01						

EXHIBIT <u>5 page 15 1</u>7



#### IF YOUR ACCOUNT DOES NOT BALANCE, PLEASE CHECK THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY:

- HAVE YOU ENTERED THE AMOUNT OF EACH CHECK IN YOUR CHECKBOOK CORRECTLY?
- ARE ALL DEPOSIT AMOUNTS, INCLUDING INTEREST, ENTERED IN YOUR CHECKBOOK THE SAME AS SHOWN ON THIS STATEMENT?
- HAVE ALL CHARGES BEEN DEDUCTED FROM YOUR CHECKBOOK?
- HAVE YOU DOUBLE-CHECKED THE ADDITIONS AND SUBTRACTIONS IN YOUR CHECKBOOK?
- HAVE YOU BROUGHT THE CORRECT BALANCE FORWARD FROM ONE CHECKBOOK PAGE TO ANOTHER?
- □ HAVE ALL CHECKS WRITTEN AND OTHER WITHDRAWALS BEEN DEDUCTED FROM YOUR CHECKBOOK?

PLEASE ADVISE OF ANY CHANGES OF ADDRESS OR STATEMENT IRREGULARITY WITHIN 10 DAYS.

EXHIBIT 5 pase 17 g 17

Campaign Finance Activity - Division of Elections - Florida Department of State



Florida Department of State **Division of Elections** 

2016 General Election Nicolas Garcia (DEM) State Representative

# **Campaign Finance Activity**

**Note:** The information presented below was obtained from the Committee's/Candidate's Campaign Treasurer's Report filed with the Division of Elections. <u>About the Campaign Finance Data Base</u>.

		Contributions					
	Filing Period	Monetary	Loans	InKind	Expend	Other	Transfers
0	10/13/2015 - 10/31/2015	300.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	11/01/2015 - 11/30/2015	1,030.00	0.00	525.00	110.86	110.86	0.00
0	12/01/2015 - 12/31/2015	1,150.00	0.00	0.00	713.69	0.00	0.00
0	01/01/2016 - 01/31/2016	50.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	02/01/2016 - 02/29/2016	900.00	0.00	0.00	0.75	0.00	, 0.00
0	03/01/2016 - 03/31/2016	275.00	0.00	320.99	501.28	0.00	0.00
0	04/01/2016 - 04/30/2016	300.00	0.00	414.38	0.38	0.00	0.00
0	05/01/2016 - 05/31/2016	40.00	0.00	0.00	1.50	0.00	0.00
0	06/01/2016 - 06/24/2016	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,781.97	0.00	0.00
0	06/25/2016 - 07/08/2016	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	07/09/2016 - 07/22/2016	0.00	0.00	64.44	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	07/23/2016 - 07/29/2016	0.00	0.00	75.94	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ο	07/30/2016 - 08/05/2016	0.00	0.00	190.00	0.15	0.00	0.00
0	08/06/2016 - 08/12/2016	0.00	0.00	50.00	175.00	0.00	0.00
0	08/13/2016 - 08/25/2016	1,000.00	0.00	85.00	615.25	0.00	0.00
$   \mathbf{O} $	All Dates (Totals)	5,055.00	0.00	2,125.75	3,900.83	110.86	0.00

EXHIBIT <u>6 page 1 of 2</u> http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/cgi-bin/TreSel.exe Campaign Finance Activity - Division of Elections - Florida Department of State

Note: ^(E) indicates that report was filed electronically X Indicates that detail has not been released W Indicates that a waiver was filed and L Indicates that a loan report was filed

V

Select Detail Type

Select Sort Order Date(Ascending) Select Output Type

Submit Query Now

Query the Campaign Finance Data Base

[Department of State] [Division of Elections] [Candidates and Races] [Campaign Finance Information]

EXHIBIT Aleac 2

http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/cgi-bin/TreSel.exe

6/28/2018





# **Margie Wade**

From:	Willis, Kristi R. (Bronson) <kristi.willis@dos.myflorida.com></kristi.willis@dos.myflorida.com>
Sent:	Thursday, July 05, 2018 3:45 PM
То:	Margie Wade
Subject:	RE: 64977
	·

No, the report was never filed.

Thanks!

