STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In Re: Committee For A Better Oviedo Case No.: FEC 22-314

TO: Dominic Persampiere, Chair PO Box 621704 Oviedo, FL 32762-2762

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

NOTICE OF HEARING (INFORMAL HEARINGS (IH))

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, **November 14, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.,** *or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard*, at the following location: **402 South Monroe Street, 12 HOB, Tallahassee, Florida 32399.** Due to heightened security access requirements, please bring only essential items into the building and plan to arrive early to allow for delays coming through security.

Failure to appear in accordance with this notice will constitute a waiver of your right to participate in the hearing. Continuances will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

This hearing will be conducted pursuant to Section 106.25, Florida Statutes, which governs your participation as follows:

If you are the Respondent, you may attend the hearing, and you or your attorney will have 5 minutes to present your case to the Commission. However, some cases (including those in which consent orders or recommendations for no probable cause are being considered) may be decided by an *en masse* vote and, unless you request to be heard or the Commission requests that your case be considered separately on the day of the hearing, your case will *not* be individually heard.

If you are the Complainant, you may attend the hearing, but you will *not* be permitted to address the Commission. In addition, some cases (including those in which consent orders or recommendations for no probable cause are being considered) may be decided by an *en masse* vote and, unless the Respondent requests to be heard or the Commission requests that the case be considered separately on the day of the hearing, the case will *not* be individually heard.

If you are an Appellant, and you have requested a hearing, you may attend the hearing, and you or your attorney will have 5 *minutes* to present your case to the Commission.

Please be advised that both confidential and public cases are scheduled to be heard by the Florida Elections Commission on this date. As an Appellant, Respondent or Complainant in one case, you will *not* be permitted to attend the hearings on other confidential cases.

The Commission will electronically record the meeting. Although the Commission's recording is considered the official record of the hearing, the Respondent may provide, at his own expense, a certified court reporter to also record the hearing.

If you require an accommodation due to a disability, contact Donna Ann Malphurs at (850) 922-4539 or by mail at 107 West Gaines Street, The Collins Building, Suite 224, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, at least 5 days before the hearing.

See further instructions on the reverse side.

Tim Vaccaro

Executive Director Florida Elections Commission October 31, 2023 Please refer to the information below for further instructions related to your particular hearing:

If this is a hearing to consider **an appeal from an automatic fine**, the Filing Officer has imposed a fine on you for your failure to file a campaign treasurer's report on the designated due date and, by filing an appeal, you have asked the Commission to consider either (1) that the report was in fact timely filed; or (2) that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure to file the report timely. You are required to prove your case. If the Commission finds that the report was filed timely or that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure, it may waive the fine, in whole or in part. The Commission may reduce a fine after considering the factors in Section 106.265, Florida Statutes. If the Commission finds that the report was not timely filed and there were no unusual circumstances, the fine will be upheld.

If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order before a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed and become public. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the case will remain confidential, unless confidentiality has been waived.

If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order after a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the Respondent will be entitled to another hearing to determine if the Respondent committed the violation(s) alleged.

If this is a **probable cause hearing**, the Commission will decide if there is probable cause to believe that the Respondent committed a violation of Florida's election laws. Respondent should be prepared to explain how the staff in its recommendation incorrectly applied the law to the facts of the case. *Respondent may not testify, call others to testify, or introduce any documentary or other evidence at the probable cause hearing.* The Commission will only decide whether Respondent should be *charged* with a violation and, before the Commission determines whether a violation has occurred or a fine should be imposed, Respondent will have an opportunity for another hearing at which evidence may be introduced.

If this is an **informal hearing**, it will be conducted pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes; Chapter 28 and Commission Rule 2B-1.004, Florida Administrative Code. At the hearing, the Commission will decide whether the Respondent committed the violation(s) charged in the Order of Probable Cause. The Respondent will be permitted to testify. However, the Respondent may not call witnesses to testify.

Respondent may argue why the established facts in the Staff Recommendation do not support the violations charged in the Order of Probable Cause. At Respondent's request, the Commission may determine whether Respondent's actions in the case were willful. The Respondent may also address the appropriateness of the recommended fine. If Respondent claims that his limited resources make him unable to pay the statutory fine, he must provide the Commission with written proof of his financial resources at the hearing. A financial affidavit form is available from the Commission Clerk.



Florida Elections Commission

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



September 6, 2023

Committee For A Better Oviedo Dominic Persampiere, Chair PO Box 621704 Oviedo, FL 32762-2762

RE: Case No.: FEC 22-314; Respondent: Committee For A Better Oviedo

Dear Ms. Persampiere:

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

If you have any questions, please contact us at the number listed above or at fec@myfloridalegal.com.

Sincerely,

Tim Vaccaro

Executive Director

TV/dm

cc: Division of Elections, Complainant

STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In Re: Committee For A Better Oviedo Case No.: FEC 22-314

TO: Dominic Persampiere, Chair

PO Box 621704 Oviedo, FL 32762-2762 Division of Elections 500 South Bronough Street, Room 316 Tallahassee, FL 32399

NOTICE OF HEARING (INFORMAL HEARING)

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, **August 15, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.,** or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard, at the following location: **Virtual Meeting via GoTo Webinar:**

WEB PARTICIPATION: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4391393799096818270
AUDIO PARTICIPATION: 1 877 309 2074 ATTENDEE ACCESS CODE: 424-284-031

Failure to appear in accordance with this notice will constitute a waiver of your right to participate in the hearing. Continuances will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

This hearing will be conducted pursuant to Section 106.25, Florida Statutes, which governs your participation as follows:

If you are the Respondent, you may attend the hearing, and you or your attorney will have 5 minutes to present your case to the Commission. However, some cases (including those in which consent orders or recommendations for no probable cause are being considered) may be decided by an *en masse* vote and, unless you request to be heard or the Commission requests that your case be considered separately on the day of the hearing, your case will *not* be individually heard.

If you are the Complainant, you may attend the hearing, but you will *not* be permitted to address the Commission. In addition, some cases (including those in which consent orders or recommendations for no probable cause are being considered) may be decided by an *en masse* vote and, unless the Respondent requests to be heard or the Commission requests that the case be considered separately on the day of the hearing, the case will *not* be individually heard.

If you are an Appellant, and you have requested a hearing, you may attend the hearing, and you or your attorney will have 5 *minutes* to present your case to the Commission.

