STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In Re: Danika Fornear		Case No.: FEC 21-228	21-228	
TO:	Danika Fornear	Division of Elections		
	1222 E 3rd Street	500 S. Bronough Street, Roon	n 316	
	Lehigh Acres, FL 33936	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,

v. Case No.: FEC 21-228

Danika Fornear,
Respondent.
_____/

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 September 20, 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):

Count 1:

On or about February 1, 2021, Danika Fornear violated Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes, when she failed to file the campaign's 2021 Termination Report reflecting the disposition of all remaining campaign funds within 90 days after being eliminated as a candidate.

Count 2:

On or around February 1, 2021, Danika Fornear violated Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, when she deliberately failed to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, on the campaign's 2021 Termination Report.

The Commission finds that there is **no probable cause** to charge Respondent with violating Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes.

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 Danika Fornear, 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

Case No.: FEC 21-228

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тΩ.	Danika Farmaar		District CEL 11
10:	Danika Fornear		Division of Elections
	1222 E 3rd Street		500 S. Bronough Street, Room 316
	Lehigh Acres, FL 33936-5222		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.

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See further instructions on the reverse side.

In Re: Danika Fornear

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.

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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

In Re: Danika Fornear	Case No.: FEC 21-228

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 Sections 106.141(1), and 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, and no 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 May 23, 2023, the following facts and law support this staff recommendation:

- On March 10, 2021, the Florida Elections Commission ("Commission") received a 1. referral from the Department of State, Division of Elections ("Division" or "Complainant"), alleging that Danika Fornear ("Respondent") violated Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.
- Respondent was a 2020 candidate for State Representative, District 79. Respondent's Statement of Candidate form ("DS-DE 84") was filed on May 26, 2020. (ROI Exhibit 2)¹
- By letter dated April 14, 2021, the Executive Director notified Respondent that 3. Commission staff would investigate the following statutory provisions:²

Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2020 candidate for State Representative, District 79. may have failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because she had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2020 TR reporting period.

Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2020 candidate for State Representative, District 79, failed to timely file her 2020 Termination Report reflecting the disposition of all remaining campaign funds.

Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2020 candidate for State Representative, District 79, may have falsely reported or deliberately failed to

¹ The Report of Investigation is referred to herein as "ROI."

² The references to the 2020 TR or 2020 Termination Report are scrivener's errors. The referral and supporting documentation allege violations occurring during the 2021 Termination reporting period.

include information in her 2020 Termination Report, as required by Chapter 106.

- 4. On May 26, 2020, Respondent filed her Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Candidates form ("DS-DE 9") appointing herself as treasurer for her campaign. (ROI Exhibit 1)
- 5. By letter dated May 27, 2020, Kristi Reid Willis, Chief, Bureau of Election Records, sent Respondent a letter acknowledging that the Division had received her DS-DE 9 and that her name was placed on the 2020 active candidate list. (ROI Exhibit 3, page 1)
- 6. The acknowledgment letter advised Respondent that all candidates filing reports with the Division are required to use the electronic filing system ("EFS") and provided Respondent with a user identification number and initial password to grant access to the EFS. (ROI Exhibit 3, page 1) The letter further advised Respondent that all of the Division's publications and reporting forms were available on its website and directed Respondent to print out Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, and the *Calendar of Reporting Dates*, as well as other relevant documents. (ROI Exhibit 3, page 2)

Alleged Violation: Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes

- 7. Complainant alleged that Respondent violated Florida's election laws by failing to timely file the campaign's 2021 Termination Report.
- 8. Respondent was eliminated as a candidate during the 2020 General Election. (ROI, p. 1, $\P1$) Respondent was required to dispose of the funds on deposit in her campaign account and file the campaign's 2021 Termination Report within 90 days after being eliminated as a candidate.
- 9. On February 2, 2021, February 11, 2021, and February 22, 2021, the Division sent letters notifying Respondent that her report had not been received. (ROI Exhibits 4 & 5) The final notification was confirmed delivered. (ROI Exhibit 5, page 2)
- 10. A subpoena was issued to Respondent's designated campaign depository to ascertain whether any financial activity occurred during the relevant reporting period, i.e., October 30, 2020 February 1, 2021. Respondent's bank records show two or more contributions totaling \$510 and nine expenditures totaling \$730.82. (ROI Exhibit 7)
- 11. Respondent stated that she thought everything had been properly filed. She added that she has limited financial resources as she is unemployed and recently widowed with dependents. (Attachment A)
- 12. As it appears that Respondent had reportable financial activity during the relevant reporting period, Respondent was required to file the campaign's 2021 Termination Report within 90 days after being eliminated as a candidate but failed to do so.

