

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

**In Re: John Reading**

---

**Case No.: FEC 21-358**

**TO:** John Reading  
968 Broken Arrow Lane  
Cantonment, FL 32533

David Stafford  
Escambia County SOE  
PO Box 12601  
Pensacola, FL 32591

**NOTICE OF HEARING (OTHER MOTIONS (PUBLIC): MOTION TO RECONSIDER  
AND MOTION TO VACATE ORDER)**

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, **August 16, 2022 at 8:30 am**, or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard, at the following location: **House Office Building, 402 South Monroe Street, 306 HOB, Mashburn Hall, Tallahassee, Florida 32399.**

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, 2022

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: John Reading

Case No.: FEC 21-358  
F.O. No.: FO FEC 21-312A  
Report: 2020 TR

---

**MOTION TO VACATE DEFAULT FINAL ORDER**

---

COMES NOW, Complainant DAVID H. STAFFORD, Escambia County Supervisor of Elections, by and through undersigned counsel, in accordance with Section 106.07, Florida Statutes, and hereby moves the Florida Elections Commission to vacate its December 7, 2021, Default Final Order rendered against Respondent JOHN READING, and in support would show as follows:

1. Respondent John Reading was a candidate for the office of Escambia County Commissioner, District 5 during the 2020 elections.
2. Mr. Reading's 2020 TR campaign treasurer's report was not filed with the Escambia County Supervisor of Elections ("Supervisor") on November 16, 2020, the designated due date.
3. On March 16, 2021, the Supervisor sent a fine notice to Mr. Reading by delivery confirmation advising Mr. Reading of the \$4,200.00 fine amount and his option to timely pay or appeal.
4. Mr. Reading did not pay the assessed fine or appeal to the Florida Elections Commission (the "Commission").

5. Thereafter, on December 7, 2021, the Commission entered a Default Final Order (“Order”) against Mr. Reading, affirming the \$4,200.00 fine imposed by the Supervisor. A copy of the Order is attached hereto as **Exhibit “A”**.
6. Mr. Reading timely appealed the Commission’s Order to the First District Court of Appeal (Case Number 1D22-49).
7. Following service of Mr. Reading’s notice of appeal, the Supervisor determined the original calculated fine amount to be in error. The proper amount to be imposed was \$614.00.
8. The Supervisor notified Mr. Reading of this clerical mistake and the revised fine amount on March 7, 2022.
9. On March 28, 2022, Mr. Reading voluntarily moved to dismiss his appeal before the District Court. A copy of the motion for dismissal is attached hereto as **Exhibit “B”**.
10. The Clerk of the First District Court of Appeal administratively dismissed the case the following day.
11. On May 6, 2022, Mr. Reading paid the revised fine amount of \$614.00. A copy of the fine payment is attached hereto as **Exhibit “C”**.
12. Vacation of the Commission’s Default Final Order would be just and proper. The original fine amount was calculated in error, and due to Mr. Reading’s failure to appeal the amount, the Commission adopted the clerical mistake in its Order. The Supervisor, thereafter, cured the error, and Mr. Reading promptly paid the amended fine.

**WHEREFORE**, Complainant DAVID H. STAFFORD, Escambia County Supervisor of Elections, requests that the Florida Elections Commission vacate its December 7, 2021, Default Final Order against Respondent JOHN READING.

Respectfully submitted,  
Escambia County Attorney's Office  
221 Palafox Place, Suite 430  
Pensacola, Florida 32502  
(850) 595-4970  
(850) 595-4979 – Facsimile

/s/ Matthew R. Shaud

**Matthew R. Shaud**

Assistant County Attorney  
Escambia County Attorney's Office  
Florida Bar Number: 122252  
mrshaud@myescambia.com  
*Counsel for David H. Stafford, Escambia County  
Supervisor of Elections*

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by Certified U.S. Mail to Respondent JOHN READING at 968 Broken Arrow Lane, Cantonment, Florida 32533, this 5th day of July, 2022.

/s/ Matthew R. Shaud

**Matthew R. Shaud**

Assistant County Attorney  
Florida Bar Number: 122252



**STATE OF FLORIDA  
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

**In Re: John Reading**

**Case No.: FEC 21-358  
F.O. No.: FOFEC 21-312A  
Report: 2020 TR**

**DEFAULT FINAL ORDER**

**THIS MATTER** was referred to the Florida Elections Commission (Commission) by the filing officer for failure of the Respondent to pay the assessed fine.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. The Commission is charged with enforcing Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, the campaign financing laws.
2. Respondent was a candidate for the office of Escambia County Commissioner, District 5 during the 2020 elections. Respondent's 2020 TR campaign treasurer's report was not filed with the filing officer on November 16, 2020, the designated due date.
3. On March 16, 2021, the filing officer sent a fine notice to the Respondent by delivery confirmation advising him that the amount of the fine was \$4,200.00. The notice also advised Respondent, as required by Section 106.07(8)(b), Florida Statutes, that he must either pay the fine or appeal to the Florida Elections Commission within 20 days after receipt of the notice of payment due.
4. Respondent has failed to pay the assessed fine or to appeal to the Commission.

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

5. The Commission has jurisdiction over the parties to and subject matter of this case, pursuant to Section 106.07, Florida Statutes.