Please be advised that both confidential and public cases are scheduled to be heard by the Florida Elections Commission on this date. As an Appellant, Respondent or Complainant in one case, you will *not* be permitted to attend the hearings on other confidential cases.

The Commission will electronically record the meeting. Although the Commission's recording is considered the official record of the hearing, the Respondent may provide, at his own expense, a certified court reporter to also record the hearing.

If you require an accommodation due to a disability, contact Donna Ann Malphurs at (850) 922-4539 or by mail at 107 West Gaines Street, The Collins Building, Suite 224, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, at least 5 days before the hearing.

See further instructions on the reverse side.

Tim Vaccaro

Executive Director Florida Elections Commission August 1, 2023 Please refer to the information below for further instructions related to your particular hearing:

If this is a hearing to consider **an appeal from an automatic fine**, the Filing Officer has imposed a fine on you for your failure to file a campaign treasurer's report on the designated due date and, by filing an appeal, you have asked the Commission to consider either (1) that the report was in fact timely filed; or (2) that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure to file the report timely. You are required to prove your case. If the Commission finds that the report was filed timely or that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure, it may waive the fine, in whole or in part. The Commission may reduce a fine after considering the factors in Section 106.265, Florida Statutes. If the Commission finds that the report was not timely filed and there were no unusual circumstances, the fine will be upheld.

If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order before a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed and become public. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the case will remain confidential, unless confidentiality has been waived.

If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order after a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the Respondent will be entitled to another hearing to determine if the Respondent committed the violation(s) alleged.

If this is a **probable cause hearing**, the Commission will decide if there is probable cause to believe that the Respondent committed a violation of Florida's election laws. Respondent should be prepared to explain how the staff in its recommendation incorrectly applied the law to the facts of the case. *Respondent may not testify, call others to testify, or introduce any documentary or other evidence at the probable cause hearing.* The Commission will only decide whether Respondent should be *charged* with a violation and, before the Commission determines whether a violation has occurred or a fine should be imposed, Respondent will have an opportunity for another hearing at which evidence may be introduced.

If this is an **informal hearing**, it will be conducted pursuant Sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes; Chapter 28 and Commission Rule 2B-1.004, Florida Administrative Code. At the hearing, the Commission will decide whether the Respondent committed the violation(s) charged in the Order of Probable Cause. The Respondent will be permitted to testify. However, the Respondent may not call witnesses to testify.

Respondent may argue why the established facts in the Staff Recommendation do not support the violations charged in the Order of Probable Cause. At Respondent's request, the Commission may determine whether Respondent's actions in the case were willful. The Respondent may also address the appropriateness of the recommended fine. If Respondent claims that his limited resources make him unable to pay the statutory fine, he must provide the Commission with written proof of his financial resources at the hearing. A financial affidavit form is available from the Commission Clerk.

STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Florida Elections Commission, Petitioner,

v. Case No.: FEC 22-314

Committee for a Better Oviedo, Respondent.

ORDER OF PROBABLE CAUSE

THIS MATTER was heard by the Florida Elections Commission ("Commission") at its regularly scheduled meeting on May 16, 2023, in Tallahassee, Florida.

On February 8, 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 violations:

Count 1:

On or about June 10, 2022, Committee for a Better Oviedo violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that it would not be filing its 2022 M5 Report.

Count 2:

On or about June 24, 2022, Committee for a Better Oviedo violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that it would not be filing its 2022 P1 Report.

Count 3:

On or about July 1, 2022, Committee for a Better Oviedo violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that it would not be filing its 2022 P1A Report.

Count 4:

On or about July 29, 2022, Committee for a Better Oviedo violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that it would not be filing its 2022 P4 Report.

DONE AND ORDERED by the Florida Elections Commission on May 16, 2023.

Tim Vaccaro, J.D., Executive Director For Joni Alexis Poitier, Vice Chair

Florida Elections Commission

Copies furnished to: Mattie T. Clay, Assistant General Counsel Committee for a Better Oviedo, 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 thirty (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 thirty (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 thirty (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 West Gaines Street, Collins Building, Suite 224, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050. The telephone number is (850) 922-4539. The Clerk will provide you with a copy of Chapter 28-106, *Florida Administrative Code*, and other applicable rules upon request. No mediation is available.

STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In Re: Committee For A Better Oviedo Case No.: FEC 22-

TO: Dominic Persampiere, Chair Division of Elections

PO Box 621704 500 South Bronough Street, Room 316

Oviedo, FL 32762-2762 Tallahassee, FL 32399

NOTICE OF HEARING (PROBABLE CAUSE DETERMINATION)

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, May 16, 2023 at 8:30, or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard, at the following location: Join Zoom Meeting:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMpdumuqTsqGt1MNuvpOBOl5XPapAI 9zfC

 Audio Participation:
 Meeting ID:
 Passcode:

 Dial: 1 301 715 8592
 874 1067 0009
 772737

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

Failure to appear in accordance with this notice will constitute a waiver of your right to participate in the hearing. Continuances will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

This hearing will be conducted pursuant to Section 106.25, Florida Statutes, which governs your participation as follows:

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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.

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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 May 2, 2023 Please refer to the information below for further instructions related to your particular hearing:

If this is a hearing to consider **an appeal from an automatic fine**, the Filing Officer has imposed a fine on you for your failure to file a campaign treasurer's report on the designated due date and, by filing an appeal, you have asked the Commission to consider either (1) that the report was in fact timely filed; or (2) that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure to file the report timely. You are required to prove your case. If the Commission finds that the report was filed timely or that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure, it may waive the fine, in whole or in part. The Commission may reduce a fine after considering the factors in Section 106.265, Florida Statutes. If the Commission finds that the report was not timely filed and there were no unusual circumstances, the fine will be upheld.

If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order before a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed and become public. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the case will remain confidential, unless confidentiality has been waived.

If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order after a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the Respondent will be entitled to another hearing to determine if the Respondent committed the violation(s) alleged.

If this is a **probable cause hearing**, the Commission will decide if there is probable cause to believe that the Respondent committed a violation of Florida's election laws. Respondent should be prepared to explain how the staff in its recommendation incorrectly applied the law to the facts of the case. *Respondent may not testify, call others to testify, or introduce any documentary or other evidence at the probable cause hearing.* The Commission will only decide whether Respondent should be *charged* with a violation and, before the Commission determines whether a violation has occurred or a fine should be imposed, Respondent will have an opportunity for another hearing at which evidence may be introduced.