Alleged Violation: Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes

- 13. Complainant alleged that Respondent violated Florida's election laws by falsely reporting or deliberately failing to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, on the campaign's 2021 Termination Report.
- 14. Based on the above analysis, Respondent had reportable financial activity during the relevant reporting period. Therefore, Respondent was required to disclose the financial activity on the campaign's 2021 Termination Report.
- 15. Respondent failed to disclose \$1,240.82 in financial activity. (ROI Exhibit 7) Had Respondent reported the financial activity that took place during the relevant reporting period, the report may have disclosed potential violations of the Florida Election Code as the campaign's bank records show that contributions were received less than five days before election day in violation of Section 106.08(3)(a), Florida Statutes, and that the funds were not disposed of properly pursuant to Sections 106.141(4)(a), and 106.11(5), Florida Statutes, but were spent at Wawa, Jonesez BBQ, Spirit Halloween, Target, and Old Bridge Marina Inc. (ROI Exhibit 7)
- 16. Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, requires candidates to report any contributions received and any expenditures made for the purpose of influencing the results of an election. Respondent deliberately failed to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, on the campaign's 2021 Termination Report.

Alleged Violation: Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes

- 17. Complainant alleged that Respondent violated Florida's election laws by failing to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed for the 2021 Termination reporting period.
- 18. Based on the above analysis, the campaign was not required to submit a notice of no activity for the 2021 Termination reporting period as there was reportable financial activity that Respondent was required to disclose on her 2021 Termination Report.
- 19. "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).
- 20. The facts set forth above show that Respondent was a 2020 candidate for State Representative, District 79. Respondent failed to file the campaign's 2021 Termination Report within 90 days after being eliminated as a candidate. Respondent deliberately failed to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, on the campaign's 2021 Termination

Report. Respondent was not required to notify the filing officer that she would not be filing her 2021 Termination Report because the campaign had reportable financial activity.

Based upon these facts and circumstances, I recommend that the Commission find no probable cause to charge Respondent with violating Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, and find probable cause to charge Respondent with violating the following:

Count 1:

On or about February 1, 2021, Danika Fornear violated Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes, when she failed to file the campaign's 2021 Termination Report reflecting the disposition of all remaining campaign funds within 90 days after being eliminated as a candidate.

Count 2:

On or around February 1, 2021, Danika Fornear violated Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, when she deliberately failed to include information required by Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, on the campaign's 2021 Termination Report.

Respectfully submitted on September 20, 2023.

Stephanie J. Cunningham

General Counsel

I reviewed this Staff Recommendation this 21 day of September 2023.

Tim Vaccaro

Executive Director



Case No.: FEC21-228
Danika Fornear to: fec

07/03/2023 09:08 AM

From:

"Danika Fornear" <danikafornear@gmail.com>

To: fec@myfloridalegal.com

Dear Stephanie Cunningham (or whom it may concern):

I received a packet of info (ROI?) regarding an investigation of my 2020 candidacy sent to an old address. I was shocked upon reading the letter, as I had not known about the possible violations and charges. I definitely thought everything had been filed properly and taken care of. I am extremely concerned (and embarrassed) to learn of this situation.

My husband passed away January 2, 2023. After I received this packet on June 29, 2023- I immediately searched through a pile of my husband's old mail and paperwork that was stacked up in a corner of his office, I found some mail from the FEC, from my vet a year ago.

Now, I am unsure of what to do. As a recently widowed, unemployed, and a single mother of a 6 year old daughter and a 7 month old son. I have extremely limited resources, and am unable to hire an attorney. I sincerely hope for a chance to rectify this situation.

Please let me know what can be done.

**Also, my email, phone number, and address have all changed since my campaign. (See below)

Danika J. Fornear danikafornear@gmail.com 239-220-1308 1248 Cornelia Drive LaBelle, FL 33935



Case No.: FEC21-228

Danika Fornear to: fec

07/03/2023 09:08 AM

From: "Danika Fornear" <danikafornear@gmail.com>

To: fec@myfloridalegal.com

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**Also, my email, phone number, and address have all changed since my campaign. (See below)

Danika J. Fornear danikafornear@gmail.com 239-220-1308 1248 Cornelia Drive LaBelle, FL 33935

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Report of Investigation Sections 106.07(7), 106.141(1), and 106.19(1)(c), F.S.

Case Number: FEC 21-228

Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes, failure of a candidate to dispose of funds remaining in the campaign account within 90 days after the candidate withdrew, became unopposed, was eliminated, or elected and to file a termination report (TR) reflecting the disposition of all remaining funds.

Sections 106.07(7), and 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes, failure of a candidate who did not receive any contributions or make any expenditures during the TR reporting period to notify timely the filing officer, in writing, that no TR is being filed or failure to file the TR to reflect financial activity.

Respondent: Danika Fornear **Respondent's Atty**: N/A

Division of Elections (Division) Referral Filed: March 10, 2021

Respondent Type: Candidate

I. Preliminary Information:

- 1. Respondent was a 2020 candidate for State Representative, District 79; she was defeated in the general election held on November 3, 2020. Respondent was a first-time candidate.
- 2. An Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository form (DS-DE 9) was filed on May 26, 2020. Respondent was appointed as campaign treasurer. To review the DS-DE 9, refer to Exhibit 1.
- 3. Respondent filed a Statement of Candidate with the Division on May 26, 2020, in which Respondent certified she had been provided access to read and understand the requirements of Chapter 106, F.S. To review the Statement of Candidate, refer to Exhibit 2.
- 4. An acknowledgement letter was mailed to the address provided on the DS-DE 9 on May 27, 2020. The letter advised 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 3.
- 6. The Division sent correspondence to the address provided on the DS-DE 9 notifying Respondent that the 2021 TR,¹ or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, had not been filed and reiterating that the filing date was February 1, 2021. To review the failure to file correspondence, refer to Exhibit 4.

