#### STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In Re: Angel Luiz Garcia			<b>Case No.: FEC 21-423</b>	
		/		
TO:	Angel Luiz Garcia		Division of Elections	
	28150 Northeast 69th Terrace, APT 14		500 S. Bronough Street, Room 316	
	Okeechobee, FL 34972		Tallahassee FL 32399	

#### NOTICE OF HEARING (INFORMAL HEARING (IH))

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on February 7, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard, at the following location: 402 South Monroe Street, 12 HOB, Tallahassee, Florida 32399. Due to heightened security access requirements, please bring only essential items into the building and plan to arrive early to allow for delays coming through security.

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.

Tim Vaccaro

**Executive Director** Florida Elections Commission January 19, 2024

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 failure, it may waive the fine, 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 to 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

Florida Elections Commission, Petitioner,

Case No.: FEC 21-423

Angel Luiz Garcia, Respondent.

v.

#### ORDER OF PROBABLE CAUSE

**THIS MATTER** was heard by the Florida Elections Commission (Commission) at its regularly scheduled meeting on November 15, 2023, in Tallahassee, Florida.

On June 19, 2023, 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):

THIS SPACE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

#### Count 1:

On or about June 10, 2021, Angel Luiz Garcia violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when he failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that he would not be filing his 2021 M5 Report.

**DONE AND ORDERED** by the Florida Elections Commission on November 15, 2023.

Tim Vaccaro, J.D., Executive Director

For Chad Mizelle, Chairman Florida Elections Commission

Copies furnished to: Stephanie J. Cunningham, General Counsel Angel Luiz 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) 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 right-hand 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.

#### STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In Re:	Angel Luiz Garcia	Case N	No.: FEC 21-423
		/	

TO: Angel Luiz Garcia

28150 Northeast 69th Terrace, APT 14 Okeechobee, FL 34972-4972

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

#### NOTICE OF HEARING (PROBABLE CAUSE DETERMINATION (PCD))

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, **November 15, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.,** *or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard*, at the following location: **402 South Monroe Street, 12 HOB, Tallahassee, Florida 32399.** Due to heightened security access requirements, please bring only essential items into the building and plan to arrive early to allow for delays coming through security.

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.

Tim Vaccaro

Executive Director Florida Elections Commission October 31, 2023 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 failure, it may waive the fine, 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 to 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.



# Florida Elections Commission

107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050 Telephone: (850) 922-4539  $\cdot$  Facsimile: (850) 921-0783 FEC@myfloridalegal.com  $\cdot$  www.fec.state.fl.us



September 6, 2023

Angel Luiz Garcia 28150 Northeast 69th Terrace Okeechobee, FL 34972

RE: Case No.: FEC 21-423; Respondent: Angel Luiz Garcia

Dear Mr. Garcia:

The Florida Elections Commission at its August 15, 2023, virtual meeting was unable to hear this case. Therefore, this case has been rescheduled for its next meeting, which is scheduled for November 14-15, 2023, in Tallahassee. A notice of hearing indicating the exact date and time will be mailed approximately 14 days before the hearing.

If you have any questions, please contact us at the number listed above or at <a href="mailto:fec@myfloridalegal.com">fec@myfloridalegal.com</a>.

Sincerely,

Tim Vaccaro

**Executive Director** 

TV/dm

cc: Division of Elections, Complainant

#### STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In Re: Angel Luiz Garcia			Case No.: FEC 21-423
TO:	Angel Luiz Garcia		Division of Elections
	28150 Northeast 69th Terrace		500 South Bronough Street, Room 316
	Okeechobee, FL 34972		Tallahassee, FL 32399

#### **NOTICE OF HEARING (PROBABLE CAUSE DETERMINATION)**

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, **August 15, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard, at the following location: **Virtual Meeting.**Register in advance for this meeting via Zoom link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYudumrqjgoGNJ2UhnWkz6Q8JF6AOXxKwdP

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

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.

Tim Vaccaro

Executive Director Florida Elections Commission August 1, 2023 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 failure, it may waive the fine, 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: A	Angel Luiz Garcia	Case No.:	<b>FEC 21-423</b>
		1	

#### 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 **Section 106.07(7)**, **Florida Statutes**. Based upon a thorough review of the Report of Investigation submitted on December 14, 2022, the following facts and law support this staff recommendation:

- 1. On August 17, 2021, the Florida Elections Commission ("Commission") received a referral from the Department of State, Division of Elections ("Division"), alleging that Angel Luiz Garcia ("Respondent") violated Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.
- 2. Respondent was a 2022 candidate for State Representative, District 55. (ROI Exhibit 3)<sup>1</sup>
- 3. By letter dated September 2, 2022, the Executive Director notified Respondent that Commission staff would investigate the following statutory provision:

Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2022 candidate for State Representative, District 55, 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 2021 M5 reporting period.

