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STATE OF FLORIDA  
ELECTIONS COMMISSION

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

**In Re: Charlie Crist Campaign**

**Case No.: FEC 14-277**

**F.O. No.: FOFEC 15-031 W**

**CONSENT FINAL ORDER**

Respondent, Charlie Crist, 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 August 28, 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 a gubernatorial candidate for Florida Governor during the 2014 election cycle.
  - b. During Respondent's campaign, Respondent certified to the correctness of fifteen campaign treasurer reports that failed to include the occupation or principal type of business for campaign donors.
  - c. During Respondent's campaign, Respondent received three excessive cash contributions, all of which were returned prior to the filing of the complaint.
  - d. During Respondent's campaign, Respondent received multiple excessive campaign contributions, some of which were returned prior to the complaint being filed and the others returned shortly afterwards.

## **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 by the close of business on February 6, 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 provisions of Chapters 106, Florida Statutes, and imposes the following fines:

A. Respondent has violated Section 106.07(5), Florida Statutes, when he certified to the correctness of multiple campaign reports when they lacked the occupational and principal type of business information of the contributor. Respondent is fined \$375.00 for the violations.

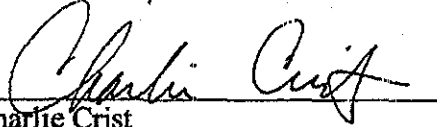
B. Respondent has violated Section 106.19(1)(a), Florida Statutes, when he accepted multiple campaign contributions that were excessive. Respondent is fined \$125.00 for the violation.

Therefore it is

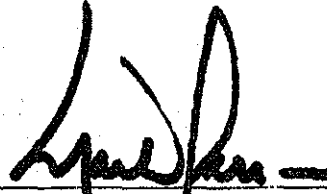
**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall remit to the Commission a civil penalty in the amount of \$500.00, inclusive of fees and costs. The civil penalty shall be paid by cashier's check, money order, good for at least 120 days, or attorney trust account check. The civil penalty should be made payable 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

February 3, ~~2014~~, 2015.



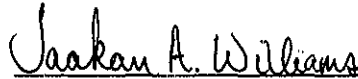
Charlie Crist  
1 Beach Drive  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701



Mark Herron  
Messer Capareto, P.A.  
P.O. Box 15579  
Tallahassee, FL 32317-5579

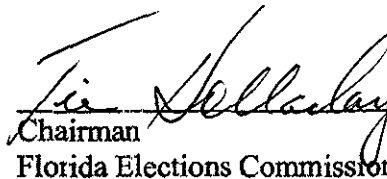
Commission staff hereby agrees and consents to the terms of this Consent Order on

Feb 11, 2015.



Jaakan 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 Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting held  
on February 24 -25, 2015 in Tallahassee, Florida.



Chairman  
Florida Elections Commission

Copies furnished to:  
Jaakan A. Williams, Assistant General Counsel  
Mark Herron, Respondent's Attorney  
Jonathan Torres, Complainant

ORIGINAL DOCUMENT PRINTED ON CHEMICAL REACTIVE PAPER WITH MICROPRINTED BORDER

MESSER CAPARELLO, P.A.  
TRUST ACCOUNT  
P.O. BOX 15579  
TALLAHASSEE FL 32317  
(850) 222-0720

CENTENNIAL BANK  
TALLAHASSEE FL 32301

13324

81-275/829

DATE	NUMBER	AMOUNT
02/06/2015	13324	****\$500 00

PAY

\*\*\* FIVE HUNDRED & 00/100 DOLLARS

Florida Elections Commission

MESSER CAPARELLO P.A

TO THE  
ORDER OF

*Norman Albertson*

SECURE  
SAFE GUARD  
SECURE  
SAFE GUARD



Printable on plastic