From: Margie Wade [mailto:Margie.Wade@myfloridalegal.com] Sent: Tuesday, July 03, 2018 8:34 AM To: Willis, Kristi R. (Bronson) <Kristi.Willis@DOS.MyFlorida.com> Subject: 64977

Hi Kristi,

I am following up on a referral on Nicolas Garcia, account number 64977. Did he ever file his 2016 TR? If so, on what date? If he filed a TR, please provide a copy of the report.

Thanks for your assistance.

# Margie B.Wade

Investigation Specialist Florida Elections Commission 107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224 Tallahassee, Florida 32399 850.922.4539 ex. 113 (phone) 850.921.0783 (fax)

> The Department of State is committed to excellence. Please take our <u>Customer Satisfaction Survey</u>.



EXHIBIT

7



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT Of STATE

RICK SCOTT Governor KEN DETZNER Secretary of State

(

October 14, 2015

Nicolas Garcia 2547 Dale Ann Drive Haines City, Florida 33844

Dear Mr. Garcia:

This will acknowledge receipt of the Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for the office of State Representative, which was placed on file in our office on October 13, 2015. Your name has been placed on the 2016 active candidate list.

# Campaign Treasurer's Reports

Your first campaign treasurer's report will be due on **November 10, 2015**. The report will cover the period of October 1-31, 2015 (M10). All candidates who file reports with the Division of Elections are required to file by means of the Division's Electronic Filing System (EFS).

## **Credentials and Sign-ons**

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

EFS Website Address: https://efs.dos.state.fl.us Identification Number: 64977



Division of Elections R.A. Gray Building, Suite 316 • 500 South Bronough Street • Tallahassee, Florida 32399 850.245.6240 • 850.245.6260 (Fax) dos.myflorida.com/elections/ Promoting Florida's History and Culture VivaFlorida.org EXHIBIT & Mar. (A3





Nicholas Garcia October 14, 2015 Page Two

#### Pin Numbers

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

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

## **Timely Filing**

All reports filed must be completed and filed through the EFS not later than midnight of the due date. Reports not filed by midnight of the due date are late filed and subject to the penalties in Section 106.07(8), Florida Statutes. In the event that the EFS is inoperable on the due date, the report will be accepted as timely filed if filed no later than midnight of the first business day the EFS becomes operable. No fine will be levied during the period the EFS was inoperable.

Any candidate failing to file a report on the designated due date shall be subject to a fine of \$50 per day for the first 3 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 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 candidate and campaign treasurer and such persons are subject to the provisions of Section 106.07(5), Florida Statutes.

EXHIBIT 8 page 2 1)



Nicholas Garcia October 14, 2015 Page Three

# Instructions and Assistance

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

All of the Division's publications and reporting forms are available on the Division of Elections' website at <u>http://dos.mvflorida.com/elections/</u>. 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: Chapters 104 and 106, Florida Statutes, *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook*, *Calendar of Reporting Dates*, and Rule 1S-2.017, Florida Administrative Code.

Please let me know if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

dB-An

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

KRB/js

Enclosures

pc: Donna Fellows, Treasurer

EXHIBIT 8 paye 313

# 2016 Candidate & Campaign Treasurer Handbook

EXFIBIT

Dase

Florida Department of State Division of Elections R. A. Gray Building, Room 316 500 South Bronough Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250 850.245,6240

(Rev. 01/22/16)

# Candidate & Campaign Treasurer Hanuvook

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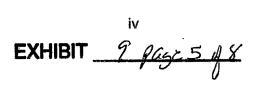
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# Chapter 1: Background

The information contained in this publication is intended as a quick reference guide only and is current upon publication. To the extent that this handbook covers material beyond that contained in law or rule, the Division of Elections (Division) offers such material to candidates as guidelines. Chapters 97-106, Florida Statutes, the Constitution of the State of Florida, Division of Elections' opinions and rules, Attorney General opinions, county charters, city charters and ordinances, and other sources should be reviewed in their entirety for complete information regarding campaign financing and qualifying.