¹ The letter of legal sufficiency referenced the "2020 TR" due to scrivener's error.

7. On February 22, 2021, the Division sent a letter marked "Final Notice" with delivery confirmation to the address provided on the DS-DE 9 notifying Respondent that the 2021 TR, or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, had not been filed. The letter was confirmed delivered on February 24, 2021. To review the letter marked "Final Notice" and delivery confirmation, refer to Exhibit 5.

II. Alleged Violation of Sections 106.07(7), 106.141(1), and 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes:

8. I investigated whether Respondent violated these sections of the election laws by not notifying the filing officer, in writing, that no TR would be filed due to not receiving any contributions or making expenditures during the TR reporting period or by not filing a TR to reflect financial activity during the TR reporting period. I also investigated whether Respondent violated Section 106.141(1), F.S., by not disposing of all remaining campaign funds within 90 days of being eliminated. To review Respondent's filing history, refer to Exhibit 6.

Report Cover Period		Due Date	Report or Waiver Required	Exhibit 7 ²
2021 TR	10/30/20 - 2/1/21	2/1/21	Report	7

- 9. Campaign account records disclose that many expenditures transpired during the TR reporting period in amounts varying from \$0.49 to \$447.28 for purposes such as a bank service charge and debit card purchases at various stores, including Spirit Halloween, Target, and Wawa. Deposits/credits of \$10.00 and \$500.00 were made during the TR reporting period.
- 10. On the date the TR was due, campaign account records reflect that the balance was \$0.00.³ To review the relevant bank statement, refer to Exhibit 7, page 4.
 - 11. Respondent did not respond to the referral.
- 12. I attempted to contact Respondent on six 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 emails have been returned. Therefore, I am unable to ascertain whether Respondent has read Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, and/or the *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook*. To review the phone log and emails, refer to Exhibit 8.

SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATOR: Date: May 23, 2023

² I subpoenaed campaign account records for the designated campaign depository.

³ The campaign account was zeroed out on 11/6/20.

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Danika Fornear -- FEC 21-228

	LIST OF EXHIBITS					
Exhibits #s	Description of Exhibits					
Exhibit 1	DS-DE 9 Form					
Exhibit 2	Statement of Candidate					
Exhibit 3	Acknowledgement Letter					
Exhibit 4	Failure-to-File Correspondence					
Exhibit 5	Final Failure-to-File Letter with Delivery Confirmation Receipt					
Exhibit 6	Filing History					
Exhibit 7	Records from Campaign Depository					
Exhibit 8	Phone Log and Emails					

RECEIVED SATE 2020 MAY 26 AM 8: 07 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 OFFICE USE ONLY officer before opening the campaign account. 1. CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX(ES): Initial Filing of Form Party Office Re-filing to Change Treasurer/Deputy Depository 2 Name of Candidate (in this order First, Middle, Last) 3 Address (include post office box or street, city, state, zip codel IZZZ & BRD ST. 5 F-mail address LEHIGH ACRES, FL 33936 (139) 284-2708 dfornear 79 @ amadem 6 Office sought (include district, circuit, group number) 7 If a candidate for a nonpartisan office, check if applicable: Florida State House District 79 My intent is to run as a Write-In candidate 8 If a candidate for a partisan office, check block and fill in name of party as applicable: My intent is to run as a democratic Write-In No Party Affiliation candidate 9. I have appointed the following person to act as my Campaign Treasurer Deputy Treasurer 10 Name of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer DANIKA YOU FORKEAR 11. Mailing Address 12 Telephone 1222 & 3RD ST 12391784-2708 17 E-mail address 13 City 15 State 16 Zip Code diernear 79 @gmark con which Acres ドレ 18. I have designated the following bank as my Primary Depository 20 Address 19 Name of Bank Palm Beach Blud #100 BANK 11741 FIRST 22 County 23 State 24 Zip Code FORT MYERS FL 33005 UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, I DECLARE THAT I HAVE READ THE FOREGOING FORM FOR APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN DEPOSITORY AND THAT THE FACTS STATED IN IT ARE TRUE. 26 Signature of Candidate 25 Date 1212020 Treasurer's Acceptance of Appointment (filking the blanks and check the appropriate block)

DS-DE 9 (Rev. 10/10)

designated above as

JOY FORNEAR

(Please Print or Type Name)

Campaign Treasurer

Rule 1S-2.0001, F.A.C.

____ do hereby accept the appointment

Deputy Treasurer

hature of Campaign Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer

DEM PER PER STATE

STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE

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

DS-DE 84 (05/11)

2020 MAY 26	FICE USE ONL	Y
FLUI ON CHARLE	Felification	

1, DANIKA JOY FORNEAR
candidate for the office of Florida State House District 77
have been provided access to read and understand the requirements of
Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.
X James Jane 05/21/2020 Signature of Candidate 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

May 27, 2020

Danika Fornear 1222 East 3rd Street Lehigh Acres, Florida 33936

Dear Ms. Fornear:

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 May 26, 2020. Your name has been placed on the 2020 active candidate list.