- 4. By letter dated November 24, 2020, Kristi Reid Willis, 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. (ROI Exhibit 4, page 1)
- 5. The acknowledgment letter 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 4, page 2)
- 6. Pursuant to Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, in any reporting period during which a candidate has not received funds, made any contributions, or expended any reportable funds, the filing of the required report for that period is waived. However, the candidate is required

Staff Recommendation FEC 21-423

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Report of Investigation is referred to herein as "ROI."

to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that no report is being filed on that date.

- 7. The Candidate & Campaign Treasurer Handbook references the statutory requirement regarding written notification and directs candidates to notify the Division by way of the Division's electronic filing system. (ROI Exhibit 5, page 2) The Candidate EFS User's Guide shows the process through which to notify the Division. The user's guide instructs candidates to select the relevant reporting period and place a checkmark in a box titled "Waiver" to indicate the lack of reportable financial activity. (ROI Exhibit 6, pages 2-3)
- 8. Respondent failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed for the following reporting period, as set forth in the table below. (ROI Exhibit 7)

Report	Report Cover Period	Date Notification Due	Date Notification Filed	No. of Days Late
2021 M5	05/01/21 - 05/31/21	06/10/2021	08/04/2022	420

- 9. Respondent was given multiple opportunities to respond to Commission staff's investigation but failed to do so. (ROI, p. 2, ¶¶9-10; ROI Exhibit 8)
- 10. "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).
- 11. The facts set forth above show that Respondent was a 2022 candidate for State Representative, District 55. Respondent failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed for the 2021 M5 reporting period.

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

#### Count 1:

On or about June 10, 2021, Angel Luiz Garcia violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when he failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that he would not be filing his 2021 M5 Report.

Respectfully submitted on June 19, 2023.

Stephanie J. Cunningham

General Counsel

I reviewed this Staff Recommendation this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of June 2023.

Tim Vaccaro

**Executive Director** 

#### FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

#### Report of Investigation for Failure to Notify Filing Officer

Case Number: FEC 21-423

Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, failure of a candidate or political committee that did not receive any contributions or make any expenditures during a reporting period to timely notify the filing officer, in writing, that no report is being filed.

**Respondent:** Angel Luiz Garcia

Respondent's Atty: N/A

**Division of Elections (Division) Referral Filed:** August 17, 2021

Respondent Type: Candidate

#### I. Preliminary Information:

- 1. Respondent was a 2022 candidate for State Representative, District 55; he failed to qualify. Respondent was a first-time candidate. To review the Division email, refer to Exhibit 1.
- 2. An Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository (DS-DE 9) was filed on November 23, 2020. Respondent was appointed as campaign treasurer. To review the DS-DE 9, refer to Exhibit 2.
- 3. Respondent filed a Statement of Candidate with the Division on November 23, 2020, in which Respondent certified he had been provided access to read and understand Chapter 106, F.S. To review the Statement of Candidate, refer to Exhibit 3.
- 4. An acknowledgement letter was mailed to the address provided on the DS-DE 9 on November 24, 2020, advising Respondent that all candidates filing reports with the Division are required to file by means of the Division's electronic filing system (EFS). Respondent was provided with a user identification number and initial password allowing access to the EFS.
- 5. The acknowledgement letter also advised Respondent that all of the Division's publications and reporting forms are available on their website, including Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, the *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook* and the *Calendar of Reporting Dates*. The letter further advised that it was Respondent's responsibility to read, understand, and follow the requirements of Florida's election laws. To review the acknowledgement letter, refer to Exhibit 4.
- 6. The *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook* discusses filing a waiver when there is no activity to disclose. To review the relevant page of the *Handbook*, refer to Exhibit 5.
- 7. The *Candidate EFS User's Guide* discusses how to notify the Division on the prescribed reporting date that no report will be filed using the EFS. Specifically, the *Handbook* instructs the user to click the box next to "waiver" if there is no activity to disclose. To review the relevant pages from the *EFS User's Guide*, refer to Exhibit 6.

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

8. I investigated whether Respondent violated this section of the election laws by not timely notifying the filing officer, in writing, that no report(s) would be filed due to not receiving any contributions or making expenditures during the following reporting period(s). To review Respondent's filing history reflecting the untimely filed notification(s) summarized below, refer to Exhibit 7.