If this is an **informal hearing**, it will be conducted pursuant Sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes; Chapter 28 and Commission Rule 2B-1.004, Florida Administrative Code. At the hearing, the Commission will decide whether the Respondent committed the violation(s) charged in the Order of Probable Cause. The Respondent will be permitted to testify. However, the Respondent may not call witnesses to testify.

Respondent may argue why the established facts in the Staff Recommendation do not support the violations charged in the Order of Probable Cause. At Respondent's request, the Commission may determine whether Respondent's actions in the case were willful. The Respondent may also address the appropriateness of the recommended fine. If Respondent claims that his limited resources make him unable to pay the statutory fine, he must provide the Commission with written proof of his financial resources at the hearing. A financial affidavit form is available from the Commission Clerk.

STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In Re:	Committee for a Better Oviedo	Ca	se No.:	FEC 22-314
		/		

STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOLLOWING INVESTIGATION

Pursuant to Section 106.25(4)(c), Florida Statutes, undersigned staff counsel files this written recommendation for disposition of the referral in this case recommending that there is **probable cause** to charge Respondent with violating **Section 106.07(7)**, **Florida Statutes**. Based upon a thorough review of the Report of Investigation submitted on December 1, 2022, the following facts and law support this staff recommendation:

- 1. On September 7, 2022, the Florida Elections Commission ("Commission") received a referral from the Department of State, Division of Elections ("Division"), alleging that Committee for a Better Oviedo ("Respondent") violated Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.
- 2. Respondent is a political committee registered with the Division. (ROI Exhibit 2; Attachment A)¹ Dominic Persampiere was appointed to serve as the committee's chairperson, and Tom O'Hanlon was appointed to serve as the committee's treasurer. (ROI Exhibit 1, page 1; ROI Exhibit 2, pages 1-2)
- 3. By letter dated October 10, 2022, the Executive Director notified Respondent that Commission staff would investigate the following statutory provision:

Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a political committee registered with the Division of Elections, failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because it had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the following reporting periods:

• 2022 M5

2022 P1A

2022 P1

• 2022 P4

- 4. By letter dated September 15, 2020, Donna S. Brown for Kristi Reid Willis, Chief, Bureau of Election Records, sent Respondent a letter acknowledging that the Division had received its Statement of Organization and Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Political Committees forms. (ROI Exhibit 3, page 1)
- 5. The acknowledgment letter advised Respondent that all committees filing reports with the Division are required to use the electronic filing system ("EFS"), and provided

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

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 the Division's publications and reporting forms were available on its website and directed Respondent to print out the *Calendar of Reporting Dates* as well as other relevant documents. (ROI Exhibit 3, page 2)

- 6. Pursuant to Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, in any reporting period during which a political committee has not received funds, made any contributions, or expended any reportable funds, the filing of the required report for that period is waived. However, the political committee is required to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that no report is being filed on that date.
- 7. The *Political Committee Handbook* references the statutory requirement regarding written notification and directs political committees to notify the Division by way of the Division's electronic filing system. (ROI Exhibit 4, page 2) The *Political Committee EFS User's Guide* shows the process through which to notify the Division. The user's guide instructs political committees to select the relevant reporting period and place a checkmark in a box titled "Waiver" to indicate the lack of reportable financial activity. (ROI Exhibit 5, pages 2 & 3)
- 8. Respondent failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting dates that no reports would be filed for the following reporting periods, as set forth in the table below. (ROI Exhibit 6, page 1)

Report	Report Cover Period	Date Notification Due	Date Notification Filed	No. of Days Late
2022 M5	05/01/22 - 05/31/22	06/10/22	07/03/22	23
2022 P1	06/01/22 - 06/17/22	06/24/22	07/03/22	9
2022 P1A	06/18/22 - 06/24/22	07/01/22	07/03/22	2
2022 P4	07/16/22 - 07/22/22	07/29/22	08/04/22	6

- 9. Commission staff attempted to contact Respondent's chairperson and treasurer on six occasions to discuss the allegations. (ROI Exhibits 7 & 8) The chairperson answered on the last call but ended the call after the investigator identified herself and the reason for the call. (ROI Exhibit 7, page 1) Respondent has not replied to the investigation. (ROI Exhibits 7 & 8)
- 10. "Probable Cause" is defined as reasonable grounds of suspicion supported by circumstances sufficiently strong to warrant a cautious person in the belief that the person has committed the offense charged. Schmitt v. State, 590 So. 2d 404, 409 (Fla. 1991). Probable cause exists where the facts and circumstances, of which an [investigator] has reasonably trustworthy information, are sufficient in themselves for a reasonable man to reach the conclusion that an offense has been committed. Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles v. Favino, 667 So. 2d 305, 309 (Fla. 1st DCA 1995).

11. The facts set forth above show that Respondent is a political committee registered with the Division. Respondent failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting dates that no reports would be filed for the 2022 M5, 2022 P1, 2022 P1A, and 2022 P4 reporting periods.

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

Count 1:

On or about June 10, 2022, Committee for a Better Oviedo violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that it would not be filing its 2022 M5 Report.

Count 2:

On or about June 24, 2022, Committee for a Better Oviedo violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that it would not be filing its 2022 P1 Report.

Count 3:

On or about July 1, 2022, Committee for a Better Oviedo violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that it would not be filing its 2022 P1A Report.

Count 4:

On or about July 29, 2022, Committee for a Better Oviedo violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when it failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that it would not be filing its 2022 P4 Report.

Respectfully submitted on February <u>8</u>, 2023.

Mattie T. Clay

Assistant General Counsel

I reviewed this Staff Recommendation this _____ day of February 2023.