In addition, the following publications produced by the Division should be reviewed for further information:

- State Qualifying Handbook
- Candidate Petition Handbook
- Candidate Electronic Filing System
   User's Guide
- Calendar of Reporting Dates

All forms and publications mentioned in this handbook are available on the Division's website at:

# http://dos.myflorida.com/elections/formspublications/

Other helpful websites are:

# **Florida Elections Commission:**

http://www.fec.state.fl.us

**Florida Elected Officials:** 

http://dos.myflorida.com/elections/con tacts/elected-officials/

#### **Florida Supervisors of Elections:**

http://dos.myflorida.com/elections/contact s/supervisor-of-elections/

## Florida Association of City Clerks:

http://www.floridaclerks.org

Florida Attorney General:

http://myfloridalegal.com

**Federal Election Commission:** 

http://www.fec.gov

1

# Chapter 17: Termination Reports

Once a candidate withdraws, becomes unopposed, is eliminated, or elected to office, he or she may **only** expend funds from the campaign account to:

- Purchase "thank you" advertising for up to 75 days after he or she withdraws, becomes unopposed, is eliminated, or elected to office.
- Pay for items which were obligated before he or she withdrew, became unopposed, was eliminated, or elected to office.
- Pay for expenditures necessary to close down the campaign office and to prepare final campaign reports.

 Dispose of surplus funds as provided in Section <u>106.141</u>, F.S.

(Section <u>106.11(5)</u>, F.S.)

Because individuals who seek election to a political party executive committee are not "candidates," they do not file termination reports.

# Prior to Disposing of Surplus Funds

A candidate may be reimbursed by the campaign for any previously reported contributions by the candidate to the campaign, in full or in part.

A candidate who filed an oath stating that he or she was unable to pay the fee for verification of petition signatures without imposing an undue burden on his or her personal resources or on resources otherwise available to him or her, must reimburse the state or local government entity, whichever is applicable, for such waived fee prior to disposing of any funds under the surplus provisions contained in Section 106.141(4), F.S.

(Section <u>106.141</u>, F.S.)

# **Disposing of Surplus Funds**

Once a candidate withdraws, becomes unopposed, is eliminated, or elected to office, the candidate must dispose of the funds on deposit in his or her campaign account and file a campaign treasurer's report (termination report) reflecting the disposition of funds.

A candidate required to dispose of surplus funds must, at the option of the candidate; dispose of such funds within 90 days by any of the following means, or a combination thereof:

- 1. Return pro rata to each contributor the funds that have not been spent or obligated.
- 2. Donate the funds that have not been spent or obligated to a charitable organization or organizations that meet the qualifications of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- 3. Give not more than \$25,000 of the funds that have not been spent or obligated to the political party of which such candidate is a member.

51

EXHIBIT <u>9 page 7 of 8</u>

- 4. Give the funds that have not been spent or obligated:
  - a. In the case of a candidate for state office, to the state to be deposited in the General Revenue Fund; or
  - b. In the case of a candidate for office of a political subdivision, to such political subdivision, to be deposited in the general fund thereof.
- 5. Transfer funds to an office account (See <u>Chapter 20, Office Accounts</u>).
- 6. In the case of a candidate elected to state office, retain up to \$20,000 in the campaign account for re-election to the same office. (See <u>Chapter 21</u>, <u>Carryover</u> <u>Campaign Funds</u>)

The termination report must include:

- The name and address of each person or unit of government to whom any of the funds were distributed and the amounts thereof;
- The name and address of each person to whom an expenditure was made together with the amount and purpose; and
- 3. The amount of such funds transferred to an office account together with the name and address of the bank in which the office account is located.

If a refund check is received after all surplus funds have been disposed of, the check may be endorsed by the candidate and the refund disposed of pursuant to Section <u>106.141</u>, F.S. An amended termination report must be filed with the filing officer.

All reports must be signed by the candidate and the campaign treasurer and certified as true and correct.

(Section <u>106.141</u>, F.S.)

# Money from Separate Interest-Bearing Account or Certificate of Deposit

A campaign treasurer of any candidate who withdraws, becomes unopposed, or is eliminated, or elected to office, and who has funds on deposit in any interest-bearing account or certificate of deposit, must, within seven days, transfer such funds and accumulated interest earned thereon to the primary campaign account for disposal. However, when funds are in an account in which penalties will apply for withdrawal within the seven day period, the campaign treasurer must transfer such funds and accumulated interest earned thereon as soon as the funds can be withdrawn without penalty, or within 90 days after the candidate becomes unopposed, withdraws his or her candidacy, or is elected, or eliminated, whichever comes first.