Campaign Treasurer's Reports

Your first campaign treasurer's report will be due on **June 10, 2020**. The report will cover the period of May 1-31, 2020 (2020 M5). 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: 76130

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.

Danika Fornear May 27, 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 https://dos.myflorida.com/elections. 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.

Sincerely,

K-t Reid W.Ilis Kristi Reid Willis, Chief Bureau of Election Records

KRW/zjs

Enclosures



Laurel M. Lee Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

February 2, 2021

Danika Fornear
Candidate for State Representative, District 79
1222 East 3rd Street
Lehigh Acres, FL 33936-3936

Dear Ms. Fornear:

Our records indicate that you have not filed either your termination report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable. The filing date was February 1, 2021.

The law (s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) requires the filing officer to immediately notify you about the missed filing date and the automatic fines that will be assessed for late filing of a report, if a report was due.

- If reportable activity occurred and you have not filed a report, statutory fines are automatically assessed as \$50 per day until you file your report. The total fine for the untimely report cannot exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the cover period. Even if you end up filing your report late, we cannot waive the statutory fines. We will notify you of the specific amount of fines owed once you file your report. You have 20 days from the day you receive the notice to pay the fine or to appeal the fine to the Florida Elections Commission.
- If no reportable activity occurred for the report date(s), you are still required to notify us in writing, via the Division's Electronic Filing System, that no reportable activity occurred. No automatic fines are statutorily assessed.

However, in all cases, failure to file and/or 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.

taken Wills

Sincerely,

Kristi Reid Willis, Chief Bureau of Election Records CAN 76130



Laurel M. Lee Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

Second Notice

February 11, 2021

Danika Fornear Candidate for State Representative, District 79 1222 East 3rd Street Lehigh Acres, FL 33936-3936

CAN 76130

Dear Ms. Fornear:

Our records indicate that you have not filed either your termination report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable. The filing date was February 1, 2021.

We mailed, via regular mail, the first notice of the failure to file the above-mentioned report or notification to the address on file with our office on February 2, 2021.

The first notice which we provided to you specifically explained the automatic fine provisions in the law (s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) for failure to file a required report. Such fines are continuing to accrue for a late-filed report. Also, that notice explained that if no reportable activity occurred for the report date(s), you are still required to provide notification in writing that no reportable activity occurred. Our initial notice further indicated that, in all cases, failure to file and/or 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,

Kristi Reid Willis, Chief
Bureau of Election Records



Laurel M. Lee Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

Final Notice Delivery Confirmation:

USPS TRACKING # 9114 9023 0722 4981 4009 69
& CUSTOMER
RECEIPT For Tracking or Inquiries go to USPS.com or call 1-800-222-1811.

February 22, 2021

Danika Fornear Candidate for State Representative, District 79 1222 East 3rd Street Lehigh Acres, FL 33936-3936

CAN 76130

Dear Ms. Fornear:

A recent review of the Division's records show that the Division has not yet received your termination report or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable.

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

Kristi Reid Willis, Chief Bureau of Election Records

tokur Willis

USPS Tracking[®]

FAQs >

Track Another Package +

Tracking Number: 9114902307224981400969

Remove X

Your item was delivered in or at the mailbox at 12:43 pm on February 24, 2021 in LEHIGH ACRES, FL 33936.

⊘ Delivered

reedback

February 24, 2021 at 12:43 pm Delivered, In/At Mailbox LEHIGH ACRES, FL 33936

Get Updates ✓

Text & Email Updates	~
Tracking History	<u> </u>
Product Information	~

See Less ∧



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Florida Department of State - Division of Elections

Florida Election System Reports

C	andidate/Com	mittee Lool	кир
Name:			
Election:			
			~
Acct:	76130		
Туре:	Candidate		~
	Search	Reset	

Candidate Name: Danika Fornear **Account:** <u>76130</u>

Date Due Typ	e Date Filed S		Days _ate <i>P</i>	Fine Assessed	Appealed	Amount Fined	Amount Paid
2/1/2021 TF	R F	FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
10/30/2020 G6	5 10/30/2020						
10/23/2020 G	5 10/23/2020						
10/9/2020 G ²	1 10/9/2020						
9/25/2020 G3	3 9/25/2020						
9/11/2020 G2	9/4/2020						
8/28/2020 G	1 8/21/2020						
8/14/2020 P7	7 8/15/2020 [DFS	1	\$250.00		\$250.00	\$0.00
8/7/2020 P6	8 8/15/2020	DFS	8	\$39.28		(\$0.00)	\$0.00
7/31/2020 P5	7/31/2020						
7/24/2020 P4	7/24/2020						
7/17/2020 P3	3 7/19/2020 [DFS	2	\$25.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
7/3/2020 P2	2 7/19/2020 [DFS	16	\$157.55		\$157.55	\$0.00
6/19/2020 P1	6/19/2020						
6/10/2020 Ms	5 6/10/2020						



2020 General Election Danika Fornear (DEM) State Representative

Campaign Finance Activity

Note: The information presented below was obtained from the Committee's/Candidate's Campaign Treasurer's Report filed with the Division of Elections. About the Campaign Finance Data Base.