6. Respondent's failure to timely file a notice appealing the assessed fine constitutes a waiver of entitlement to an appeal.

**ORDER**

Based on the foregoing facts and conclusions of law, it is hereby **ORDERED** that the assessed fine of \$4,200.00 is affirmed. The fine shall be paid to the Escambia County Supervisor of Elections office at P.O. Box 12601, Pensacola, FL 32591 within 30 days of the date this Final Order is filed with the Commission.

**DONE AND ORDERED** by the Florida Elections Commission, on

December 7, 2021.



Tim Vaccaro, Executive Director  
Florida Elections Commission

Copies furnished to:  
Stephanie Cunningham, Assistant General Counsel  
John Reading, Respondent  
Escambia County Supervisor of Elections, Complainant

## NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

This order is final agency action. Any party who is adversely affected by this order has the right to seek judicial review pursuant to Section 120.68, Florida Statutes, by filing a notice of administrative appeal pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure, with the Clerk of the Florida Elections Commission at 107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224, Collins Building, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050, and by filing a copy of the notice of appeal with the appropriate district court of appeal. The party must attach to the notice of appeal a copy of this order and include with the notice of appeal filed with the district court of appeal the applicable filing fees. **The notice of administrative appeal must be filed within 30 days of the date of this order is filed with the Commission.** The date this order was filed appears in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of the order.

### Notice to Filing Officer

The Clerk of the Florida Elections Commission will send a copy of this order to Respondent. The Final Order directs the Respondent to pay the Filing Officer. If the Filing Officer is not paid within 30 days of the date the Final Order is filed with the Commission, the Filing Officer can file an enforcement action in circuit court to enforce the fine that is due and owing to the county or municipality. The date this order was filed appears in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of this order.



IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA,  
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In Re: JOHN READING, First DCA Case no.: 1D22-0049

Appellant/Petitioner L.T. No.: FEC21-358

'22 MAR 28 10:23AM

v.

DAVID STAFFORD,  
Supervisor of Elections, Escambia County Florida,  
Appellee

MOTION FOR VOLUNTARY DISMISSAL

WHEREAS, Appellant/Petitioner John Reading desires to reach a stipulated disposition with Appellee, David Stafford Petitioner hereby files this, his Motion for Voluntary Dismissal of the instant matter.

Further, the Appellant sayeth naught.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy hereof has been furnished to Stephanie Cunningham, Assistant General Counsel for Escambia County, Florida Supervisor of Elections, P.O.Box 12601, Pensacola, FL 32591 by mail this 16<sup>th</sup> day of 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Reading", written over a horizontal line.

Signature

Name: John Reading

Address: 968 Broken Arrow Lane  
Cantonment, FL 32533



CASH RECEIPT  
ESCAMBIA COUNTY  
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

DATE: 5.6.22

RECEIVED FROM: John Reiding  
NAME

968 Broken Arrow Ln  
ADDRESS

Centronment FL 32533

\$ 614.00

Six hundred fourteen DOLLARS AND — CENTS

DESCRIPTION	CODE	AMOUNT
<u>payment for Late Campaign Report</u>	<u>PK1112</u>	

SIGNED: David Stalock  
NAME OF OFFICER

TOTAL 614.00

BY: Keele Sorkin

NOTE: The original of this receipt to be issued to the payee, the duplicate to be filed in the Clerk's Treasury Department as the Deposit File Copy and the third copy to remain in this book as a permanent record of the office issuing the receipt.

JOHN READING  
968 Broken Arrow Ln  
Cantonment, FL 32533  
DL [REDACTED]


1112  
83-77872632

5/3 2022

PAY TO THE ORDER OF ESCAMBIA Co. Supervisor of ELECTIONS

\$ 614<sup>00</sup>

Six hundred fourteen & <sup>00</sup>/<sub>100</sub>

DOLLARS  Security Features Details on Back.

[REDACTED]

*John Reading*

FOR \_\_\_\_\_

[REDACTED]

1112

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

**In Re: John Reading**

**Case No.: FEC 21-358  
F.O. No.: FOFEC 21-312A  
Report: 2020 TR**

\_\_\_\_\_ /

**DEFAULT FINAL ORDER**

**THIS MATTER** was referred to the Florida Elections Commission (Commission) by the filing officer for failure of the Respondent to pay the assessed fine.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. The Commission is charged with enforcing Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, the campaign financing laws.
2. Respondent was a candidate for the office of Escambia County Commissioner, District 5 during the 2020 elections. Respondent's 2020 TR campaign treasurer's report was not filed with the filing officer on November 16, 2020, the designated due date.
3. On March 16, 2021, the filing officer sent a fine notice to the Respondent by delivery confirmation advising him that the amount of the fine was \$4,200.00. The notice also advised Respondent, as required by Section 106.07(8)(b), Florida Statutes, that he must either pay the fine or appeal to the Florida Elections Commission within 20 days after receipt of the notice of payment due.
4. Respondent has failed to pay the assessed fine or to appeal to the Commission.

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

5. The Commission has jurisdiction over the parties to and subject matter of this case, pursuant to Section 106.07, Florida Statutes.

6. Respondent's failure to timely file a notice appealing the assessed fine constitutes a waiver of entitlement to an appeal.

