

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

**In Re: R. Gary Renfrow, Alliance for a  
Balanced Community, Lorraine  
Huhn, John Gottwald, and Save  
Our Little Village Inc.**

---

**Case Nos.: FEC 10-003, 10-004,  
10-005 and 10-006  
F.O. No.: FOFEC 11-067W**

**CONSENT FINAL ORDER**

The Respondents, R. Gary Renfrow, as treasurer of Alliance for a Balanced Community (“ABC”), Lorraine Huhn, John Gottwald, Save Our Little Village, Inc. (“SOLV”), and ABC, and Petitioner Florida Elections Commission (“Commission”), agree that this Consent Final Order resolves all of the issues between the parties in these cases. The parties jointly stipulate to the following facts, conclusions of law, and order:

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. On December 30, 2009, complaints were filed with the Commission alleging that Respondents, R. Gary Renfrow, as treasurer of ABC, Lorraine Huhn, John Gottwald, and SOLV violated Florida’s election laws
2. The Respondents expressed a desire to enter into negotiations directed toward reaching a consent agreement.
3. The Respondents and the staff stipulate to the following facts:
  - a. R. Gary Renfrow was the treasurer of ABC.
  - b. SOLV is a political committee duly registered with the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida.
  - c. Lorraine Huhn is the Chairperson of SOLV.
  - d. John Gottwald is the treasurer of SOLV.
  - e. Respondent, R. Gary Renfrow, certified on behalf of ABC that its 2007

Q4 campaign treasurer's report was true, correct, and complete. The report listed a \$15,000 expenditure to Cornerstone Strategy and Communication L.L.C. ("Cornerstone"). The expenditure was for a political survey performed by Cornerstone.

f. SOLV was given the survey's results but did not report the value of the survey as in-kind contribution on its 2007 Q4 report.

g. Additionally, SOLV incurred an expense for legal services without sufficient funds on deposit on the committee's primary depository account.

h. At all times pertinent to the allegations in the complaint, R. Gary Renfrow was acting on behalf of ABC.

i. At all times pertinent to the allegations in the complaint, Lorraine Huhn and John Gottwald were acting on behalf of SOLV.

#### **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.

6. The Commission staff and the Respondents stipulate that the Commission can prove facts by clear and convincing evidence establishing *prima facie* violations as set forth in paragraph three above.

#### **ORDER**

7. The Respondents and the staff of the Commission have entered into this Consent

Order voluntarily and upon advice of counsel.

8. The Respondents shall bear their own attorney fees and costs that are in any way associated with this case.

9. ABC shall be substituted as a party in place of R. Gary Renfrow.

10. Lorraine Huhn and John Gottwald shall be dismissed as respondents in this case.

11. The Commission will consider the Consent Order at its next available meeting.

12. The Respondents voluntarily waive the right to any further proceedings under Chapters 104, 106, and 120, Florida Statutes, and the right to appeal the Consent Order.

13. This Consent Order is enforceable under Sections 106.265 and 120.69, Florida Statutes. The Respondents expressly waive any venue privileges and agree that if enforcement of this Consent Order is necessary, venue shall be in Leon County, Florida, and Respondents shall be responsible for all fees and costs associated with enforcement.

14. If the Commission does not receive the signed Consent Order by April 15, 2011, the staff withdraws this offer of settlement and will proceed with the case.

15. Payment of the civil penalty by an attorney's trust account check or cashier's 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 imposes the following fines:

A. Respondent, ABC, has violated Section 106.07(5), Florida Statutes, on one occasion. ABC is fined \$500 for the violation.

B. Respondent, SOLV, has violated Section 106.11(4), Florida Statutes, on two occasions. Respondent is fined \$1,000 for each count for a total of \$2,000.

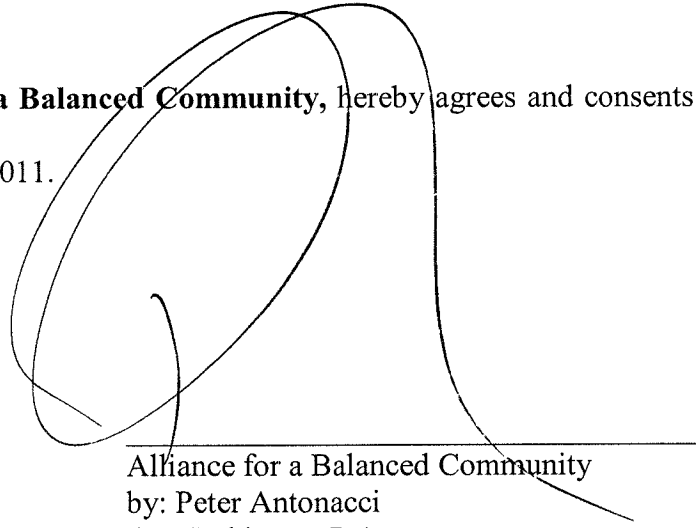
C. Respondent, SOLV, has violated Section 106.19(1)(b), Florida Statutes, on one occasion.<sup>1</sup> SOLV is fined \$9,500 for the violation.