(Section <u>106.141</u>, F.S.)

# **Campaign Loans Report**

A person elected to office must report all loans, exceeding \$500 in value, made to him or her and used for campaign purposes, and made in the twelve months preceding his or her election to office, to the filing officer. The report must be made on *Forms <u>DS-DE 73</u> and <u>73A</u>, Campaign Loan Report* within ten

52 EXHIBIT <u>9 page 8 98</u>

# STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE

(Section 106.023, F.S.) (Please print or type) 2015 OCT 13 AM 9: 22

BEPAN MENT

OFFICE USE ONLY RECEIVED

LTERNE PROPER

# I, Nicolas Garcia

candidate for the office of Florida House of Representatives District 41

have been provided access to read and understand the requirements of

Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.

X Nicolon Signature of Candidate

_____

10/9/1

Each candidate must file a statement with the qualifying officer within 10 days after the Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository is filed. Willful failure to file this form is a first degree misdemeanor and a civil violation of the Campaign Financing Act which may result in a fine of up to \$1,000, (ss. 106.19(1)(c), 106.265(1), Florida Statutes).

DS-DE 84 (05/11)

EXHIBIT 1D



FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION 107 W. Gaines Street, Suite 224 Collins Building Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050 Telephone: (850) 922-4539 Fax: (850) 921-0783 www.fec.state.fl.us; fec@myfloridalegal.com

April 24, 2018

Nicholas Garcia 2547 Dale Ann Drive Hines City, FL 33844-3844

## RE: Case No.: FEC 17-103; Respondent: Nicholas Garcia

Dear Mr. Garcia:

On March 14, 2017, the Florida Elections Commission received a complaint alleging that you violated Florida's election laws. I have reviewed the complaint and find that it contains one or more **legally sufficient allegations**. The Commission staff will investigate the following alleged violations:

Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2016 candidate for State Representative, may have failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because he had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2016 termination reporting period.

Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2016 candidate for State Representative, failed to timely file his 2016 Termination Report reflecting the disposition of all remaining campaign funds.

Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2016 candidate for State Representative, may have falsely reported or deliberately failed to include information in one or more campaign reports.

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 make a written recommendation (Staff Recommendation or SR) to the Commission as to whether there is probable cause to charge 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

 $\bigcirc$ 

Nicholas Garcia April 24, 2018 Page 2 FEC 17-103

of the fine to be imposed. You and the complainant will receive notice at least 14 days before any hearing at which your case is to be considered.

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

For additional information, please refer to the "Frequently Asked Questions" section of the Commission's website (<u>www.fec.state.fl.us</u>).

If you have additional questions, please contact Margie Wade, the investigator assigned to this case at extension 113.

Sincerely, Amy McKeever Toman Executive Director

AMT/enr

	DIVISION OF ELECTIONS	RECEIVED		
	<b>FEC NOTICE FORM</b> To FEC from Division of Elections	2017 MAR I GI P 2:58 STATE OFFLORIDA		
Name: Account Number: Treasurer:	Nicolas Garcia 64977 Donna Fellows			

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, Florida Statutes. An apparent violation of Chapter 106, F.S., has occurred based upon the candidate's alleged failure to file a report after notice as required by section 106.07(8)(d), Florida Statutes, or failure to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report was to be filed as required by Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes.

The following report or notice is outstanding after notification:

2016 TR

Sent By: Kristi Reid Bronson Date: March 13, 2017

njt

# AFFIDAVIT

## **STATE OF FLORIDA**

# **County of Leon**

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

- 1. I am the Chief of the Bureau of Election Records of the Division of Elections (Division). In that capacity, I oversee the Division's duties related to the filing of campaign finance reports.
- 2. This affidavit is made upon my personal knowledge, including information obtained from review of the attached records, of which I am the custodian.
- 3. I am of legal age and competent to testify to the matters stated herein.
- 4. Nicolas Garcia (64977) is a 2016 candidate for the office of State Representative, District 41.
- 5. On October 13, 2015, Mr. Garcia filed the Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository with the Division. Mr. Garcia appointed Donna Fellows as treasurer. (See attached documents and acknowledgment letter.)
- 6. The 2016 TR campaign treasurer's report was due on November 28, 2016. On November 29, 2016, the Division mailed Ms. Fellows notification that the 2016 TR treasurer's report had not been filed. (See attached letter.)
- 7. On January 12, 2017, the Division mailed Ms. Fellows final notification with delivery confirmation that the 2016 TR treasurer's report had not been filed. (See attached letter with delivery confirmation.)
- 8. On February 2, 2017, the Division mailed Mr. Garcia final notification with delivery confirmation that the 2016 TR treasurer's report had not been filed. (See attached letter with delivery confirmation.)
- 9. Mr. Garcia did not notify the Division of Elections prior to or on the prescribed reporting date for the 2016 TR report that no report was to be filed.

10. As of March 13, 2017, Mr. Garcia has not filed the 2016 TR report.

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

id D Signature of Affiant

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this 13th day of March, 2017.

Signature of Notary Public - State of Florida

Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public

Personally Known



APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER	RECEIVELD DEPARTMENT TO AND
AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN	2015 OCT 13 AM 9: 22
DEPOSITORY FOR CANDIDATES (Section 106.021(1), F.S.)	
(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)	
NOTE: This form must be on file with the qualifying officer before opening the campaign account.	OFFICE USE Of
1. CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX(ES):	
	reasurer/Deputy Depository Office P
2. Name of Candidate (in this order: First, Middle, Last)	3. Address (include post office box or street, city, state, zip code)
Nicolas Garcia 4. Telephone 5. E-mail address	2547 Dale Ann Dr.
(863) 588-5741 nicolasgar cigf @qmail.com	Haines City, FL 33844
6. Office sought (include district, circuit, group number)	7. If a candidate for a <u>nonpartisan</u> office, check i
Florida House of Representatives Di	applicable:       Strict 4         My intent is to run as a Write-In candida
8. If a candidate for a <u>partisan</u> office, check block and fill	
Write-In 🗌 No Party Affiliation 🛛 Demo	Party candidate.
9. I have appointed the following person to act as my	Campaign Treasurer Deputy Treasurer
10. Name of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer	
Donna Fellows	
T F RASHING AUTOAS	12 Telephone
11. Mailing Address PO Box 3013	(863) = 287 - 5639
PO Box 3013 13. City 14. County 15. Sta	(863) 287-5639 ate 16. Zip Code 17. E-mail address
PO Box 3013 13. City 14. County 15. Sta	ate 16. Zip Code 17. E-mail address 33836 donnafellowsofellowstrucking.
PO Box 3013 13. City Daven port 14. County Polk FL 18. I have designated the following bank as my 19. Name of Bank	(863) 287-5639 ate 16. Zip Code 17. E-mail address 33836 donnafe llows of fellows trucking.( Primary Depository Secondary Depository 20. Address
PO Box 3013 13. City Daven port 14. County POIK FL 18. I have designated the following bank as my 19. Name of Bank Centennial Bank	(863) 287-5639 ate 16. Zip Code 17. E-mail address 33836 donnafe llows of fellows trucking. Primary Depository Secondary Depository 20. Address 1606 1st Street South
PO Box 3013 13. City Daven port 14. County Polk FL 18. I have designated the following bank as my 19. Name of Bank <u>Centennial Bank</u> 21. City 22. County	(863) 287-5639 ate 16. Zip Code 17. E-mail address 33836 donnafe llows of fellows trucking.( Primary Depository Secondary Depository 20. Address
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PO Box 3013 13. City Davlen port 14. County Polk FL 18. I have designated the following bank as my 19. Name of Bank <u>Centennia</u> Bank <u>Centennia</u> Bank 21. City Winter Haven Polk UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, I DECLARE THAT I HAVE READ THIS DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN DEPOSITORY 25. Date 10/9/15 27. Treasurer's Acceptance of Appointment 1, Donna Fellows	(863) 287-5639         ate       16. Zip Code       17. E-mail address         33836       downafellowsofellowstrucking.         Primary Depository       Secondary Depository         20. Address       1606       1st Street South         23. State       24. Zip Code         FL       3880         E FOREGOING FORM FOR APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER / AND THAT THE FACTS STATED IN IT ARE TRUE.         26. Signature of Candidate         X       Nicolas         Juncing         (fill in the blanks and check the appropriate block)        , do hereby accept the appointment



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT Of STATE

RICK SCOTT Governor **KEN DETZNER** Secretary of State

October 14, 2015

Nicolas Garcia 2547 Dale Ann Drive Haines City, Florida 33844

Dear Mr. Garcia:

This will acknowledge receipt of the Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for the office of State Representative, which was placed on file in our office on October 13, 2015. Your name has been placed on the 2016 active candidate list.