**ORDER**

Based on the foregoing facts and conclusions of law, it is hereby **ORDERED** that the assessed fine of \$4,200.00 is affirmed. The fine shall be paid to the Escambia County Supervisor of Elections office at P.O. Box 12601, Pensacola, FL 32591 within 30 days of the date this Final Order is filed with the Commission.

**DONE AND ORDERED** by the Florida Elections Commission on

December 7, 2021.



Tim Vaccaro, Executive Director  
Florida Elections Commission

Copies furnished to:  
Stephanie Cunningham, Assistant General Counsel  
John Reading, Respondent  
Escambia County Supervisor of Elections, Complainant

## NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

This order is final agency action. Any party who is adversely affected by this order has the right to seek judicial review pursuant to Section 120.68, Florida Statutes, by filing a notice of administrative appeal pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure, with the Clerk of the Florida Elections Commission at 107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224, Collins Building, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050, and by filing a copy of the notice of appeal with the appropriate district court of appeal. The party must attach to the notice of appeal a copy of this order and include with the notice of appeal filed with the district court of appeal the applicable filing fees. **The notice of administrative appeal must be filed within 30 days of the date of this order is filed with the Commission.** The date this order was filed appears in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of the order.

### Notice to Filing Officer

The Clerk of the Florida Elections Commission will send a copy of this order to Respondent. The Final Order directs the Respondent to pay the Filing Officer. If the Filing Officer is not paid within 30 days of the date the Final Order is filed with the Commission, the Filing Officer can file an enforcement action in circuit court to enforce the fine that is due and owing to the county or municipality. The date this order was filed appears in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of this order.



# Florida Elections Commission

107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050

Telephone: (850) 922-4539 · Facsimile: (850) 921-0783

[FEC@myfloridalegal.com](mailto:FEC@myfloridalegal.com) · [www.fec.state.fl.us](http://www.fec.state.fl.us)



June 3, 2021

John Reading  
968 Broken Arrow Lane  
Cantonment, FL 32533

**RE: Case No.: FEC 21-358**

Dear Mr. Reading:

The Florida Elections Commission received the enclosed complaint from the Escambia County Supervisor of Elections alleging you failed to pay a fine imposed for the late filing of your campaign treasurer's report.

This fine is now past due since you did not *timely* appeal the fine to the Florida Elections Commission, pursuant to Section 106.07(8)(c), Florida Statutes. If you do not pay the fine to your filing officer within 10 days from the date of this letter, we will enter a Default Final Order, upholding the fine assessed by your filing officer for failing to timely file your campaign treasurer's report.

I urge your immediate attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

**Donna Ann Malphurs**

Agency Clerk

/dam

cc: Escambia County Supervisor of Elections, Filing Officer w/o enclosure

## COMPLAINT

The Commission's records and proceedings in a case are confidential until the Commission rules on probable cause. A copy of the complaint will be provided to the person against whom it is brought.

### 1. PERSON BRINGING COMPLAINT:

Name: David Stafford Work Phone: (850) 595-3900  
Address: PO Box 12601 Home Phone: (    ) N/A  
City: Pensacola County: Escambia State: FL Zip Code: 32591

### 2. PERSON AGAINST WHOM COMPLAINT IS BROUGHT:

If you intend to name more than one individual or entity, please file multiple complaints. A person can be an individual, political committee, political party, electioneering communication organization, club, corporation, partnership, company, association, or other type of organization.

Name of individual or entity: John Reading  
Address: 968 Broken Arrow Lane Phone: (850) 619-4389  
City: Cantonment County: Escambia State: FL Zip Code: 32533

If individual is a candidate, list the office or position sought: County Commissioner, Dist 5

Have you filed this complaint with the State Attorney's Office? (check one)  Yes  No

Are you alleging a violation of Section 104.271(2), F.S.? (check one)  Yes  No

Are you alleging a violation of Section 104.2715, F.S.? (check one)  Yes  No

### 3. ALLEGED VIOLATION(S):

Please attach a **concise** narrative statement in which you list the provisions of the Florida Election Code that you believe the person named above may have violated. The Commission has jurisdiction only to investigate provisions of Chapter 104 and Chapter 106, Florida Statutes. Please include the following items as part of your attached statement:

- The facts and actions that you believe support the violations you allege;
- The names/telephone numbers of persons whom you believe may be witnesses to the facts;
- A copy or picture of any political advertisement(s) you mention in your statement;
- A copy of each document you mention in your statement;
- An explanation of why you believe information you reference from websites is relevant; and
- Any other evidence supporting your allegations.