		Contributions					
	Filing Period	Monetary	Loans	InKind	Expend	Other	Transfers
0	05/26/2020 - 05/31/2020	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	06/01/2020 - 06/12/2020	2,145.59	0.00	0.00	1,781.82	0.00	0.00
0	06/13/2020 - 06/26/2020	0.00	0.00	0.00	59.00	0.00	0.00
0	06/27/2020 - 07/10/2020	54.07	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
0	07/11/2020 - 07/17/2020	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	07/18/2020 - 07/24/2020	423.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	07/25/2020 - 07/31/2020	157.11	0.00	0.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
0	08/01/2020 - 08/13/2020	55.00	0.00	0.00	2,189.26	0.00	0.00
0	08/14/2020 - 08/21/2020	810.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	08/22/2020 - 09/04/2020	739.02	0.00	0.00	237.89	0.00	0.00
0	09/05/2020 - 09/18/2020	487.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	09/19/2020 - 10/02/2020	685.39	0.00	0.00	1,447.71	0.00	0.00
0	10/03/2020 - 10/16/2020	387.49	0.00	0.00	1,454.61	0.00	0.00
0	10/17/2020 - 10/29/2020	249.81	0.00	0.00	1,104.15	0.00	0.00
	All Dates (Totals)	6,294.76	0.00	0.00	8,285.44	0.00	0.00

Note: (E) indicates that report was filed electronically

X Indicates that detail has not been released

W Indicates that a waiver was filed and L Indicates that a loan report was filed

Select Detail TypeSelect Sort OrderSelect Output TypeContributions✓Date(Ascending)✓Display On Screen ✓

Submit Query Now

Query the Campaign Finance Data Base

[Department of State] [Division of Elections] [Candidates and Races] [Campaign Finance Information]



Statement Date:	10/31/20
Account Number:	
Page Number:	1
Page Number:	1

Business Checking			
Beginning Balance		\$1,887.05	9/30/20
Deposits/Credits	19	\$1,523.30	
Checks/Debits	30	\$3,179.53	
Service Charge		\$5.00	
Ending Balance		\$225.82	10/31/20
YTD interest paid			

IT'S A GREAT TIME TO BUY A HOME OR REFINANCE! HISTORICAL LOW RATES - OUR LENDERS ARE READY TO ANSWER YOUR HOME LOAN

Credits/Deposits

Date	Description	Amount
10/01	Funds Disb From Vantiv Ecommerce 27500846991287	\$5.00
	Danika Fornear For Flo	
10/02	Funds Disb From Vantiv Ecommerce 27500848402747	\$1.00
	Danika Fornear For Flo	
10/05	Funds Disb From Vantiv Ecommerce 27500849795149	\$60.00
	Danika Fornear For Flo	
10/06	Funds Disb From Vantiv Ecommerce 27500851448744	\$300.00
	Danika Fornear For Flo	
10/07	Funds Disb From Vantiv Ecommerce 27500853226445	\$120.20
	Danika Fornear For Flo	
10/08	Dda - Remote/Mobile Deposit	\$50.00
10/08	Dda - Remote/Mobile Deposit	\$70.00
10/08	Dda - Remote/Mobile Deposit	\$200.00
10/08	Dda - Remote/Mobile Deposit	\$200.00
10/13	Funds Disb From Vantiv Ecommerce 27500857918641	\$100.00
ē	Danika Fornear For Flo	
10/14	Funds Disb From Vantiv Ecommerce 27500859482547	\$20.20
	Danika Fornear For Flo	
10/15	Funds Disb From Vantiv Ecommerce 27500861163846	\$45.20
	Danika Fornear For Flo	
10/16	Funds Disb From Vantiv Ecommerce 27500862620042	\$1.89
	Danika Fornear For Flo	
10/20	Funds Disb From Vantiv Ecommerce 27500865572745	\$100.00
	Danika Fornear For Flo	







DANIKA JOY FORNEAR CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT DANIKA JOY HOPPER TREASURER 1222 E 3RD ST LEHIGH ACRES FL 33936

Statement Date:	10/31/20
Account Number:	
Page Number:	2

Credits/Deposits

Date	Amount	Description	
10/21	\$20.20	Funds Disb From Vantiv Ecommerce 27500867123943	
		Danika Fornear For Flo	
10/27	\$2.93	Funds Disb From Vantiv Ecommerce 27500872703747	
		Danika Fornear For Flo	
10/28	\$183.79	Funds Disb From Vantiv Ecommerce 27500874276742	
		Danika Fornear For Flo	
10/29	\$32.89	Funds Disb From Vantiv Ecommerce 27500875726844	
		Danika Fornear For Flo	
10/30	\$10.00	Funds Disb From Vantiv Ecommerce 27500877018448	
		Danika Fornear For Flo	