Therefore it is **ORDERED** that

1. Respondent, ABC, shall remit to the Commission a civil penalty in the amount of \$500, inclusive of fees and costs not later than April 15, 2011. The civil penalty shall be paid by an attorney's trust account check or cashier's check to the Florida Elections Commission, 107 W. Gaines Street, Collins Building, Suite 224, Tallahassee, Florida, 32399-1050.

2. Respondent, SOLV, shall remit to the Commission a civil penalty in the amount of \$11,500, inclusive of fees and costs not later than April 15, 2011. The civil penalty shall be paid by an attorney's trust account check or cashier's check to the Florida Elections Commission, 107 W. Gaines Street, Collins Building, Suite 224, Tallahassee, Florida, 32399-1050.

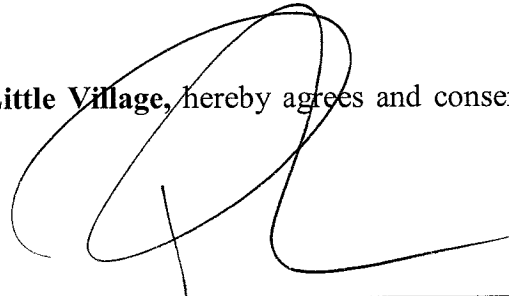
The **Respondent, Alliance for a Balanced Community**, hereby agrees and consents to the terms of this Order on April 15 2011.



Alliance for a Balanced Community  
by: Peter Antonacci  
GrayRobinson, P.A.  
301 South Bronough Street, Suite 600  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

<sup>1</sup> Violations of Section 106.19(1)(b), Florida Statutes, are subject to an enhanced civil penalty of up to three times the amount involved in the transaction. The amount involved in the transaction was \$15,000.

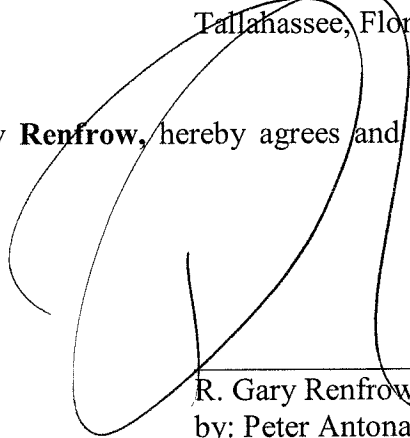
The Respondent, **Save our Little Village**, hereby agrees and consents to the terms of this Order on April 15 2011.



---

Save Our Little Village, Inc.,  
by: Peter Antonacci  
GrayRobinson, P.A.  
301 South Bronough Street, Suite 600  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

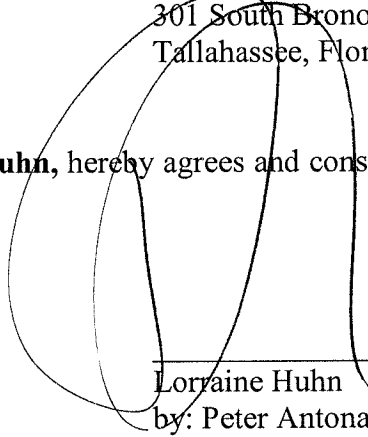
The Respondent, **R. Gary Renfrow**, hereby agrees and consents to the terms of this Order on April 15 2011.



---

R. Gary Renfrow  
by: Peter Antonacci  
GrayRobinson, P.A.  
301 South Bronough Street, Suite 600  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

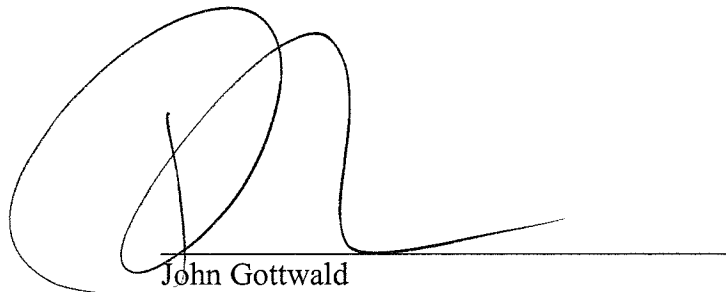
The Respondent, **Lorraine Huhn**, hereby agrees and consents to the terms of this Order on April 15 2011.



---

Lorraine Huhn  
by: Peter Antonacci  
GrayRobinson, P.A.  
301 South Bronough Street, Suite 600  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

The Respondent, **John Gottwald**, hereby agrees and consents to the terms of this Order on April 15 2011.



John Gottwald  
by: Peter Antonacci  
GrayRobinson, P.A.  
301 South Bronough Street, Suite 600  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

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

April 19, 2011.



Eric M. Lipman  
General Counsel  
Florida Elections Commission  
107 W. Gaines Streets  
Collins Building, Suite 224  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050

Approved by the Florida Elections Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting held  
on May 10, 2011, in Tallahassee, Florida.



Jose Luis Rodriguez  
Vice-Chair / Acting Chairman  
Florida Elections Commission

MAY 18, 2011

Date

Copies furnished to:

Eric Lipman, General Counsel  
Peter Antonacci, Counsel for Respondents