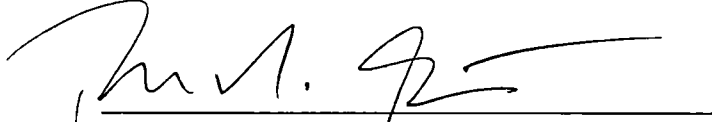
**SEE REVERSE SIDE OF DOCUMENT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

***Any person who files a complaint while knowing that the allegations are false or without merit commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in Sections 775.082 and 775.083, Florida Statutes.***

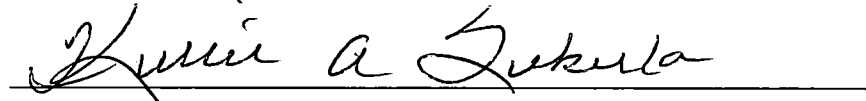
**4. OATH:**

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF Escambia

I swear or affirm that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

  
Original Signature of Person Bringing Complaint

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5 day of  
May, 20 21

  
Signature of Officer Authorized to Administer Oaths or Notary Public



(Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)

Personally Known  Or Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced \_\_\_\_\_

**5. IMPROPERLY COMPLETED COMPLAINT FORMS MAY BE RETURNED:**

- You **MUST submit this** completed complaint form in order to file a complaint.
- You **MUST** complete **ALL FOUR** of the above sections of this form. **DO NOT** leave any blanks.
- You **MUST** submit the **ORIGINAL** complaint form. Copied/faxed/emailed forms are returned.
- Each complaint can only be filed against **ONE PERSON** or **ENTITY**. If you wish to file against multiple parties, you **MUST** submit a complaint form for **each party** you wish to file against.
- **DO NOT** submit multiple complaint forms with one set of attachments applying to multiple complaints. You **MUST** attach **copies** of attachments to **each complaint** to which they apply.
- **MAKE SURE** the alleged violation(s) of **Chapters 104 or 106** occurred within the last **2 years**.
- **MAKE SURE** your complaint is **sworn** and there is **no defect** to the **notarization** in Section 4.



# Florida Elections Commission

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



April 28, 2021

The Honorable David H. Stafford  
Escambia County Supervisor of Elections  
PO Box 12601  
Pensacola, FL 32591-2601

Dear Mr. Stafford:

The Florida Elections Commission received your complaint alleging a violation of Florida's election laws. However, your complaint is being returned to you because it does not comply with Rule 2B-1.0025, Florida Administrative Code.

In accordance with Rule 2B-1.0025, the complaint is being rejected due to the following reason(s):

- Complaint is not filed on FEC Form 1
- Information required by FEC Form 1 is incomplete
- More than one Respondent is named
- Complainant's name is not included
- Exhibits or attachments referenced in the complaint are not attached to each complaint
- Complaint does not include an original signature
- Complaint is not properly notarized

If you have any questions, please contact us at [fec@myfloridalegal.com](mailto:fec@myfloridalegal.com) or at the number listed above. Enclosed is a copy of FEC Form 1, Complaint form, should you decide to refile your complaint.

Sincerely,

*Donna Ann Malphurs*

Donna Ann Malphurs  
Agency Clerk

DM/med

Enclosures: Complaint materials  
FEC Form 1 (eff 8/22/17)

## **2B-1.0025 Complaints.**

(1) Any complaint alleging violations of the Florida Election Code over which the Florida Elections Commission has jurisdiction may be filed with the Commission.

(a) Within 5 days after receipt of a complaint, Commission staff shall conduct a technical and clerical review of the complaint to ensure that:

1. FEC Form 1, entitled "Complaint," (5/17), which is hereby adopted and incorporated by reference and can be obtained from <http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-08573>, or from the Commission's website at [www.fec.state.fl.us](http://www.fec.state.fl.us), has been used to file the complaint,

2. All information required by FEC Form 1 has been provided, and all instructions on the complaint form have been followed,

3. A single respondent has been named in the complaint,

4. The complaint has not been submitted anonymously,

5. Any exhibits or attachments referenced in the complaint have been included with the complaint, and if multiple complaints have been submitted together, separate copies of exhibits or attachments referenced in each complaint have been attached to the complaint that references those exhibits or attachments,

6. The complaint has been properly signed by the complainant under oath in the presence of a notary public or other person authorized by law to administer oaths; and,

7. The complaint contains the original signature of the complainant.

(b) If a complaint does not comply with any of the requirements of paragraph (1)(a), of this rule, or is otherwise incomplete, Commission staff shall return the complaint to the complainant and identify the defect(s). Commission staff shall provide assistance or information to persons seeking to file a complaint, but shall not encourage, solicit, or discourage the filing of a complaint.

Complaints that are returned in accordance with this subsection remain confidential in accordance with Section 106.25(7), F.S.

(c) Commission staff shall assign a case number to each complaint which is not returned to the complainant, and Commission staff shall then deliver the complaint to the executive director in order for the executive director to determine whether the complaint is legally sufficient.

(2) Upon receipt of a complaint from Commission staff after the completion of the technical and clerical review required by subsection (1), of this rule, the executive director shall determine whether the complaint is legally sufficient. A complaint is legally sufficient if it meets the following criteria:

(a) The complaint alleges a violation of Chapter 104 or 106, F.S.;

(b) The complaint contains specific facts upon which the complainant bases the allegation of a violation of law;

(c) The complaint alleges a violation that occurred within two years of the date the complaint is filed with the Commission;

(d) The complaint is based on personal information or information other than hearsay; and,

(e) The complaint otherwise complies with the requirements of paragraph (1)(a), of this rule.

(3) If a person files a second complaint against the same person, the executive director shall determine that the second complaint is legally insufficient, if the second complaint alleges violations that are based upon the same facts or allegations that were raised or could have been raised in the first complaint.