Other Debits

Date	Amount	Description
10/01	\$6.50	Debit Card Pos Sig Wix.Com*768602383 - New York Ny
10/01	\$447.20	Debit Card Pos Pin Old Bridge Marina Inc - North Fort My Fl
10/05	\$37.18	Debit Card Pos Sig Wal-Mart Super Center - N. Ft. Myers Fl
10/05	\$81.12	Debit Card Pos Sig In *Scale To Win - 916-2152780 Ca
10/05	\$123.00	Debit Card Pos Pin Walgreens Store - Fort Myers Fl
10/05	\$16.82	6175177600 To Actbluedonate /Sentatives District 7
		Sentatives District 79
10/09	\$43.22	Funds Disb To Vantiv Ecommerce /27500856969843
		Danika Fornear For Flo
10/13	\$22.15	Debit Card Pos Pin Wal-Mart #6190 - Labelle Fl
10/13	\$31.59	Debit Card Pos Pin Qwik Way Market - Lehigh Acres Fl
10/13	\$114.12	Debit Card Pos Pin Wm Superc Wal-Mart Sup - Labelle Fl
10/13	\$1,000.00	Debit Card Pos Sig Lamar Media Corp - 225-237-1068 La
10/14	\$16.04	Debit Card Pos Pin Tractor Supply C - Labelle Fl
10/14	\$32.05	Debit Card Pos Pin Shell Service S - North Fort My Fl
10/14	\$80.22	Debit Card Pos Pin India'S Grill - Fort Myers Fl
10/15	\$17.00	Debit Card Pos Sig Wix.Com*780455083 - New York Ny
10/19	\$12.84	Debit Card Pos Pin Dollar Tree - Labelle Fl
10/19	\$23.50	Debit Card Pos Pin Murphy Express 8595 - N Fort Myers Fl



DANIKA JOY FORNEAR CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT DANIKA JOY HOPPER TREASURER 1222 E 3RD ST LEHIGH ACRES FL 33936

Statement Date:	10/31/20
Account Number:	
Page Number:	3

Other Debits

Date	Amount	Description
10/19	\$29.50	Debit Card Pos Sig Wm Supercenter # - Labelle Fl
10/19	\$31.17	Debit Card Pos Sig Mcdonald'S F12280 - Labelle Fl
10/19	\$91.54	Debit Card Pos Sig Redbones - Fort Myers Fl
10/20	\$5.94	Debit Card Pos Pin Racetrac 199 - Lehigh Acres Fl
10/20	\$7.93	Debit Card Pos Sig Wal-Mart Super Center - Lehigh Acres Fl
10/21	\$12.00	Debit Card Pos Sig Esmeralda Cuban Bakery - Lehigh Acres Fl
10/21	\$26.35	Debit Card Pos Pin Shell Service S - Labelle Fl
10/22	\$15.00	Debit Card Pos Pin 7-Eleven - Lehigh Acres Fl
10/22	\$18.38	Debit Card Pos Sig Mcdonald'S F12280 - Labelle Fl
10/22	\$120.00	Atm Debit 301 W Highway 80 - Labelle Fl
10/26	\$118.82	Debit Card Pos Sig El Patio - Fort Myers Fl
10/26	\$298.35	Debit Card Pos Sig Iheart Media - 2102534353 Tx
10/26	\$300.00	Debit Card Pos Sig Wrxk-Fm 96.1 - 239-495-2100 Fl
10/31	\$5.00	Monthly Service Charge

Daily Balance Information

Date	Balance	Date	Balance	Date	Balance
Beginning	\$1,887.05				
10/01	\$1,438.35	10/13	\$1,070.35	10/22	\$718.38
10/02	\$1,439.35	10/14	\$962.24	10/26	\$1.21
10/05	\$1,241.23	10/15	\$990.44	10/27	\$4.14
10/06	\$1,541.23	10/16	\$992.33	10/28	\$187.93
10/07	\$1,661.43	10/19	\$803.78	10/29	\$220.82
10/08	\$2,181.43	10/20	\$889.91	10/30	\$230.82
10/09	\$2,138.21	10/21	\$871.76	10/31	\$225.82

Overdraft/Return Item Fees

	Total for	Total
	this Period	Year to Date
Total Overdraft Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Returned Item Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00



Statement Date:	11/30/20
Account Number:	
Page Number:	1

Business Checking			
Beginning Balance		\$225.82	10/31/20
Deposits/Credits	1	\$500.00	
Checks/Debits	8	\$725.82	
Ending Balance		\$0.00	11/30/20
YTD interest paid			
•			

IT'S A GREAT TIME TO BUY A HOME OR REFINANCE! HISTORICAL LOW RATES - OUR LENDERS ARE READY TO ANSWER YOUR HOME LOAN QUESTIONS. CALL US TODAY!