Report	Report Cover Period	Date Notification Due	Date Notification Filed	No. of Days Late
2021 M5	05/01/2021 - 05/31/2021	06/10/2021	08/04/2022	420

9. Respondent did not respond to the referral.

10. I attempted to contact Respondent on three occasions for the purpose of providing an opportunity to discuss the allegations made in the referral. As of the date of this report, neither my telephone calls nor email have been returned. Therefore, I am unable to ascertain whether he has read Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, and/or the *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook*. To review the phone log and email, refer to Exhibit 8.

Date: December 14, 2022

Charles Mallaco

SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATOR:

# FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

#### REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Angel Luiz Garcia -- FEC 21-423

LIST OF EXHIBITS					
Exhibits #s Description of Exhibits					
Exhibit 1	Division Email				
Exhibit 2	DS-DE 9				
Exhibit 3	Statement of Candidate				
Exhibit 4	Acknowledgement Letter				
Exhibit 5	Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook				
Exhibit 6	Candidate EFS User's Guide				
Exhibit 7	Filing History				
Exhibit 8	Phone Log				

RE: Angel Luiz Garcia Acct #79055

Brown, Donna S. < Donna.Brown@dos.myflorida.com>
Fri 12/9/2022 11:59 AM

To: Charles Mellow < Charles. Mellow@myfloridalegal.com >

No qualifying documents were ever filed.

Donna S. Brown, Chief Bureau of Election Records Division of Elections R.A. Gray Bldg. Room 316 500 South Bronough Street Tallahassee, FL 32399 (850) 245-6280

From: Charles Mellow < Charles. Mellow @myfloridalegal.com >

Sent: Friday, December 9, 2022 9:00 AM

To: Brown, Donna S. <Donna.Brown@dos.myflorida.com>

Subject: Angel Luiz Garcia Acct #79055

EMAIL RECEIVED FROM EXTERNAL SOURCE

Good morning Donna,

Could you tell me the reason Angel Luiz Garcia did not qualify.

Thank you,

Charles Mellow - Investigator

Florida Elections Commission - Office of the Attorney General

Collins Building - Room 212

107 W. Gaines Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399-6596 Phone: (850) 922-4539 Charles.Mellow@myfloridalegal.com



Please note: Florida has a very broad public records law. Written communications to or from me regarding state business constitute public records and are available to the public and media upon request <u>unless</u> the information is subject to a specific statutory exemption. Therefore, your e-mail message may be subject to public disclosure.

#### **APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER** AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN **DEPOSITORY FOR CANDIDATES**

(Section 106.021(1), F.S.)

(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

NOTE: This form must be on file with the qualifying

RECEIVED

2020 MC 23 AN IO: 26

Miles die dons

officer before opening the	e campaign account	t.			OFFICE	USE ONLY
1. CHECK APPROPRIATE Initial Filing of Form	BOX(ES): Re-filing to Cha	inge: 🔲 Tre	asurer/Deputy	<b>Depository</b>	Office	☐ Party
2. Name of Candidate (in t	his order: First, Midd	le, Last)	3. Address (includ	de post office bo	ox or street, city, s	state, zip
Angel Luiz Garcia			code) 28150 NE 69th	Ter. Okeech	obee, FL 3497	72
4. Telephone	5. E-mail address					
(863 ) 484-0709	algarcialibertariar					
6. Office sought (include d			7. If a can	didate for a <u>no</u>	<u>npartisan</u> office,	check if
Florida House Represe	;	applical		run as a Write-In	candidate.	
8. If a candidate for a part	isan office, check b	lock and fill in	n name of party as	applicable: N	My intent is to run	as a
☐ Write-In ☐ No F	Party Affiliation	Libertari	ian		Party cand	idate.
	9. I have appointed the following person to act as my					
10. Name of Treasurer or D Angel Luiz Garcia	eputy Treasurer					
11. Mailing Address				12.	Telephone	
28150 NE 69th Ter.				( 8	63 ) <mark>484-</mark> 070	9
13. City	14. County	15. State	e 16. Zip Code 17. E-mail address			
Okeechobee	Okeechobee	FL	34972 algarcialibertarian@gmail.com			com
18. I have designated the	following bank as n	· <del></del>	Primary Deposito	ry 🔲 Sed	condary Deposito	ry
19. Name of Bank			0. Address			
Regions Bank			05 NE Park St.			
21. City	22. County		23. State 24. Zip Code			de
Okeechobee	Okeechol	bee	FL		34972	
UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJUI DESI	RY, I DECLARE THAT I H GNATION OF CAMPAIGI					ASURER AND
25. Date		2	6. Signature of Can	didate -		
11/14/2020		)	X Kytho	+1		
27. Treasurer's Acceptance of Appointment (filt in the blanks and check the appropriate block)						
I,, do hereby accept the app					accept the appoir	ntment
	(Ptease Print or Type Name)					
designated above as:   Campaign Treasurer Deputy Treasurer.						
11/14/20	020	$\mathbf{x} \mathcal{A}$	45		•	;
Date	!	s	ignature of Campai	gn Treasurer or	Deputy Treasure	!r
DS-DE 9 (Rev. 10/10)					Rule 1S-2.0	0001, F.A.C.

# STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE

(Section 106.023, F.S.)
(Please print or type)

#### ROFFICE USE ONLY

2020 MOT 23 AM 10: 26

TALL TOSS STATE

# Angel Luiz Garcia

candidate for the office of Florida House Representative District 55
have been provided access to read and understand the requirements of
Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.

Signature of Candidate

11/14/2020

Date

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).



# RON DESANTIS Governor

LAUREL M. LEE Secretary of State

November 24, 2020

Angel Luiz Garcia 28150 Northeast 69<sup>th</sup> Terrace Okeechobee, Florida 34972

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 November 23, 2020. Your name has been placed on the 2022 active candidate list.

#### **Campaign Treasurer's Reports**

Your first campaign treasurer's report will be due on **December 10, 2020**. The report will cover the period of November 1-30, 2020 (2020 M11). All candidates who file reports with the Division of Elections are required to file by means of the Division's Electronic Filing System (EFS).

#### EFS Access

Below is the web address to access the EFS and your user identification number. Enclosed are your confidential, filing credentials.

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

**Identification Number: 79055** 

#### **Timely Filing**

All reports filed must be completed and filed through the EFS no later than midnight, Eastern Standard Time, 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.

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



Angel Luiz Garcia November 24, 2020 Page Two

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 three 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.

#### **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 <a href="https://dos.myflorida.com/elections">https://dos.myflorida.com/elections</a>. 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.

Reid Willis

Sincerely,

Kristi Reid Willis, Chief Bureau of Election Records

KRW/dsb

Enclosures

pc: Amber Lee Garcia, Treasurer

# Candidate & Campaign Treasurer Handbook

Florida Department of State Division of Elections R. A. Gray Building, Room 316 500 South Bronough Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250 850.245.6280



(Rev. 10/03/2019)

#### **Notice of No Activity**

In any reporting period during which a candidate has not received funds or made any expenditures, the filing of the required report for that period is waived. **However, the candidate must notify the filing officer in writing on or before the prescribed reporting date that no report is being filed on that date**. (A notice of no activity filed with the Division must be filed electronically using the <u>EFS</u>.) The next report filed must specify that the report covers the entire period between the last submitted report and the report being filed.

(Section <u>106.07</u>, Fla. Stat.)

#### **Special Election Reports**

When a special election is called to fill a vacancy in office, campaign treasurer reports shall be filed with the filing officer on the dates set by the Florida Department of State pursuant to Section <u>100.111</u>, Florida Statutes. The reports are only to include contributions and expenditures related to the special election.

The candidate must notify the filing officer in writing on or before the prescribed reporting date if no funds were received or no expenditures made during the special election reporting period.

#### **Incomplete Reports**

Although the Division's <u>Electronic Filing System</u> will allow a candidate to file an incomplete report, an incomplete report is not in compliance with the Florida Statutes.

If a candidate or campaign treasurer files a report that is deemed incomplete, they will be notified by the filing officer by certified mail, or by another method using a common carrier that provides a proof of delivery as to why the report is incomplete. The candidate or campaign treasurer must file an addendum to the incomplete report within seven days of notification. The addendum must include all necessary information to complete the report. Failure to file a complete report after notice constitutes a violation of <a href="#">Chapter 106</a>, Florida Statutes.

(Section <u>106.07(2)</u>, Fla. Stat.)

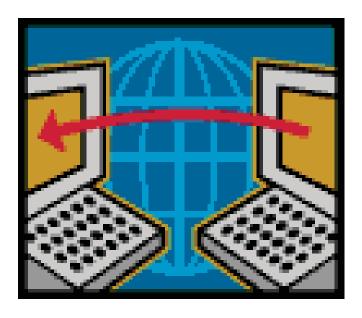
#### **Reporting Total Sums**

Each campaign treasurer's report required by <u>Chapter 106</u>, Florida Statutes, shall contain the total sums of all loans, in-kind contributions, and other receipts by or for such candidate, and total sums of all expenditures made by such candidate during the reporting period. The reporting forms shall be designed to elicit separate totals for in-kind contributions, loans, and other receipts.