(4) In determining the legal sufficiency of a complaint, the executive director shall consider any document referred to in the complaint and any material Commission staff has obtained in prior Commission investigations. In determining the legal sufficiency of a complaint alleging a violation of the campaign finance laws, the executive director shall also consider documents on file with the filing officer.

(5) When the executive director determines that a complaint is legally insufficient, the complainant and the respondent shall be notified. The notice shall include the reason the complaint is legally insufficient and notify the complainant that he has 14 days to correct the stated ground of insufficiency by filing FEC Form 2, entitled "Additional Complaint Information," (5/17), which is hereby adopted and incorporated by reference and can be obtained from <http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-08574> or from the Commission's website at [www.fec.state.fl.us](http://www.fec.state.fl.us). If the complainant does not respond within 14 days, the executive director shall close the case. If the complainant responds but does not provide information that corrects the stated ground of insufficiency, the case shall be closed. A corrected complaint must also be sworn as required by Section 106.25(2), F.S.



**David H. Stafford**  
ESCAMBIA COUNTY  
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Post Office Box 12601  
Pensacola, FL 32591-2601  
EscambiaVotes.gov

Phone: (850) 595-3900  
Fax: (850) 595-3914  
soe@escambiavotes.com

FILED-FL ELECTIONS COM  
29 APR '21 PM 3:07

April 20, 2021

Florida Elections Commission  
107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224  
Tallahassee FL 32399-1050

Reference Alleged Violation(s):

Pursuant to Florida Statutes 106.07(8) (d), I am officially notifying the Florida Elections Commission of the following action of candidate John Reading:

- Failure to pay his candidate termination report fine in the amount of \$4200.00.

Supporting documents are enclosed.

Sincerely,

David H. Stafford, CERA  
Supervisor of Elections

Enclosure(s)

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

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

(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

2007

20 MAY 28 11:54 AM

**NOTE: This form must be on file with the qualifying officer before opening the campaign account.**

**OFFICE USE ONLY**

**1. CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX(ES):**

Initial Filing of Form      Re-filing to Change:  Treasurer/Deputy     Depository     Office     Party

**2. Name of Candidate (in this order: First, Middle, Last)**

JOHN THOMAS READING

**3. Address (include post office box or street, city, state, zip code)**

968 BROKEN ARROW LN  
CAUT., FL 32533

**4. Telephone**

(850) 619 4389

**5. E-mail address**

N51285@GMAIL.COM

**6. Office sought (include district, circuit, group number)**

COMMISSIONER 5

**7. If a candidate for a nonpartisan office, check if applicable:**

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**

Write-In     No Party Affiliation     REPUBLICAN Party candidate.

**9. I have appointed the following person to act as my**  Campaign Treasurer     Deputy Treasurer

**10. Name of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer**

JOHN READING

**11. Mailing Address**

968 BROKEN ARROW LN., CAUT., FL. 32533

**12. Telephone**

(850) 619 4389

**13. City**

CANTONMENT

**14. County**

ESCAMBIA

**15. State**

FL

**16. Zip Code**

32533

**17. E-mail address**

N51285@GMAIL.COM

**18. I have designated the following bank as my**  Primary Depository     Secondary Depository

**19. Name of Bank**

HARVESTERS

**20. Address**

400 HWY 29 S

**21. City**

CANTONMENT

**22. County**

ESCAMBIA

**23. State**

FL

**24. Zip Code**

32533

**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.**

**25. Date**

5-28-20

**26. Signature of Candidate**

X

**27. Treasurer's Acceptance of Appointment (fill in the blanks and check the appropriate block)**

I, JOHN READING, do hereby accept the appointment  
(Please Print or Type Name)

designated above as:  Campaign Treasurer     Deputy Treasurer.

5-28-20

Date

X

Signature of Campaign Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer



**David H. Stafford**  
 ESCAMBIA COUNTY  
 SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Post Office Box 12601  
 Pensacola, FL 32591-2601  
 EscambiaVotes.com

Phone: (850) 595-3900  
 Fax: (850) 595-3914  
 soe@escambiovotes.com

*JOHN READING COUNTY COMMISSIONER DIST 5*

**Candidate Name and Office Seeking**

Candidate Received Instructions and/or materials on the following:

- Received Candidate Handbook or told where online to access it.  
 Escambia County Handbook: <https://escambiovotes.com/running-for-office>

20 MAY 28 11:54 AM

Division of Elections Handbook: <http://dos.myflorida.com/elections/forms-publications/publications/>

- Provided access to Florida Statutes Chapter 106 – Campaign Financing and Form DS-DE 84 due within 10 days of pre-filing. Also Chapter 104 which refers to Violations and Penalties.  
[http://election.dos.state.fl.us/publications/pdf/2014/2014\\_election-laws.pdf](http://election.dos.state.fl.us/publications/pdf/2014/2014_election-laws.pdf)  
<https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/forms-publications/forms/>
- Cybersecurity link's for Campaigns: <https://www.belfercenter.org/CyberPlaybook>  
[https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/DHS%20Campaign%20Checklist\\_FINAL%20October.pdf](https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/DHS%20Campaign%20Checklist_FINAL%20October.pdf)
- Informed of Online Campaign Reports and due dates. (Frequency of Campaign Reports will change - see Schedule) ID and Password will be sent through US Mail.
- Contributions: As of November 1, 2013, \$1,000 aggregate limit to include check, cash and in-kind; \$50 Cash Limit (to include candidate); Contributions from joint checking account is from the person who signed the check. Each contribution, no matter how small shall include address and if over \$100 must include specific occupation (cannot list business owner or sales, etc. – must list specific type of business. Also, contributions/loans from candidates must be listed. If over \$100, must list occupation. Cannot list occupation as "candidate").
- Expenditures: All transactions should go through campaign account. Must list address and purpose for each expenditure.
- Informed Candidate of the requirement that all printed materials should contain Political Disclaimers, samples are included in handbooks.
- Informed Candidate that the News Media will be notified.