# Campaign Treasurer's Reports

Your first campaign treasurer's report will be due on **November 10, 2015**. The report will cover the period of October 1-31, 2015 (M10). All candidates who file reports with the Division of Elections are required to file by means of the Division's Electronic Filing System (EFS).

#### Credentials and Sign-ons

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

EFS Website Address: https://efs.dos.state.fl.us Identification Number: 64977



Division of Elections R.A. Gray Building, Suite 316 • 500 South Bronough Street • Tallahassee, Florida 32399 850.245.6240 • 850.245.6260 (Fax) dos.myflorida.com/elections/ Promoting Florida's History and Culture VivaFlorida.org



Nicholas Garcia October 14, 2015 Page Two

#### Pin Numbers

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

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

#### **Timely Filing**

All reports filed must be completed and filed through the EFS not later than midnight of the due date. Reports not filed by midnight of the due date are late filed and subject to the penalties in Section 106.07(8), Florida Statutes. In the event that the EFS is inoperable on the due date, the report will be accepted as timely filed if filed no later than midnight of the first business day the EFS becomes operable. No fine will be levied during the period the EFS was inoperable.

Any candidate failing to file a report on the designated due date shall be subject to a fine of \$50 per day for the first 3 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 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 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 candidate and campaign treasurer and such persons are subject to the provisions of Section 106.07(5), Florida Statutes.





Nicholas Garcia October 14, 2015 Page Three

# Instructions and Assistance

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

All of the Division's publications and reporting forms are available on the Division of Elections' website at <u>http://dos.myflorida.com/elections/</u>. 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: Chapters 104 and 106, Florida Statutes, *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer 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 Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

KRB/js

Enclosures

pc: Donna Fellows, Treasurer



# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Ken Detzner Secretary of State DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

November 29, 2016

Donna Fellows, Treasurer Post Office Box 3013 Davenport, FL 33836-3836

Dear Ms. Fellows:

Our records indicate that you have not filed either your termination report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable. The filing date was November 28, 2016.

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 \$50 per day until you file your report. 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,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

cc: Nicolas Garcia Candidate for State Representative, District 41 CAN 64977



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Ken Detzner Secretary of State

# DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

Final Notice USPS TRACKIN Delivery Confirmation: & CUSTOMER RECEIPT

USPS TRACKING # 9114 9014 9645 0956 1028 28 8 CUSTOMER RECEIPT or tracking or inquintes go to USPS.com or call 1-800-222-1811

January 12, 2017

Donna Fellows, Treasurer Post Office Box 3013 Davenport, FL 33836-3836

CAN 64977

Dear Ms. Fellows:

A recent review of the Division's records show that the Division has not yet received your termination report or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable.

The Division has previously notified you of the unfiled report or notification. Please file your report or notification. If the report or notification 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,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

cc: Nicolas Garcia

Candidate for State Representative, District 41

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January 13, 2017 , 2:21 pm	Arrived at USPS Facility	TAMPA, FL 33605		
January 12, 2017 , 8:41 pm	Arrived at USPS Facility	TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301		
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3/9/2017



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Ken Detzner Secretary of State

# DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

Final Notice Delivery Confirmation:

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February 2, 2017

Nicolas Garcia Candidate for State Representative, District 41 2547 Dale Ann Drive Haines City, FL 33844-3844

CAN 64977

Dear Mr. Garcia:

A recent review of the Division's records show that the Division has not yet received your termination report or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable.

The Division has previously notified you of the unfiled report or notification. Please file your report or notification. If the report or notification 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,

Kristi Reid Bronson, Chief Bureau of Election Records

cc: Donna Fellows, Treasurer

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