Stephanie J. Cunningham

General Counsel

Committee Tracking System

Committee for a Better Oviedo

Type:Political Committee

Status: Active

Address: Post Office Box 621704

Oviedo, FL 32762

Phone: (405) 673-9584

Email: committeeforabetteroviedo@gmail.com

Website: 78958

Chairperson: Dominic Persampiere

485 Suncrest Court

Oviedo, FL 32765

Treasurer: Tom O'Hanlon

Post Office Box 621704

Oviedo, FL 32762

Registered Agent: Thomas O'Hanlon

827 North Division Street

Oviedo, FL 32765

Purpose:

Affiliates:

Campaign Finance Activity

Campaign Documents

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Report of Investigation for Failure to Notify Filing Officer

Case Number: FEC 22-314

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

Respondent: Committee for a Better Oviedo

Respondent's Attorney: N/A Division of Elections (Division)

Referral Filed: September 7, 2022

Respondent Type: Political Committee

I. Preliminary Information:

1. Respondent is a political committee registered with the Division.

- 2. An Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository (DS-DE 6) was filed on September 14, 2020. Thomas O'Hanlon was appointed as campaign treasurer. To review the DS-DE 6, refer to Exhibit 1.
- 3. A Statement of Organization (DS-DE 5) for the political committee was filed with the Division on September 14, 2020. To review the Statement of Organization, refer to Exhibit 2.
- 4. An acknowledgement letter was mailed to the address provided on the DS-DE 5 on September 15, 2020, advising Respondent that all political committees 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 the Division's publications and reporting forms are available on their website, including Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, the *Political Committee 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 *Political Committee Handbook* discusses filing a notice of no activity when there is no financial activity to disclose on page 26. To review the relevant page of the *Handbook*, refer to Exhibit 4.
- 7. The *Political Committee EFS User's Guide* discusses how to notify the Division on the prescribed reporting date that no report will be filed using the EFS. Specifically, the *Handbook* instructs the user to click the box next to "Waiver" if there is no activity to disclose. To review the relevant pages from the *EFS User's Guide*, refer to Exhibit 5.

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

8. I investigated whether Respondent violated this section of the election laws by not timely notifying the filing officer, in writing, that no report(s) would be filed due to not receiving any contributions or making expenditures during the following reporting period(s). To review Respondent's filing history reflecting the untimely filed notifications summarized below, refer to Exhibit 6.

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Report	Report Cover Period	Date Notification Due	Date Notification Filed	No. of Days Late
2022 M5	05/01/22 - 05/31/22	06/10/22	07/03/22	23
2022 P1	06/01/22 – 06/17/22	06/24/22	07/03/22	9
2022 P1A	06/18/22 - 06/24/22	07/01/22	07/03/22	2
2022 P4	07/16/22 - 07/22/22	07/29/22	08/04/22	6

^{9.} Respondent did not respond to the referral.

10. I attempted to contact Respondent's Chairperson, Dominic Persampiere, 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 he has read Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, and/or the *Political Committee Handbook*. To review the phone log and emails, refer to Exhibits 7 and 8.

SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATOR:	Helen Hinson	Date: December 1, 2022.
SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATOR:	петен птизон	Date: December 1, 2022.

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

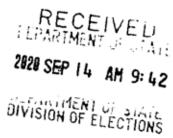
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Committee For A Better Oviedo -- FEC 22-314

LIST OF EXHIBITS					
Exhibits #s Description of Exhibits					
Exhibit 1	DS-DE 6				
Exhibit 2	Statement of Organization				
Exhibit 3	Division's Acknowledgement Letter				
Exhibit 4	Relevant page of the Political Committee Handbook				
Exhibit 5	Relevant pages of the Political Committee EFS User's Guide				
Exhibit 6	Respondent's Filing History				
Exhibit 7	Phone Log				
Exhibit 8	Emails to Respondent's Chairperson				

APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN **DEPOSITORY FOR** POLITICAL COMMITTEES

(Sections 106.011(2) and 106.021(1), F.S.)



CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX:					
Initial Filing for: Primary Treasurer Deputy Treasurer			CONTRACTOR ONLY		
Re-filing to Change Primary Treasurer Deputy Treasurer	Primary/Second	dary Depository	OFFICE USE ONLY		
1 Committee Committee for a Better Oviedo		2. Telephone (405) 673-	3584		
Name of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer 4. Email (optional) Tom O'Hanlon)	5. Telephone (c	optional)		
6. Mailing Address PO Box 621704 Oviedo FL 32762					
7. Street Address 827 North Division Street Oviedo FL 32765					
8. The following bank has been designated as the Prin	nary Depository	Seconda	ry Depository		
9. Name of Bank Citizens Bank of Florida	10 Street Addres				
11 City Oviedo	12. St FL	ate	13. Zip Code 32765		
14. Signature of Chairman	15. Name of Chairman (Print or Type)				
X CSV	Dominic Persampiere				
Campaign Treasurer's Ac	ceptance of	Appointment			
Thomas O'Hanlon (Please Print or Type)		, do hereb	by accept the appointment as		
treasurer or deputy treasurer for Committee for a Bett					
(Committee) UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, I DECLARE THAT I HAVE READ THE FOREGOING CAMPAIGN TREASURER'S ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT AND THAT THE FACTS STATED ARE TRUE.					
9/1/20 x	Signature of Came	paiod Treasurer of) Deputy Treasurer		

DS-DE 6 (Rev. 4/19)

STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION OF POLITICAL COMMITTEE

(PLEASE TYPE)

POET-CETIS A CHILD DEPARTMENT OF LITATE

2020 SEP 14 AM 9:41

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

1. Full Name of Committee		Telephone	
Committee for a Better Ov	iedo		405.673.9584
Mailing Address (include city	, state and zip code)		
PO Box 621704 Oviedo,	FL 32762		
Street Address (include city,	state and zip code)		
827 North Division Street	Oviedo FL 32765		
Affiliated or Connected Or committees)	ganizations (includes other committees of con	tinuous ex	stence and political
Name of Affiliated or Connected Organization	Mailing Address		Relationship
N/A			
		1	
	on of the Committee pose candidates for state, county and municipal office ar	nd other activ	ities not prohibited by Chapter
106, Fla Stat.			
Nature of Organization or Political	Organization's Special Interest (e.g., medical, k	egal, educa	ition, etc.)
1 0,000			
5. Identify by Name, Address	and Position, the Custodian of Books and Acc	ounts (inc	lude treasurer's name)
Full Name	Mailing Address	Comr	nittee Title or Position
Tom O'Hanlon	PO Box 621704 Oviedo FL 32762	Treasure	er

DS-DE 5 (Rev. 06/11) - Rule 1S-2.017

(continued on reverse side)