*[Signature]* 5-25-20  
 Candidate (or Representative) Signature and Date

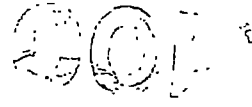
*NS1285@GMAIL.COM*  
 Email Address for Report Notices and Candidate Information

*MS - 6-15-20*  
 Due Date of First Campaign Report  
*submitted*  
 Due Date of Statement of Candidate  
 Form (if not turning in at pre-filing)

**STATEMENT OF  
CANDIDATE**

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

OFFICE USE ONLY



20 MAY 28 11:54 AM

I, JOHN READING,

candidate for the office of COUNTY COMMISSIONER-25;

have been provided access to read and understand the requirements of  
Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.

X   
Signature of Candidate

5/28/20  
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).





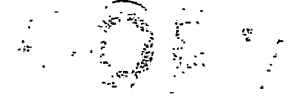
**David H. Stafford**  
ESCAMBIA COUNTY  
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Post Office Box 12601  
Pensacola, FL 32591-2601  
EscambiaVotes.com

Phone: (850) 595-3900  
Fax: (850) 595-3914  
soe@escambiovotes.com

## Immediate Attention Requested

### *Possible Fine for Late Report*



January 7, 2021

Mr. John Reading  
968 Broken Arrow Lane  
Cantonment FL 32533

Article #: 92148969009997901540722008

Dear Mr. Reading:

This letter is to notify you that Your Termination Campaign Report (coded TR-PR) was due before Midnight, Monday, November 16, 2020. As of the date on this letter your report has not been received in our office.

Since you signed the Statement of Candidate form stating that you have read and understand Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, you are aware that you are assessed a fine for each late day of \$50.00 per day for the first three days late and thereafter, \$500.00 per day. However, the fine may not exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, covered by the late report. F.S. 106.07 (8) (b)

Once we receive your report, we will notify you of the specific amount of your fine. The fine must be paid from personal funds.

Please be advised, however, that a willful failure to file a campaign treasurer's report constitutes a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to file a report, such failure will be considered a willful violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, and we will be required to notify the Florida Elections Commission of your failure to file.

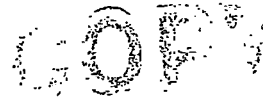
Sincerely,

David H. Stafford, CERA  
Supervisor of Elections

## Keelie Sekerka

---

**From:** Keelie Sekerka  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 15, 2020 9:04 AM  
**To:** N51285@gmail.com  
**Subject:** P7 campaign report



Friendly Reminder that your P7 campaign report was due yesterday. It is now past due. Please submit your report as soon as possible.

Pursuant to Section 106.07(8)(b) of the Florida Statutes, the penalty for late reporting is \$50 per day for the first three days late and, thereafter, \$500 per day for each late day, not to exceed 25 percent of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report.

Please be advised, however, that a willful failure to pay a campaign fine for submitting a late report constitutes a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to pay the fine, such failure will be considered a willful violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, and we will be required to notify the Florida Elections Commission of your failure to file.

Thank You,  
**Keelie A. Sekerka**  
Election Specialist  
Escambia County Supervisor of Elections Office  
850.595.3900 ext. 4507  
[keelie\\_sekerka@escambivotes.com](mailto:keelie_sekerka@escambivotes.com)

Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing.



**David H. Stafford**  
ESCAMBIA COUNTY  
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Post Office Box 12601  
Pensacola, FL 32591-2601  
EscambiaVotes.com

Phone: (850) 595-3900  
Fax: (850) 595-3914  
soe@escambiovotes.com

August 31, 2020

John Reading  
2020 Escambia County Commissioner, District 5 Campaign  
968 Broken Arrow Lane  
Cantonment FL 32533

Dear Mr. Reading:

Your P7 Campaign Report for the August 01, 2020 – August 13, 2020 reporting period was not submitted on time. The report was due on August 14, 2020.

Pursuant to Section 106.07(8)(b) of the Florida Statutes, the penalty for late reporting is \$50 per day for the first three days late and, thereafter, \$500 per day for each late day, not to exceed 25 percent of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report. This fine must be paid from your personal funds, not your campaign account funds. If you choose to pay by check, make the payment payable to: Escambia County General Fund.

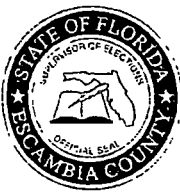
Your P7 Report was received by our office on August 15, 2020; therefore, your fine is \$50.00. This fine must be paid within twenty days from receipt of this letter. If you wish to appeal or dispute this fine, you must contact the Florida Elections Commission.

