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STATE OF FLORIDA FLECTIONS COMMISSION

## STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In Re: Robert A. Thomas	Case No.: FEC 14-186
	F.O. No.: FOFEC 15-134 W

### **CONSENT FINAL ORDER**

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

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On July 15, 2014, a complaint was filed with the Commission alleging that Respondent violated Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.
- 2. Respondent expressed a desire to enter into negotiations directed toward reaching a consent agreement.
  - 3. Respondent and the staff stipulate to the following facts:
    - a. Respondent was treasurer for IBEW Local Union No. 108 PAC Fund, a political committee currently registered with the Division of Elections.
    - b. During the 2014 election cycle, Respondent failed to make timely amendments to the committee's 2014 M3 Report after receiving notice from the Division that the report was incomplete.
    - c. On July 21, 2014, after having receiving two written notices from the Division, Respondent, acting as treasurer for the committee, filed a complete amended 2014 M3 Report.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 4. The Commission has jurisdiction over the parties to and subject matter of this cause, pursuant to Section 106.26, Florida Statutes.
- 5. Section 106.25(4)(i)3., Florida Statutes, allows the Commission to approve a consent agreement with a Respondent prior to the Commission finding probable cause that a violation of the election laws occurred. The consent agreement has the same force and effect as a consent agreement reached after the Commission finds probable cause.

#### **ORDER**

- 6. The Respondent and the staff of the Commission have entered into this Consent Order voluntarily and upon advice of counsel.
- 7. The parties shall each bear its own attorney's fees and costs that are in any way associated with this case.
  - 8. The Commission will consider the Consent Order at its next available meeting.
- 9. The Respondent voluntarily waives the right to any further proceedings under Chapters 104, 106, and 120, Florida Statutes, and the right to appeal the Consent Order.
- 10. This Consent Order is enforceable under Sections 106.265 and 120.69, Florida Statutes. Respondent expressly waives any venue privileges and agrees that if enforcement of this Consent Order is necessary, venue shall be in Leon County, Florida, and Respondent shall be responsible for all fees and costs associated with enforcement.
- 11. If the Commission does not receive the signed Consent Order and payment of the civil penalty by the close of business on May 1, 2015, the staff withdraws this offer of settlement and will proceed with the case.
  - 12. Payment of the civil penalty by cashier's check, money order, and good for at

least 120 days, or attorney trust account check is a condition precedent to the Commission's

consideration of the Consent Order.

**PENALTY** 

WHEREFORE, based upon the foregoing facts and conclusions of law, the Commission

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

and imposes the following fine:

A. Respondent has violated Section 106.07(2)(b)1., Florida Statutes, when he

failed to make timely amendments to the committee's 2014 M3 Report after receiving

notice from the Division that the report was incomplete. Respondent is fined \$100.00 for

the violation.

Therefore it is

ORDERED that the Respondent shall remit to the Commission a civil penalty in the

amount of \$100.00, inclusive of fees and costs. The civil penalty shall be paid by cashier's

check, money order, good for at least 120 days, or attorney trust account check. The civil penalty

should be made payable to the Florida Elections Commission and sent to 107 West Gaines

Street, Collins Building, Suite 224, Tallahassee, Florida, 32399-1050.

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

April 15, 2015, 2015.

Robert A. Thomas, Treasurer

IBEW Local Union No. 108 PAC

10108 Highway 92 East

Tampa, FL 33610-5981

Consent Order – Pre PC.docx (07/14) FEC Case # 14-186

May , 2015.	
	Jakan A. Williams
	Assistant General Counsel
	Florida Elections Commission
	107 West Gaines Street
	Collins Building, Suite 224
	Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050
Approved by the Florida Elections Com	mission at its regularly scheduled meeting held
on May 20 -21, 2015 in Tallahassee, Florida.	
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	rida Elections Commission
Copies furnished to:	, V
Jaakan A. Williams, Assistant General Counsel	

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

Robert A. Thomas, Respondent Division of Elections, Complainant PAY EXACTLY
PAY TO THE Flor Ida Elections (ommission

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