(Section <u>106.07</u>, Fla. Stat.)

# **Department of State Division of Elections**

# Candidate EFS User's Guide



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

**EFS HELP LINE: 850-245-6280** 

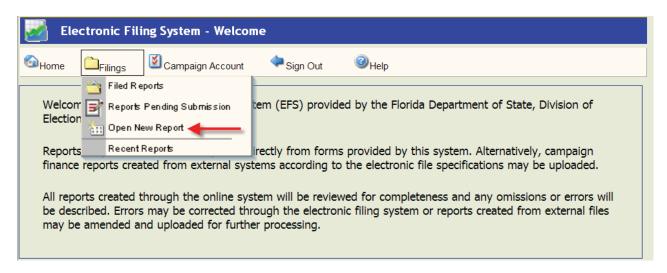
January 2011

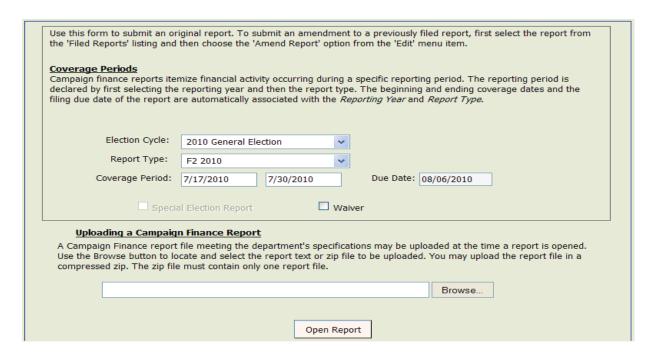
Rule 1S-2.017, F.A.C.

DS-DE 110A (eff. 01/11)

# **Create a New Report by Data Entry**

From the Welcome Screen, click and then Open New Report





Click arrow next to **Election Cycle**. Scroll to the cycle associated with the report you are entering.

Click arrow next to **Report Type** and select the report type that corresponds to the appropriate cover period and due date.

The Cover Period dates will automatically fill in based on the Calendar of Election and Reporting Dates. The end date can be changed for candidate termination reports.

The **Due Date** will automatically fill in based on the **Calendar of Election and Reporting Dates**.

#### \*\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*\*

If this report is a waiver of report (no activity), click the box next to Waiver.

Election Cycle:	2010 General El	~			
Report Type:	F2 2010	SAMMAN S	~		
Coverage Period:	7/17/2010	7/30/2010		Due Date:	08/06/2010
☐ Speci	al Election Report		Waive	-	_

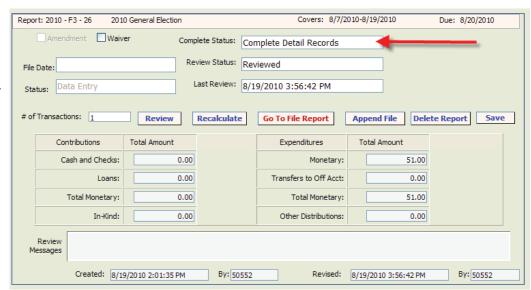
Click Open Report at the bottom of the screen. A **Report Detail** screen (view only) will appear. This screen will not indicate any activity until individual detail data is entered, saved and a review is performed.

Repo	rt: 2010 - G4 - 27 201	0 General Election		Covers:	10/16/2010-10/28/2010	Due: 10/29/2010
	Amendment Waiver Complete Status: Incomplete Detail Records					
File	Date:	Re	view Status: Not	Reviewed		
Sta	ntus: Data Entry	ı	ast Review:			
# of	Transactions: 0	Review	Recalculate	Go To File Report	Append File	Delete Report Save
	Contributions	Total Amount		Expenditures	Total Amount	
	Cash and Checks:	0.00		Monet	ary:	0.00
	Loans:	0.00		Transfers to Off A	Acct:	0.00
	Total Monetary:	0.00		Total Monet	ary:	0.00
	In-Kind:	0.00		Other Distribution	ons:	0.00
Review Messages						
	Created: 10/	26/2010 11:41:25 AM	By: 50552	Revis	ed: 10/26/2010 11:41	:25 AM By: 50552

# File the Report

If the **Review Status** is <u>Updated Detail – Needs Review</u> the report has not been reviewed since the last update. (See page 38 for instructions on how to submit the report to the system for review.)