Please be advised, however, that a willful failure to pay a campaign fine for submitting a late report constitutes a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to pay the fine, such failure will be considered a willful violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, and we will be required to notify the Florida Elections Commission of your failure to file.

Please don't hesitate to contact our office if you have any questions at (850)595-3900.

Sincerely,

David Stafford, CERA  
Supervisor of Elections



**David H. Stafford**  
ESCAMBIA COUNTY  
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Post Office Box 12601  
Pensacola, FL 32591-2601  
EscambiaVotes.com

Phone: (850) 595-3900  
Fax: (850) 595-3914  
soe@escambivotes.com

August 31, 2020

John Reading  
2020 Escambia County Commissioner, District 5 Campaign  
968 Broken Arrow Lane  
Cantonment FL 32533

Dear Mr. Reading:

This is to inform you that your Termination Report (coded TR-PR) is due on or before Monday, November 16, 2020. It must contain all previously unreported contributions and expenditures as well as the disposition of funds pursuant to section 106.141 Florida Statutes. Therefore, your report must cover from August 14, 2020 through November 16, 2020 or the date you closed the campaign account. Please make sure that your total contributions to date match your total expenditures to date.

A candidate may be reimbursed by the campaign for any previously reported contributions by the candidate to the campaign, in full or in part.

A candidate is required to dispose of surplus funds. Enclosed you will find an excerpt from the Division of Elections' Candidate Handbook regarding termination reports and the means of disposing funds.

Please remember that reports that are filed late are subject to the penalties prescribed under Section 106.07(8), Florida Statutes.

Please do not hesitate to contact our Candidate Qualifying Department at (850) 595-3900 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

David H. Stafford, CERA  
Supervisor of Elections

DHS/ks  
Enclosure



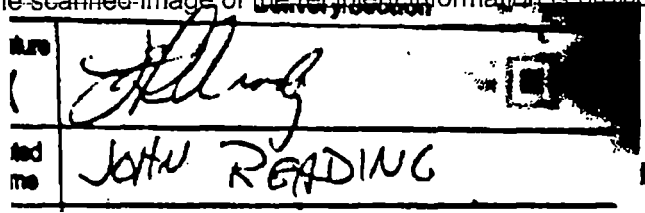
emailed & mailed  
regular & certified mail

Date Produced: 04/05/2021

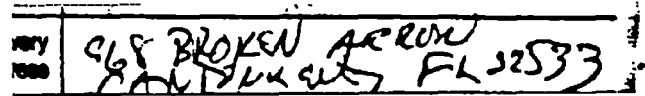
ESCAMBIA COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS:

The following is the delivery information for Certified Mail™/RRE item number 9214 8969 0099 9790 1541 0144 23. Our records indicate that this item was delivered on 03/29/2021 at 01:29 p.m. in CANTONMENT, FL 32533. The scanned image of the recipient information is provided below.

Signature of Recipient :



Address of Recipient :



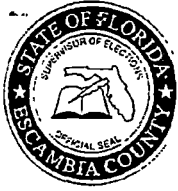
Thank you for selecting the Postal Service for your mailing needs. If you require additional assistance, please contact your local post office or Postal Service representative.

Sincerely,  
United States Postal Service

The customer reference number shown below is not validated or endorsed by the United States Postal Service. It is solely for customer use.

<b>U.S. Postal Service™</b> <b>CERTIFIED MAIL® RECEIPT</b> <i>Domestic Mail Only</i>	
For delivery information, visit our website at <a href="http://www.usps.com">www.usps.com</a>	
<b>9214 8969 0099 9790 1541 0144 23</b>	
Certified Mail Fee <b>\$3.60</b>	
Extra Services & Fees (check box, add fee as appropriate) <input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt (hardcopy) \$1.75 <input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt (electronic) \$0.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail Restricted Delivery \$0.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Required \$0.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Restricted Delivery \$0.00	
Postage <b>\$0.510</b>	
Total Postage and Fees <b>\$5.860</b>	
Sent To <b>Reading, John</b> <b>2020 County Commissioner Campaign</b> Street, Apt. No., or PO Box No. <b>968 Broken Arrow Lane</b> City, State, Zip+4 <b>Cantonment, FL 32533</b>	

Customer Reference Number: Reading John 2020 Co



**David H. Stafford**  
ESCAMBIA COUNTY  
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Post Office Box 12601  
Pensacola, FL 32591-2601  
EscambiaVotes.com

Phone: (850) 595-3900  
Fax: (850) 595-3914  
soe@escambivotes.com

March 16, 2021

**COPY**

John Reading  
2020 County Commissioner Campaign, District 5  
968 Broken Arrow Lane  
Cantonment FL 32533

**Article #: 92148969009997901541014423**

Dear Mr. Reading:

The TR-PR final Campaign Report for the August 14, 2020 – November 16, 2020 reporting period was not submitted on time. The report was due on November 16, 2020.

Pursuant to Section 106.07(8)(b) of the Florida Statutes, the penalty for late reporting is \$50 per day for the first three days late and, not to exceed 25 percent of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report. This fine must be paid from your personal funds, not your campaign account funds. If you choose to pay by check make the payment payable to Escambia County General Fund.