List by Name, Address and Position, Other Principal Officers, Including Officers and Members of the Finance Committee, If Any (include chairman's name)							
Full Name	Mailing Add	ress	Comm	nittee Title or Position			
Dominic Persampiere	do FL 32765	Chairman					
7. List by Name, Address Committee is Supporti	, Office Sought and Party Affili ng (if none, please indicate)	ation Each Candidate	e or Other I	Individual that this			
Full Name	Mailing Address	Office S	Sought	Party			
To be determined							
8. List Any Issues this Co	mmittee is Supporting: To be	determined					
List Any Issues this Co	mmittee le Ongoeine:	determined					
9. If this Committee is Supporting the Entire Ticket of a Party, Give Name of Party N/A							
10. In the Event of Dissol	ution, What Disposition will be	Made of Residual Fu	inds?				
	es, PCs and other activities						
11. List all Banks, Safety	Deposit Boxes, or Other Depos	sitories Used for Con	nmittee Fur	nds			
Name of Bank or Dep	ository & Account Number		Mailing Add	dress			
Citizens Bank of Florida		156 Geneva Drive	Oviedo FL	. 32765			
12. List all Reports Requi and Positions of Such	red to be Filed by this Committed to Deficials, If Any	tee with Federal Offic	ials and th	e Names, Addresses			
Report Title	Dates Required to be Filed	Name & Position of	Official	Mailing Address			
Form 8871	Upon reasonable anticipation of having more than \$25,000 in	Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue					
STATE OF Florida		Semin	nole	COUNTY			
I, <u>Dominic Persampiere</u>	<u> </u>	, certify that the inf	ormation in	this Statement of			
Organization is complete, tr	rue and)correct.		1				
x /			9/11	280			
Signature of Chairman of Political Committee Date							

DS-DE 5 (Rev. 06/11) - Rule 1S-2.017

page 2



RON DESANTIS Governor

LAUREL M. LEE Secretary of State

September 15, 2020

Dominic Persampiere, Chairperson Committee for a Better Oviedo 485 Suncrest Court Oviedo, Florida 32765

Dear Mr. Persampiere:

This will acknowledge receipt of the Statement of Organization and Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Committee for a Better Oviedo, which were placed on file in our office on September 14, 2020. This information appears to comply with the requirements of Section 106.03, Florida Statutes, and the name of this organization has been placed on our active committee list as a political committee.

Campaign Treasurer's Reports

Your first campaign treasurer's report will be due on **September 25**, **2020**. The report will cover the period of September 12-18, 2020 (2020 G3). All political committees that 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 the committee's user identification number. Enclosed are the committee's confidential, filing credentials.

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

Identification Number: 78958

Timely Filing

All reports 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

Dominic Persampiere, Chairperson September 15, 2020 Page Two

due date, the report will be accepted as timely filed if filed no later than midnight, Eastern Standard Time, of the first business day the EFS becomes operable. No fine will be levied during the period the EFS was inoperable.

Any political committee failing to file a report on the designated due date is 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 the 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 chairperson 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: Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, *Political Committee Handbook*, Calendar of Reporting Dates, and Rule 1S-2.017, Florida Administrative Code.

Please let me know if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Days S. Brown

Kristi Reid Willis, Chief Bureau of Election Records

KRW/mcc

Enclosures

pc: Tom O'Hanlon, Treasurer

Political Committee Handbook

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



(Rev. 9/27/2019)

Any political committee required to file reports with a filing officer other than the Division must file reports on the 60th day immediately preceding the primary election and bi-weekly on each Friday thereafter through and including the 4th day immediately preceding the general election, with additional reports due on the 25th and 11th days before the primary election and the general election.

Unless the electronic filing requirements of Section <u>106.0705</u>, Florida Statutes, apply, reports shall be filed no later than 5 p.m. of the day designated. A report postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than midnight of the day designated is deemed timely filed. A report received by the filing officer within five days after the designated due date that was delivered by the U.S. Postal Service is deemed timely filed unless it has a postmark indicating the report was mailed after the designated due date. A certificate of mailing obtained from and dated by the U.S. Postal Service at the time of mailing or a receipt from an established courier company, which bears a date on or before the date on which the report is due, is proof of mailing in a timely manner.

Reports filed with the Division through the <u>Electronic Filing System</u> (<u>EFS</u>) are due no later than midnight, Eastern Time, of the due date.

(Sections <u>106.07</u>, <u>106.0705</u>, and <u>106.141</u>, Fla. Stat.; Chapter 11: Electronic Filing of Campaign Reports)

Penalty for Late Filing

Any political committee 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 percent of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report. However, for the reports due immediately prior to the primary and general elections, the fine shall be \$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.

(Section <u>106.07(8)</u>, Fla. Stat.)

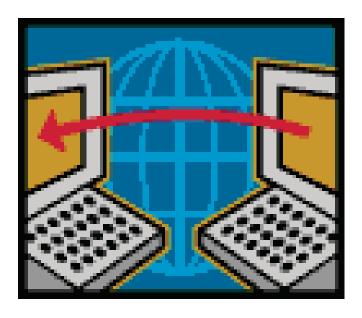
Notice of No Activity

When there has been no reportable activity in the campaign account during a reporting period (no funds expended or received) the filing of the report is waived. However, the political committee **must notify the filing officer in writing on or before the prescribed reporting date that no report is being filed on that date**. (A notice of no activity filed with the Division must be filed electronically using the <u>EFS</u>.) The next report filed must specify that the report covers the entire period between the last submitted report and the report being filed.

(Sections 106.07(7) and 106.0705, Fla. Stat.)

Department of State Division of Elections

Political Committee EFS User's Guide



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

EFS HELP LINE: 850-245-6280

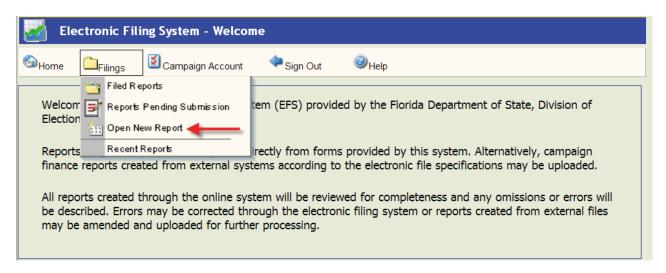
January 2011

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

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

Create a New Report by Data Entry

From the Welcome screen, click and then Open New Report





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

Click arrow next to **Report Type** select report type corresponding to the correct cover period and due date.

The Cover Period dates will automatically fill in based on the Calendar of Election and Reporting Dates.

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

If this report is for a special election, click the box next to **Special Election Report**. (If no special elections are scheduled this option will not be available.)