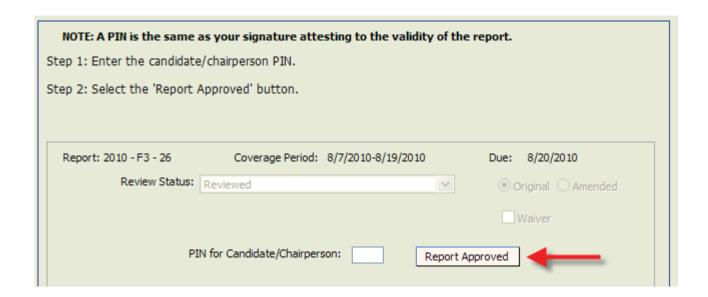
If the status of the report is <u>Complete</u> <u>Detail Records</u>, you are ready to file the report.



Click on Go To File Report

The candidate enters his or her PIN, and then selects

Report Approved

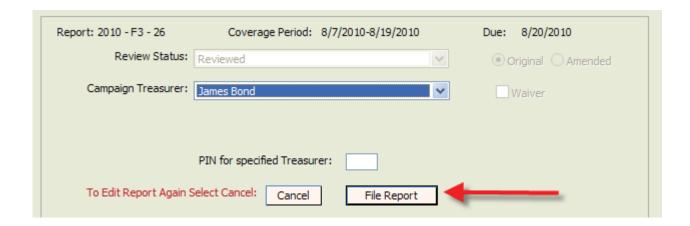


.

If there is more than one treasurer, click on the drop down and select the treasurer that is filing the report.



The treasurer enters his or her **PIN** and then clicks



<u>IMPORTANT NOTE</u>: If changes need to be made <u>after</u> a candidate enters his PIN, the treasurer must <u>undo</u> the candidate's PIN validation before the system will allow changes. See page 48 for instructions.



#### Florida Department of State - Division of Elections

#### Florida Election System Reports



# Candidate Name: Angel Luiz Garcia Account: 79055

Date Due	Туре	Date Filed	Status	Days Late	Fine Appealed Assessed	Amount Fined	Amount Paid
9/15/2022	TR		SNT	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
6/24/2022	P1	8/4/2022	CLO	41	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
6/10/2022	M5	8/4/2022	CLO	55	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5/10/2022	M4	8/4/2022	PEN	86	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
4/11/2022	М3	8/4/2022	PEN	115	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
3/10/2022	M2	8/4/2022	PEN	147	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2/10/2022	M1	8/4/2022	CLO	175	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1/10/2022	M12	8/4/2022	PEN	206	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
12/10/2021	M11	8/4/2022	PEN	237	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
11/10/2021	M10	8/4/2022	PEN	267	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
10/12/2021	М9	8/4/2022	PEN	296	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
9/10/2021	M8	8/4/2022	PEN	328	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
8/10/2021	М7	8/4/2022	PEN	359	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
7/12/2021	M6	8/4/2022	PEN	388	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
6/10/2021	M5	8/4/2022	CLO	420	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5/10/2021	M4	5/11/2021	CLO	1	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
4/12/2021	М3	4/13/2021	CLO	1	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
3/10/2021	M2	3/17/2021	CLO	7	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2/10/2021	M1	2/12/2021	CLO	2	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1/11/2021	M12	1/18/2021	CLO	7	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
12/10/2020	M11	12/6/2020					

# FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION PHONE LOG

Case No.: FEC 21-423

Respondent: Angel Luiz Garcia

Complainant: Division of Elections

1. **Date and time:** 12/12/2022; 02:10 p.m. **Name:** Angel Luiz Garcia - Respondent

**Phone** #: (863) 484-0709

**Summary:** I called Respondent and reached answering machine for (863) 484-0709. I left message identifying myself and calling in reference to FEC 21-423. I asked Respondent to please call me back at his earliest convenience at (850) 922-4539. I followed this call up with email to <a href="mailto:algarcialibertarian@gmail.com">algarcialibertarian@gmail.com</a>, which is the email address provided on the DS-DE 9.

**Entered by:** CM

2. **Date and time:** 12/13/2022; 01:21 p.m. **Name:** Angel Luiz Garcia - Respondent

**Phone** #: (863) 484-0709

**Summary:** I called Respondent and reached answering machine for (863) 484-0709. I left message identifying myself and calling in reference to FEC 21-423. I asked Respondent to please call me back at his earliest convenience at (850) 922-4539.