Your TR-PR final Report was received by our office on February 8, 2021, eighty-four days late; therefore, your fine is \$4200.00. This fine must be paid within twenty days from receipt of this letter. If you wish to appeal or dispute this fine, you must contact the Florida Elections Commission.

Please be advised, however, that a willful failure to pay a campaign fine for submitting a late report constitutes a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to pay the fine, such failure will be considered a willful violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, and we will be required to notify the Florida Elections Commission of your failure to file.

Sincerely,

David Stafford, CERA  
Supervisor of Elections

**Keelie Sekerka**

---

**From:** Microsoft Outlook  
**To:** John Reading  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 3:01 PM  
**Subject:** Relayed: Late report fine

**Delivery to these recipients or groups is complete, but no delivery notification was sent by the destination server:**

[John Reading \(n51285@gmail.com\)](mailto:n51285@gmail.com)

Subject: Late report fine



Late report fine

## Keelie Sekerka

---

**From:** Keelie Sekerka  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 15, 2020 9:04 AM  
**To:** N51285@gmail.com  
**Subject:** P7 campaign report

Friendly Reminder that your P7 campaign report was due yesterday. It is now past due. Please submit your report as soon as possible.

Pursuant to Section 106.07(8)(b) of the Florida Statutes, the penalty for late reporting is \$50 per day for the first three days late and, thereafter, \$500 per day for each late day, not to exceed 25 percent of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report.

Please be advised, however, that a willful failure to pay a campaign fine for submitting a late report constitutes a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to pay the fine, such failure will be considered a willful violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, and we will be required to notify the Florida Elections Commission of your failure to file.

Thank You,  
**Keelie A. Sekerka**  
Election Specialist  
Escambia County Supervisor of Elections Office  
850.595.3900 ext. 4507  
[keelie\\_sekerka@escambiavotes.com](mailto:keelie_sekerka@escambiavotes.com)

Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing.

**Keelie Sekerka**

---

**From:** Microsoft Outlook  
**To:** N51285@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 15, 2020 9:04 AM  
**Subject:** Relayed: P7 campaign report

**Delivery to these recipients or groups is complete, but no delivery notification was sent by the destination server:**

[N51285@gmail.com](mailto:N51285@gmail.com) ([N51285@gmail.com](mailto:N51285@gmail.com))

Subject: P7 campaign report



P7 campaign  
report



**David H. Stafford**  
 ESCAMBIA COUNTY  
 SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Post Office Box 12601  
 Pensacola, FL 32591-2601  
 EscambiaVotes.com

Phone: (850) 595-3900  
 Fax: (850) 595-3914  
 soe@escambivotes.com

**Immediate Attention Requested**  
**Possible Fine for Late Report**

**COPY**

January 7, 2021

Mr. John Reading  
 968 Broken Arrow Lane  
 Cantonment FL 32533

Article #: 92148969009997901540722008

Dear Mr. Reading:

This letter is to notify you that Your Termination Campaign Report (coded TR-PR) was due before Midnight, Monday, November 16, 2020. As of the date on this letter your report has not been received in our office.

Since you signed the Statement of Candidate form stating that you have read and understand Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, you are aware that you are assessed a fine for each late day of \$50.00 per day for the first three days late and thereafter, \$500.00 per day. However, the fine may not exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, covered by the late report. F.S. 106.07 (8) (b)

Once we receive your report, we will notify you of the specific amount of your fine. The fine must be paid from personal funds.

Please be advised, however, that a willful failure to file a campaign treasurer's report constitutes a violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, independent of the automatic fine violation referenced above. Therefore, if you fail to file a report, such failure will be considered a willful violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, and we will be required to notify the Florida Elections Commission of your failure to file.

Sincerely,

David H. Stafford, CERA  
 Supervisor of Elections

Street Address: 213 Palafox Place, 2nd Floor - Pensacola, Florida

<b>U.S. Postal Service™</b> <b>CERTIFIED MAIL® RECEIPT</b> <i>Domestic Mail Only</i>	
For delivery information, visit our website at <a href="http://www.usps.com">www.usps.com</a>	
9214 8969 0099 9790 1540 7220 08	
Certified Mail Fee \$ <b>3.55</b>	
Extra Services & Fees (check box, add fee as appropriate)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt (hardcopy) \$ <b>0.00</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt (electronic) \$ <b>0.00</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail Restricted Delivery \$ <b>0.00</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Required	
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Restricted Delivery	
Postage \$ <b>0.500</b>	
Total Postage and Fees \$ <b>5.750</b>	
Sent To Reading, John Street, Apt. No., 2020 County Commissioner Campaign or PO Box No. 968 Broken Arrow Lane City, State, Zip+4 Cantonment, FL 32533	

David H. Stafford  
Supervisor of Elections  
Escambia County  
PO Box 12601  
Pensacola FL 32591

NEOPOST FIRST-CLASS MAIL  
05/05/2021  
US POSTAGE \$003.00



ZIP 32502  
041M11455177

RECEIVED

2021 MAY 10 P 3: 54

STATE OF FLORIDA  
ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Florida Elections Commission  
107 West Gaines Street, Ste 224  
Tallahassee FL 32399-1050