*****NOTE****

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

Election Cycle:	2010 General I	-			
Report Type:	eport Type: F2 2010		~		
Coverage Period:	7/17/2010	7/30/2010		Due Date:	08/06/2010
	al Election Repor		Waive	er 👉	

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

Report: 201	0 - G4 - 27 201	0 General Election		Covers: 10/10	5/2010-10/28/2010	Due: 10/29/2010
Amendment Waiver Complete Status: Incomplete Detail Records						
File Date:		Re	view Status: Not	Reviewed		
Status:	Status: Data Entry Last Review:					
# of Transactions: 0 Review Recalculate Go To File Report Append File Delete Report Save						
(Contributions	Total Amount	_	Expenditures	Total Amount	
	Cash and Checks:	0.00		Monetary:	0.00	
	Loans:	0.00		Transfers to Off Acct:	0.00	
	Total Monetary:	0.00		Total Monetary:	0.00	
	In-Kind:	0.00		Other Distributions:	0.00	
Review Messages						
	Created: 10/	26/2010 11:41:25 AM	By: 50552	Revised:	10/26/2010 11:41:25 Af	м Ву: 50552

File the Report

If the **Review Status** is <u>Updated Detail – Needs Review</u> the report has not been reviewed since the last update. (See page 39 for instructions on how to submit the report to the system for review.)

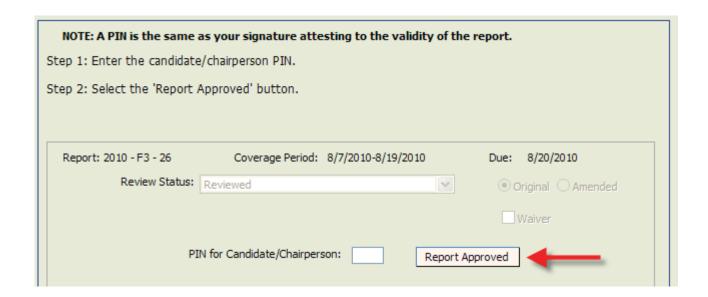
If the status of the report is <u>Complete</u> <u>Detail Records</u>, you are ready to file the report.



Click on Go To File Report

The chairperson enters his or her PIN, and then selects

Report Approved

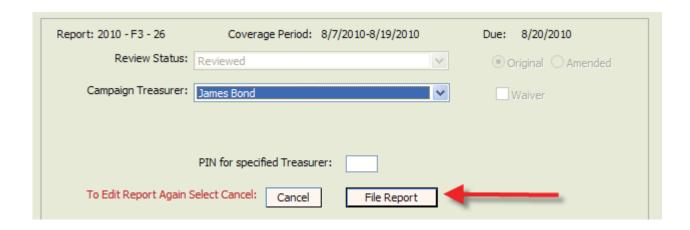


.

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



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



<u>IMPORTANT NOTE</u>: If changes need to be made <u>after</u> a chairperson PIN is entered, the treasurer must <u>undo</u> the chairperson PIN validation before the system will allow changes. See page 49 for instructions.



Florida Department of State - Division of Elections

Florida Election System Reports

Candidate/Committee Lookup Committee Name: Committee for a Better Oviedo										
Name:	committee for a better of		Acc	ount: 78958	3					
Election:		Date Due	Туре	Date Filed	Status	Days Late	Fine Assessed	Appealed	Amount Fined	Amount Paid
	~	11/4/2022	G6	11/4/2022		Late	Assesseu		Tilleu	raiu
Acct:	78958	11/3/2022		11/2/2022						
Type:	Committee	11/2/2022		11/1/2022						
туро.	Committee	11/1/2022		10/31/2022						
	Search Reset	10/31/2022		10/30/2022						
		10/30/2022	D2	10/30/2022						
		10/29/2022	D1	10/28/2022						
		10/28/2022	G5	10/28/2022						
		10/21/2022	G4A	10/16/2022						
		10/14/2022	G4	10/9/2022						
		10/7/2022	G3A	10/2/2022						
		10/7/2022	G3	10/2/2022						
		9/23/2022		9/16/2022						
		9/16/2022		9/11/2022						
		9/9/2022		9/6/2022						
		9/2/2022		9/1/2022		_				•
		8/26/2022		9/1/2022	PEN	6	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
		8/19/2022		8/18/2022						
		8/12/2022		8/5/2022						
		8/5/2022		8/4/2022	01.0	0	ФО ОО		#0.00	#0.00
		7/29/2022		8/4/2022	CLO	6	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
		7/22/2022		7/21/2022						
		7/15/2022 7/8/2022		7/11/2022 7/3/2022						
		7/1/2022		7/3/2022	CLO	2	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
		6/24/2022		7/3/2022	CLO	9	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
		6/10/2022		7/3/2022	CLO	23	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
		5/10/2022		5/3/2022	OLO	20	ψ0.00		ψ0.00	ψ0.00
		4/11/2022		4/3/2022						
		3/10/2022		3/1/2022						
		2/10/2022		2/3/2022						
		1/10/2022		1/3/2022						
		1/7/2022		10/30/2022	PEN	296	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
		12/10/2021					,		*	*
		11/10/2021								
		10/12/2021	М9	10/4/2021						
		9/10/2021		9/1/2021						
		8/10/2021	M7	8/3/2021						
		7/12/2021	M6	7/3/2021						
		6/10/2021	M5	6/3/2021						
		5/10/2021	M4	5/5/2021						
		4/12/2021	МЗ	4/2/2021						
							Exhibi	t 6 (Pag	e 1 of 2)	

3/10/2021	M2	3/4/2021					
2/10/2021	M1	2/2/2021					
1/11/2021	M12	1/4/2021					
12/10/2020	M11	11/30/2020					
11/10/2020	M10	11/2/2020					
10/30/2020	G6	10/29/2020					
10/29/2020	D6	10/29/2020					
10/28/2020	D5	10/29/2020	FEC	1	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
10/27/2020	D4	10/29/2020	FEC	2	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
10/26/2020	D3	10/29/2020	FEC	3	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
10/25/2020	D2	10/29/2020	FEC	4	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
10/24/2020	D1	10/27/2020	FEC	3	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
10/23/2020	G5	10/20/2020					
10/16/2020	G4A	10/15/2020					
10/9/2020	G4	10/7/2020					
10/2/2020	G3A	9/28/2020					
9/25/2020	G3	9/22/2020					

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION PHONE LOG

Case No.: FEC 22-314

Respondent: Committee for a Better Oviedo

Complainant: Division of Elections

1. **Date and time:** Friday, November 4, 2022; 10:51 a.m.