**Entered by:** CM

3. Date and time:

Name:

Phone #: Summary:

**Entered by:** 

4. **Date and time:** 

Name:

Phone #:

**Summary: Entered by:** 

5. Date and time:

Name:

Phone #:

**Summary:** 

**Entered by:** 

6. **Date and time:** 

Name:

Phone #:

**Summary:** 

#### **Entered by:**

#### RESPONDENT INTERVIEW MEMO - Call details at #

- Please explain the reason why you failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no **2021 M5** report would be filed on that date because the campaign had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the reporting period or failure to file a campaign report to reflect financial activity.
- Have you ever run for public office? If so, please name each office you ran for and state what year each election occurred.
- Have you ever been appointed to act as a campaign treasurer for a candidate? If so, please name each such candidate, the office each ran for, and state what year each election occurred.
- Have you ever held the office of chairperson, treasurer, or other similar position for a political committee or electioneering communications organization? If so, please name each committee, state the office you held for each, and state when you held each office.
- Have you ever prepared or signed a campaign treasurer's report? If so, please state the name of the candidate or committee whose report you prepared or signed.
- Do you possess a copy of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes? If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it?
- Do you possess a copy of the *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook*? If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it?
- Do you have anything else to add for the Commission's consideration regarding the charges specified in the letter of legal sufficiency in this case?

INV001 (12/01) 2

FEC 21-423, FEC 21-445, FEC 21-463, FEC 21-495, FEC 22-020 and FEC 22-065

Charles Mellow < Charles. Mellow@myfloridalegal.com>

Mon 12/12/2022 2:25 PM

To: algarcialibertarian@gmail.com <algarcialibertarian@gmail.com>

Mr. Garcia,

My name is Charles Mellow with the Florida Elections Commission. I have tried to reach you at (863) 484-0709.

Please contact me at (850) 922-4539 at your earliest convenience or email me a specific day and time to call you to discuss case numbers FEC 21-423, FEC 21-445, FEC 21-463, FEC 21-495, FEC 22-020 and FEC 22-065.

Thank you,

Charles Mellow - Investigator
Florida Elections Commission - Office of the Attorney General
Collins Building - Room 212
107 W. Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-6596
Phone: (850) 922-4539
Charles.Mellow@mylforidalegal.com



Please note: Florida has a very broad public records law. Written communications to or from me regarding state business constitute public records and are available to the public and media upon request <u>unless</u> the information is subject to a specific statutory exemption. Therefore, your e-mail message may be subject to public disclosure.

# FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION PHONE LOG

**Case No.: FEC 21-423** 

Respondent: Angel Luiz Garcia

**Complainant:** Division of Elections

1. **Date and time:** 12/12/2022; 02:10 p.m. **Name:** Angel Luiz Garcia - Respondent

**Phone** #: (863) 484-0709

**Summary:** I called Respondent and reached answering machine for (863) 484-0709. I left message identifying myself and calling in reference to FEC 21-423. I asked Respondent to please call me back at his earliest convenience at (850) 922-4539. I followed this call up with email to <a href="mailto:algarcialibertarian@gmail.com">algarcialibertarian@gmail.com</a>, which is the email address provided on the DS-DE 9.

**Entered by:** CM

2. **Date and time:** 12/13/2022; 01:21 p.m. **Name:** Angel Luiz Garcia - Respondent

**Phone** #: (863) 484-0709

**Summary:** I called Respondent and reached answering machine for (863) 484-0709. I left message identifying myself and calling in reference to FEC 21-423. I asked Respondent to please call me back at his earliest convenience at (850) 922-4539.

**Entered by:** CM

3. Date and time:

Name:

Phone #:

**Summary:** 

**Entered by:** 

4. Date and time:

Name:

Phone #:

**Summary:** 

**Entered by:** 

5. Date and time:

Name:

Phone #:

**Summary:** 

**Entered by:** 

6. **Date and time:** 

Name:

Phone #:

**Summary:** 

#### **Entered by:**

#### RESPONDENT INTERVIEW MEMO – Call details at #

- Please explain the reason why you failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no **2021 M5** report would be filed on that date because the campaign had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the reporting period or failure to file a campaign report to reflect financial activity.
- Have you ever run for public office? If so, please name each office you ran for and state what year each election occurred.
- Have you ever been appointed to act as a campaign treasurer for a candidate? If so, please name each such candidate, the office each ran for, and state what year each election occurred.
- Have you ever held the office of chairperson, treasurer, or other similar position for a political committee or electioneering communications organization? If so, please name each committee, state the office you held for each, and state when you held each office.
- Have you ever prepared or signed a campaign treasurer's report? If so, please state the name of the candidate or committee whose report you prepared or signed.
- Do you possess a copy of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes? If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it?
- Do you possess a copy of the *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook*? If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it?
- Do you have anything else to add for the Commission's consideration regarding the charges specified in the letter of legal sufficiency in this case?

