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STATE OF FLORIDA
ELECTIONS COMMISSION

**STATE OF FLORIDA
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

**Florida Elections Commission,
Petitioner,**

v.

**Vicki Hass,
Respondent.**

**Agency Case No.: FEC 14-017
F.O. No.: FOFEC 15-020W**

FINAL ORDER

THIS MATTER was heard at an informal hearing held before the Florida Elections Commission (Commission) on February 24, 2015.

APPEARANCES

For Commission	Jaakan A Williams Assistant General Counsel 107 West Gaines Street Collins Building, Suite 224 Tallahassee, FL 32399
For Respondent	No appearance

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE

Whether Respondent violated Section 106 07(2)(b)1 , Florida Statutes, as alleged in the Order of Probable Cause.

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

On January 16, 2014, the Commission received a referral from the Division of Elections

alleging violations of Florida's election laws. Staff of the Commission conducted an investigation to determine whether the facts alleged in the complaint constituted probable cause to believe that Respondent violated the Florida Election Code

On August 15, 2014, staff recommended to the Commission that there was probable cause to believe that the Florida Election Code was violated. On October 29, 2014, the Commission entered an Order of Probable Cause finding that there was probable cause to charge Respondent with the following violations:

Count 1:

On or about November 25, 2013, Vicki Hass violated Section 106.07(2)(b)1., Florida Statutes, when she failed to make required amendments to Florida GMO Labeling Campaign PAC's 2013 M10 Report.

Count 2:

On or about December 26, 2013, Vicki Hass violated Section 106.07(2)(b)1, Florida Statutes, when she failed to make required amendments to Florida GMO Labeling Campaign PAC's 2013 M11 Report.

Respondent did not timely elect to have a formal administrative hearing before an administrative law judge from the Division of Administrative Hearings and, therefore, the matter was set for an informal hearing before the Commission. At the informal hearing, the Commission adopted the undisputed facts set forth in the Staff's Recommendation as its findings of fact.

Respondent did not appear at the informal hearing.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent was the treasurer, chair, and registered agent for Florida GMO Labeling Campaign ("FGLC PAC"), a political committee currently registered with the Division of Elections.

2. Respondent timely filed the committee's 2013 M10 Report on November 12, 2013; however, the report was incomplete.

3. By letters dated November 15, 2013, December 5, 2013, and December 17, 2013, the Division informed Respondent that the committee's 2013 M10 Report was incomplete and required an amendment. The December 17, 2013 letter also informed Respondent that the committee's 2013 M11 Report was incomplete and required an amendment, and that letter was sent via certified mail with delivery confirmed on December 21, 2013.

4. According to Division of Elections staff, as of July 25, 2014, Respondent still had not filed an amended 2013 M10 Report or the 2013 M11 Report.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

5. The Commission has jurisdiction over the parties to and subject matter of this cause, pursuant to Section 106.26, Florida Statutes.

6. Respondent's conduct was willful. Respondent committed the acts while knowing that, or showing reckless disregard for whether the acts were prohibited, or failed to commit an act while knowing that or showing reckless disregard for whether the acts were required.

7. Respondent committed 2 counts of violating Section 106.07(2)(b)1, Florida Statutes, when she failed to make required amendments to Florida GMO Labeling Campaign PAC's 2013 M10 Report and the 2013 M11 Report after receiving notice from the Division that both reports required an amendment.

8. In determining the amount of the civil penalty, the Commission considered the mitigating and aggravating circumstances set forth in Section 106.265, Florida Statutes.

ORDER

The Commission finds that Respondent has violated the following provision of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.

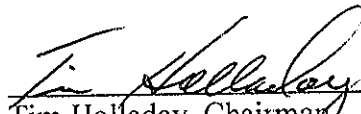
A. Respondent violated Section 106.07(2)(b)1., Florida Statutes, on 2 occasions when she failed to make required amendments to Florida GMO Labeling Campaign PAC's 2013 M10 Report and the 2013 M11 Report.

B. The Commission imposes a fine of \$1,500 for these violations.

Therefore it is

ORDERED that Respondent shall remit a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,500, inclusive of fees and costs. The civil penalty shall be paid to the Florida Elections Commission, Collins Building, Suite 224, 107 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, within 30 days of the date this Final Order is filed with the Commission and must be paid by money order, cashier's check or attorney trust account check.

DONE AND ORDERED by the Florida Elections Commission on February 24, 2015.



Tim Holladay, Chairman
Florida Elections Commission

Copies furnished to:
Jaakan A. Williams, Assistant General Counsel
Vicki Hass, Respondent
Division of Elections, Complainant

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

This order is final agency action. Any party who is adversely affected by this order has the right to seek judicial review pursuant to Section 120.68, Florida Statutes, by filing a notice of administrative appeal pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure, with the Clerk of the Florida Elections Commission at 107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224, Collins Building, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050 and by filing a copy of the notice of appeal with the appropriate district court of appeal. The party must attach to the notice of appeal a copy of this order and include with the notice of appeal filed with the district court of appeal the applicable filing fees. **The notice of administrative appeal must be filed within 30 days of the date of this order is filed with the Commission.** The date this order was filed appears in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of the order.