Name: Dominic Persampiere, Chairperson—Committee For a Better Oviedo (and Mayor

of Oviedo)

Phone #: 407-359-1211

Summary: I called the number for Respondent's chairperson used by Attorney Mattie Clay in another case to reach him, my call went to a voice-mailbox on the first ring; I identified myself by name and phone number, I explained I am an investigator with the Florida Elections Commission, my call is regarding a referral from the Division of Elections for the late notices-of-no-activity for Respondent, Committee for a Better Oviedo, requested he return my call and provided my contact number again.

Entered by: HH

2. **Date and time:** Tuesday, November 8, 2022; 5:49 p.m.

Name: Respondent

Phone #: 405-673-9584—Committee For a Better Oviedo

Summary: After receiving no response to my earlier call and emails to two addresses, I called the number provided on the Division's website, Committee Tracking System, for Respondent; I identified myself, explained the reason for my call, requested to speak with Mr. O'Hanlon, treasurer for the Committee or Respondent's chairperson, Mr. Persampiere, but I was informed by female voice I had a wrong number.

Entered by: HH

3. **Date and time:** Tuesday, November 8, 2022; 5:52 p.m.

Name: Respondent—Committee For a Better Oviedo

Phone #: 405-673-3584

Summary: After receiving no response to my earlier call and emails to two addresses, I called the number provided on the DS-DE 6 for Respondent and the number seemed to be out of service.

Entered by: HH

4. **Date and time:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022; 1:29 p.m.

Name: Dominic Persampiere, Chairperson, Committee For a Better Oviedo (<u>former</u> City Commissioner and Mayor of Oviedo)

Phone #: 407-620-2975 (cell phone/real estate sales)

Summary: I called, he answered "Dominic"; I identified myself and the reason for my call

and he disconnected the call.

Entered by: HH

5. **Date and time:**

Name:

Phone #:	
Summary:	
Entered by:	

6. **Date and time:**

Name: Phone #: Summary: Entered by:

7. **Date and time:**

Name: Phone #: Summary: Entered by:

RESPONDENT INTERVIEW MEMO – Call details at #[LOG NUMBER]

- [Case specific question] Reason the notices were filed late—2 days to 23 days late.
- Have you ever run for public office? If so, please name each office you ran for and state what year each election occurred. Online information regarding his business affiliation with Optima Real Estate declares he was former City Commissioner (beginning in 2000) and served as Mayor of Oviedo.
- Have you ever been appointed to act as a campaign treasurer for a candidate? If so, please name each such candidate, the office each ran for, and state what year each election occurred.
- Have you ever held the office of chairperson, treasurer, or other similar position for a political committee or electioneering communications organization? If so, please name each committee, state the office you held for each, and state when you held each office.
- Have you ever prepared or signed a campaign treasurer's report? If so, please state the name of the candidate or committee whose report you prepared or signed.
- What action have you taken to determine your responsibilities under Florida's election laws?
- Do you possess a copy of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes? If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it?
- Do you possess a copy of the [Candidate and Campaign Treasurer OR Political Committee OR Electioneering Communications Organization] Handbook? If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it?
- Did you receive any other materials from your filing officer? If so, please describe them.
- Do you have anything else to add for the Commission's consideration regarding the charges specified in the letter of legal sufficiency in this case?

Helen Hinson

From: Helen Hinson

Sent: Friday, November 4, 2022 9:08 PM

To: dppiere@gmail.com

Subject: CONFIDENTIAL CASE NO.: FEC 22-314

Importance: High

Dominic Persampiere, Chair Committee for a Better Oviedo Post Office Box 621704 Oviedo, Florida 32762-1704

PH: 407.359.1211

RE: Case No.: FEC 22-314

Confidential pursuant to 106.25(7), F.S.

Dear Mr. Persampiere:

On September 7, 2022, the Florida Elections Commission received a complaint alleging that your committee violated Florida's election laws. Our Executive Director has reviewed the complaint and finds that it contains one or more legally sufficient allegations. I am investigating the following alleged violation:

Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a political committee registered with the Division of Elections, failed to notify the filing officer on the **prescribed reporting date** that no report would be filed on that date because it had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the 2022 M5, 2022 P1, 2022 P1A and 2022 P4 reporting periods.

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 let me know by email and request to speak with the attorney assigned to this case.

Please acknowledge receipt of this correspondence by return email.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in resolving this matter. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Helen Hinson

Investigation Specialist Florida Elections Commission 107 W Gaines Street Collins Building, Suite 224 Tallahassee, FL 32399-6596

FAX: 850.921.0783 www.fec.state.fl.us

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

Helen Hinson

From: Helen Hinson

Sent: Tuesday, November 8, 2022 11:26 AM
To: committeeforabetteroviedo@gmail.com

Cc: dppiere@gmail.com

Subject: CONFIDENTIAL CASE NO.: FEC 22-314

Importance: High

Dominic Persampiere, Chair Committee for a Better Oviedo Post Office Box 621704 Oviedo, Florida 32762-1704

Email: dppiere@gmail.com

PH: 407.359.1211

RE: Case No.: FEC 22-314

Confidential pursuant to 106.25(7), F.S.

Dear Mr. Persampiere:

On September 7, 2022, the Florida Elections Commission received a complaint alleging that your committee violated Florida's election laws. Our Executive Director has reviewed the complaint and finds that it contains one or more legally sufficient allegations. I am investigating the following alleged violation:

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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 let me know by email and request to speak with the attorney assigned to this case.

Please acknowledge receipt of this correspondence by return email as this office has had no response to our earlier phone call and correspondence by letter and email.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in resolving this matter. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Helen Hinson

Investigation Specialist Florida Elections Commission 107 W Gaines Street Collins Building, Suite 224 Tallahassee, FL 32399-6596

FAX: 850.921.0783

www.fec.state.fl.us

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



Florida Elections Commission

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



October 10, 2022

Dominic Persampiere, Chair Committee for a Better Oviedo PO Box 621704 Oviedo, FL 32762

RE: Case No.: FEC 22-314; Respondent: Committee for a Better Oviedo

Dear Mr. Persampiere:

On September 7, 2022, the Florida Elections Commission received a complaint alleging that your committee violated Florida's election laws. I have reviewed the complaint and find that it contains one or more **legally sufficient allegations**. The Commission staff will investigate the following alleged violation:

Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a political committee registered with the Division of Elections, failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because it had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the following reporting periods:

2022 M5

2022 P1

2022 P1A

2022 P4

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, 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 violation occurred and, if so, the amount of the fine to be imposed upon your committee. Notice will be mailed to you and the Complainant at least 14 days before any hearing at which your case is to be considered.