INV001 (12/01) 2



# Florida Elections Commission

107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-6596 Telephone: (850) 922-4539 · Facsimile: (850) 921-0783 FEC@myfloridalegal.com · www.fec.state.fl.us



September 2, 2022

Angel Luiz Garcia 28150 NE 69th Terrace, Apt 14 Okeechobee, FL 34972

RE: Case No.: FEC 21-423; Respondent: Angel Luiz Garcia

Dear Mr. Garcia:

On August 17, 2021, the Florida Elections Commission received a complaint alleging 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 violation(s):

**Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes:** As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2022 candidate for State Representative, District 55, 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 2021 M5 reporting period.

However, prior to an investigation, you have the option to <u>resolve your case now by</u> signing a minor violation consent order and <u>paying a fine of \$50</u>, per Rule 2B-1.003, Florida Administrative Code, <u>rather than the potential \$1,000 per violation</u> provided for in Section 106.265, Florida Statutes.

If you sign the consent order, you would not be required to admit or deny the allegation(s) in the complaint, but you would be required to immediately correct the violation, if feasible.

The signed consent order would then be considered by the Commission at its next available meeting and would constitute final action by the Commission once it is accepted and approved by the Commission. You and the Complainant will receive notice at least 14 days before any hearing at which your case is to be considered.

Please contact Todd Smith-Schoenwalder by phone at (850) 922-4539, by email at Todd.Smith-Schoenwalder@myfloridalegal.com, or at the address listed above, to accept this minor violation consent order.

Angel Luiz Garcia September 2, 2022 Page 2 FEC 21-423

If you choose not to resolve this case by consent order, an investigation will be conducted, the Commission will hold one or more hearings to determine whether the alleged violation(s) occurred and, if so, the amount of fine to be imposed upon you.

Please note that all documents related to this matter will be mailed to the above address unless you notify us of a new address.

For additional information, please refer to the "Frequently Asked Questions" section on the Commission's website.

Sincerely,

Tim Vaccaro Executive Director

TV/jd

#### **DIVISION OF ELECTIONS** FEC NOTICE FORM

To FEC from Division of Elections

Candidate: Angel Luiz Garcia

**Account Number:** 79055

Treasurer: Angel Garcia

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, Florida Statutes, has occurred based upon the candidate's alleged failure to file a report after notice or failure to file a notification to the filing officer in writing that no report was being filed on the prescribed reporting date as required by section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes.

The following report is outstanding after notification:

- Angel Luiz Garcia (79055) is a 2022 candidate for the office of State Representative.
- On November 23, 2020, Mr. Gracia filed the Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository with the Division.
- The **M5** campaign treasurer's report was due May on On May 11, 2021, the Division mailed Mr. Gracia notification that the M5 campaign treasurer's report had not been filed.
- On June 11, 2021, the Division mailed Mr. Gracia notification that the M5 campaign treasurer's report had not been filed.
- On July 6, 2021, the Division mailed Mr. Gracia final notification with delivery confirmation that the M5 report had not been filed. (See attached letter and delivery confirmation.)
- Mr. Gracia did not notify the Division of Elections prior to or on the prescribed reporting date for the M5 report that no report was to be filed.
- As of August 9, 2021, Mr. Gracia has not filed the M5 report.

Donna S. Brown August 9, 2021 Sent By:

Date:

tds



#### FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

#### Laurel M. Lee

Secretary of State

#### **DIVISION OF ELECTIONS**

Final Notice Delivery Confirmation: USPS TRACKING # & CUSTOMER RECEIPT

9114 9022 0078 9649 8705 63 For Tracking or inquiries go to USPS.com or call 1-800-222-1811.

July 6, 2021

Angel Luiz Garcia
Candidate for State Representative, District 55
28150 Northeast 69th Terrace
Okeechobee, FL 34972-4972

**CAN 79055** 

Dear Garcia:

A recent review of the Division's records show that the Division has not yet received the below-referenced campaign treasurer's report or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable, during the following cover period:

Year	Report	<b>Cover Period</b>
2021	M5	5/1/21 - 5/31/21

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

Donna S. Brown, Chief

Bureau of Election Records

# **USPS Tracking®**

FAQs >

#### Track Another Package +

**Tracking Number:** 9114902200789649870563

Remove X

Your item was delivered in or at the mailbox at 12:11 pm on July 10, 2021 in OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972.

# **⊘** Delivered, In/At Mailbox

July 10, 2021 at 12:11 pm OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972 -eedback

#### Get Updates V

Text & Email Updates	~
Tracking History	~
Product Information	~

See Less ^

# Can't find what you're looking for?

Go to our FAQs section to find answers to your tracking questions.