Credits/Deposits

Date	Descrip! on	Amount
11/02	Dda - Remote/Mobile Deposit	\$500.00

Other Debits

11/02 Atm Debit Wawa Store 5168 - Ft Myers Fl	\$0.49
The position of the first of th	
11/02 Debit Card Pos Sig Wix.Com Inc San Francisco Ca	\$6.50
11/02 Debit Card Pos Sig Sq *Jonesez Ii - Labelle Fl	\$56.50
11/02 Debit Card Pos Sig Spirit Halloween 61045 - Fort Myers	\$69.17
11/02 Debit Card Pos Pin Target T- 13711 S Tami - Fort Myers	\$102.58
11/03 Debit Card Pos Pin Wawa Store 5168 - Ft Myers Fl	\$28.23
11/04 6175177600 To Actbluedonate /Senta#ves District 7	\$15.07
Senta#ves District 79	
11/06 Debit Card Pos Sig Old Bridge Marina Inc - 2399104562 F	\$447.28

Daily Balance Informa! on

Date	Balance	Date	Balance	Date	Balance
Beginning	\$225.82				
11/02	\$490.58	11/04	\$447.28		
11/03	\$462.35	11/06	\$0.00		







DANIKA JOY FORNEAR CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT DANIKA JOY HOPPER TREASURER 1222 E 3RD ST LEHIGH ACRES FL 33936

Statement Date:	11/30/20
Account Number:	
Page Number:	2
Page Number:	

Overdra#/Return Item Fees

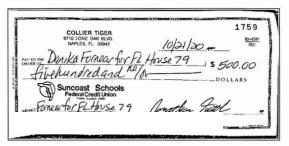
	Total for	Total
	this Period	Year to Date
Total Overdra% Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Returned Item Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00

Research Report 10/12/2022 09:49

Deposit Ticket	

11/02/20 | \$500.00 | SID: 99

Acct: | T/C: 111 | RBS: 031-001-0174



11/02/20 | \$500.00 | SID: 99

Acct: T/C: 1759 | RBS: 031-001-0175

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION PHONE LOG

Case No.: FEC 21-228

Respondent: Danika Fornear

Complainant: DOE

1. **Date and time:** October 4, 2022 @ 3:20 pm

Name: Carlos and Theresa—Bank Rep and Asst Manager

Phone #: (239) 437-8191

Summary: I had telephone contact to determine the best method to send subpoena. I was instructed to mail it to: First Bank, 11741 Palm Beach Blvd #100, Fort Myers, Fl 33905. It can be served certified mail but not via email. I also verified location of account number on checks to ensure that correct numbers are used in subpoena.

Entered by: CKO

2. **Date and time:** October 4, 2022 @ 4:15 pm

Name: Respondent **Phone** #: (239) 284-2708

Summary: I attempted telephone contact to address complaint allegations. I was unable to

leave a message due to voice message not being set up.

Entered by: CKO

3. **Date and time:** October 7, 2022 @ 9:30 am

Name: Respondent **Phone** #: (239) 284-2708

Summary: I attempted telephone contact to make initial contact. I was unable to leave a

message due to voice message not being set up.

Entered by: CKO

4. **Date and time:** May 11, 2023 @ 2:30 pm

Name: Respondent **Phone** #: (239) 284-2708

Summary: I attempted telephone contact to complete final interview. The phone kept

ringing until a busy signal started both times I attempted contact.

Entered by: CKO

5. **Date and time:** May 22, 2023 @ 10:!5 am

Name: Respondent **Phone** #: (239) 284-2708

Summary: I attempted telephone contact to make final contact. The phone number is out

of service.

Entered by: CKO

Cedric Oliver

From: Cedric Oliver

Sent: Tuesday, October 4, 2022 4:17 PM

To: dfornear79@gmail.com

Subject: FEC 21-228

Good afternoon Ms. Fornear! My name is Cedric Oliver and I'm an investigator for the Florida Elections Commission. I have been attempting to contact you. Please give me a call at the number listed below when you get the chance. Thank you and have a great day!!!

Cedric Oliver Investigator Specialist for Florida Elections Commission (850) 922-4539

Cedric Oliver

From: Cedric Oliver

Sent: Monday, May 22, 2023 9:33 AM **To:** FornearforHD79@gmail.com

Subject: FEC 21-228

Good afternoon Ms. Fornear! My name is Cedric Oliver and I'm an investigator for the Florida Elections Commission. I have been attempting to contact you. Please give me a call at the number listed below when you get the chance. Thank you and have a great day!!!

Cedric Oliver Investigator Specialist for Florida Elections Commission (850) 922-4539

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION PHONE LOG

Case No.: FEC 21-228

Respondent: Danika Fornear

Complainant: DOE

1. **Date and time:** October 4, 2022 @ 3:20 pm

Name: Carlos and Theresa—Bank Rep and Asst Manager

Phone #: (239) 437-8191

Summary: I had telephone contact to determine the best method to send subpoena. I was instructed to mail it to: First Bank, 11741 Palm Beach Blvd #100, Fort Myers, Fl 33905. It can be served certified mail but not via email. I also verified location of account number on checks to ensure that correct numbers are used in subpoena.

Entered by: CKO

2. **Date and time:** October 4, 2022 @ 4:15 pm

Name: Respondent **Phone** #: (239) 284-2708

Summary: I attempted telephone contact to address complaint allegations. I was unable to

leave a message due to voice message not being set up.