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.

Dominic Persampiere, Chair October 10, 2022 Page 2 FEC 22-314

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 confidential 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 **Helen Hinson**, the investigator assigned to this case, by phone at (850) 922-4539 or by email at **Helen.Hinson@myfloridalegal.com**.

Sincerely,

Executive Director

TV/jd

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS FEC NOTICE FORM

To FEC from Division of Elections

Name: Committee for a Better Oviedo

Account Number: 78958

Chairperson: Dominic Persampiere

Treasurer: Tom O'Hanlon

Registered Agent: Thomas O'Hanlon

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(2), Florida Statutes. An apparent violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, has occurred based upon repeated late filings or failure to notify 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, for the following reports:

2022 M5

2022 P1

2022 P1A

2022 P4

- Committee for a Better Oviedo (78958) is a political committee registered with the Division of Elections. On September 14, 2020, the committee filed the DSDE 5 and DSDE 6 with the Division appointing Dominic Persampiere as the chairperson and Tom O'Hanlon as the treasurer for the committee.
- The 2022 M5 campaign treasurer's report was due on June 10, 2022.
 Committee for a Better Oviedo failed to notify the Division that no report was being filed on the prescribed reporting date. On July 3, 2022, the committee filed a notification of no activity. (See attached file receipt.)
- The 2022 P1 campaign treasurer's report was due on June 24, 2022.
 Committee for a Better Oviedo failed to notify the Division that no report was being filed on the prescribed reporting date. On July 3, 2022, the committee filed a notification of no activity. (See attached file receipt.)



Committee for a Better Oviedo (78958) Page Two

- The 2022 P1A campaign treasurer's report was due on July 1, 2022.
 Committee for a Better Oviedo failed to notify the Division that no report was being filed on the prescribed reporting date. On July 3, 2022, the committee filed a notification of no activity. (See attached file receipt.)
- The 2022 P4 campaign treasurer's report was due on July 29, 2022.
 Committee for a Better Oviedo failed to notify the Division that no report was being filed on the prescribed reporting date. On August 4, 2022, the committee filed a notification of no activity. (See attached file receipt and letter.)

Sent By: Donna S. Brown

Date: September 2, 2022

bct



ID: 78958 Name: Committee for a Better Oviedo

Report: 2022 - M5 - 32

Election: 2022 General Election

Covers: 5/1/2022-5/31/2022

Due: 6/10/2022

Print Date: 8/17/2022 3:53:16 PM

Amended Waiver

Filed: 7/3/2022 9:16:35 AM

File Status: Filed Report

Reviewed: 7/3/2022

Review Status: Reviewed

Detail Complete: No Detail Records Found

File Method: Web Filed

Number of Detail Records

Entry Method: Web Data Entry

Contributions: 0 Expenditures: 0

Fund Transfers: 0

Pending Queued Items: 0

Distributions:



ID: 78958 Name: Committee for a Better Oviedo

Report: 2022 - P1 - 33

Election: 2022 General Election

Covers: 6/1/2022-6/17/2022

Due: 6/24/2022

Print Date: 8/17/2022 3:52:10 PM

Amended Waiver

Filed: 7/3/2022 9:19:28 AM File Status: Filed Report

Reviewed: 7/3/2022 Review Status: Reviewed

Detail Complete: No Detail Records Found

Number of Detail Records File Method: Web Filed

Contributions: 0 Entry Method: Web Data Entry

Expenditures: 0

Fund Transfers: 0 Pending Queued Items: 0

Distributions: 0



ID: 78958 Name: Committee for a Better Oviedo

Report: 2022 - P1A - 34 Print Date: **8/17/2022 3:52:33 PM**

Election: 2022 General Election

Covers: 6/18/2022-6/24/2022

Due: 7/1/2022

Amended Waiver

Filed: 7/3/2022 9:20:01 AM File Status: Filed Report

Reviewed: 7/3/2022 Review Status: Reviewed

Detail Complete: No Detail Records Found

File Method: Web Filed <u>Number of Detail Records</u>

Entry Method: Web Data Entry

Expenditures: 0

Experienters: 0

Contributions:

Pending Queued Items: 0 Fund Transfers: 0

Distributions: 0

ID: 78958 Name: Committee for a Better Oviedo

Report: 2022 - P4 - 38

Election: 2022 General Election

Covers: 7/16/2022-7/22/2022

Due: 7/29/2022

Print Date: 8/17/2022 3:52:54 PM

Amended Waiver

Filed: 8/4/2022 8:12:45 AM

File Status: Filed Report

Reviewed: 8/4/2022

Review Status: Reviewed

Detail Complete: No Detail Records Found

Number of Detail Records File Method: Web Filed

Contributions: 0 Entry Method: Web Data Entry

Expenditures:

Fund Transfers: 0 Pending Queued Items: 0

Distributions:



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Cord Byrd

Secretary of State

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

August 9, 2022

Tom O'Hanlon, Treasurer Committee for a Better Oviedo Post Office Box 621704 Oviedo, FL 32762-2762

PAC 78958

Dear Mr. O'Hanlon:

The notification that you had no reportable activity for the report deadline of July 29, 2022, was not filed until August 4, 2022. Although the notification is late, no automatic fine is assessed because you had no receipts or expenditures during this reporting period.

However, to avoid potential issues in the future, please note that state law (s. 106.07(7), Fla. Stat.) requires you to file by the dates set out also in law, either a campaign finance report or if applicable, a notification that no reportable activity occurred for the reporting period. Failure to do may constitute a violation of sections 106.07(1) and 106.19(1)(c), Fla. Stat. The Division is required to notify the Florida Elections Commission of any apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat., or any failure to file a report or information required by chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If a matter is referred to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may assess a civil penalty of up to \$1,000 per violation.

If you have any questions, please contact the help desk at (850) 245-6280.

Sincerely,

Donna S. Brown, Chief Bureau of Election Records

cc: Dominic Persampiere, Chairperson