Entered by: CKO

3. **Date and time:** October 7, 2022 @ 9:30 am

Name: Respondent **Phone** #: (239) 284-2708

Summary: I attempted telephone contact to make initial contact. I was unable to leave a

message due to voice message not being set up.

Entered by: CKO

4. **Date and time:** May 11, 2023 @ 2:30 pm

Name: Respondent **Phone** #: (239) 284-2708

Summary: I attempted telephone contact to complete final interview. The phone kept

ringing until a busy signal started both times I attempted contact.

Entered by: CKO

5. **Date and time:** May 22, 2023 @ 10:!5 am

Name: Respondent **Phone** #: (239) 284-2708

Summary: I attempted telephone contact to make final contact. The phone number is out

of service.

Entered by: CKO



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



April 14, 2021

Danika Fornear 1222 E 3rd St Lehigh Acres, FL 33936-5222

RE: Case No.: FEC 21-228; Respondent: Danika Fornear

Dear Ms. Fornear:

On March 10, 2021, the Florida Elections Commission received a complaint alleging that 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 violations:

Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2020 candidate for State Representative, District 79, may have failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because she had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2020 TR reporting period.

Section 106.141(1), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2020 candidate for State Representative, District 79, failed to timely file her 2020 Termination Report reflecting the disposition of all remaining campaign funds.

Section 106.19(1)(c), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2020 candidate for State Representative, District 79, may have falsely reported or deliberately failed to include information in her 2020 Termination Report, as required by Chapter 106.

When we conclude the investigation, a copy of the Report of Investigation (ROI) will be mailed to you at the above address. Based on the results of the investigation, a staff attorney will prepare and present a written Staff Recommendation (SR) to the Commission as to whether there is probable cause to charge you, the Respondent, with violating Chapters 104 or 106, Florida Statutes. You will have an opportunity to respond to both the ROI and the SR. The Commission will then hold one or more hearings to determine whether the alleged violations occurred and, if so, the amount of the fine to be imposed upon you. Notice will be mailed to you and the Complainant at least 14 days before any hearing at which your case is to be considered.

Danika Fornear April 14, 2021 Page 2 FEC 21-228

Pursuant to Section 106.25(4)(i)3., Florida Statutes, the Commission may enter into a consent agreement with a Respondent to settle a complaint prior to a finding of probable cause. If you are interested in entering negotiations directed towards reaching a consent agreement to resolve this matter, please contact the Commission and request to speak with the attorney assigned to this case.

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

Pursuant to Section 106.25, Florida Statutes, complaints, investigations, investigative reports, and other documents relating to an alleged violation of Chapters 104 or 106, Florida Statutes, are <u>confidential</u> until the Commission finds probable cause or no probable cause, unless the Respondent files a written waiver of confidentiality with the Commission. The confidentiality provision does not apply to the Complainant or the Respondent.

Should you retain counsel, your attorney must file a notice of appearance with the Commission before any member of the commission staff can discuss this case with him or her.

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

If you have additional questions, please contact **Cedric Oliver**, the investigator assigned to this case, by phone at (850) 922-4539 or by email at <u>Cedric Oliver@myfloridalegal.com</u>.

Sincerely,

Tim Vaccaro
Executive Director

TV/med

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS FEC NOTICE FORM

To FEC from Division of Elections

Candidate:

Danika Fornear

Account Number:

76130

Treasurer:

Danika Fornear

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: 2021 TR

- Danika Fornear (76130) was a 2020 candidate for the office of State Representative.
- On May 26, 2020, Ms. Fornear filed the Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository with the Division.
- The 2021 TR campaign treasurer's report was due on February 1, 2021.
 On February 2, 2021, the Division mailed Ms. Fornear notification that the 2021 TR campaign treasurer's report had not been filed.
- On February 11, 2021, the Division mailed Ms. Fornear notification that the 2021 TR campaign treasurer's report had not been filed.
- On February 22, 2021, the Division mailed Ms. Fornear final notification with delivery confirmation that the 2021 TR report had not been filed. (See attached letter and delivery confirmation.)
- Ms. Fornear did not notify the Division of Elections prior to or on the prescribed reporting date for the 2021 TR report that no report was to be filed.
- As of March 9, 2021, Ms. Fornear has not filed the 2021 TR report.

Sent By:

Kristi Reid Willis

Date:

March 9, 2021

mcc



Laurel M. Lee Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

Final Notice Delivery Confirmation: & CUSTOMER RECEIPT

USPS TRACKING # 9114 9023 0722 4981 4009 69 For Tracking or inquiries go to USPS.com or call 1-800-222-1811.

February 22, 2021

Danika Fornear Candidate for State Representative, District 79 1222 East 3rd Street Lehigh Acres, FL 33936-3936

CAN 76130

Dear Ms. Fornear:

A recent review of the Division's records show that the Division has not yet received your termination report or the required notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable.

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

Kristi Reid Willis, Chief Bureau of Election Records

topica Willis

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FAQs >

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Your item was delivered in or at the mailbox at 12:43 pm on February 24, 2021 in LEHIGH ACRES, FL 33936.

Oblivered

February 24, 2021 at 12:43 pm Delivered, In/At Mailbox LEHIGH ACRES, FL 33936

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