

STATE OF MINNESOTA
CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

CONCILIATION
AGREEMENT

In the matter of the Joe Hoppe Volunteer Committee (#15833);

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 10A.28, subdivision 3, the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board and Representative Joe Hoppe (hereinafter referred to as "the Candidate") hereby agree as follows:

1. The Joe Hoppe Volunteer Committee (the Committee) is the principal campaign committee of Representative Joe Hoppe. During 2012, the Committee accepted \$8,600 in contributions from special sources. These sources include large givers from whom the Committee accepted \$1,900, registered lobbyists from whom the Committee accepted \$1,650, and political committees or political funds from which the Committee accepted \$5,050. The total amount of these contributions exceeded by \$1,700 the applicable limit on aggregate contributions from special sources, which for a state representative candidate is \$6,900. The \$1,700 in excess contributions was not returned within 60 days, and thus, is deemed accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.

2. In a letter dated September 17, 2012, Representative Joe Hoppe states, "I did accept too much PAC and lobbyist money. I did so because I had a software problem that caused some of

my spreadsheets on my home computer to have problems. Not all of the contributions that I accepted showed up on the spreadsheet.”

3. Board records show that this is the first calendar year in which the Committee reported acceptance of contributions that exceeded the applicable aggregate contribution limit. The Committee registered with the Board on July 15, 2002.

4. The parties agree that the Committee accepted excessive contributions from special sources resulting in an inadvertent violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11, in calendar year 2012.

5. The Candidate hereby agrees to return to special source contributors an amount sufficient to bring the committee into compliance. Copies of the checks used to return the excess amount must be provided to the Board within 30 days after the date this conciliation agreement is signed by both parties.

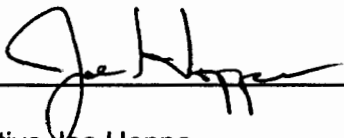
6. The Candidate agrees to pay a civil penalty of \$1,700, one times the amount by which the contributions exceeded the applicable limit, to be paid to the Board for deposit in the general fund of the state.

7. The Committee hereby agrees to forward to the Board \$1,700 by check or money order payable to the State of Minnesota within 30 days after the date this agreement is signed by both parties. It is agreed by the parties that payment of the civil penalty of \$1,700, the return of the excess contributions, providing the Board copies of the checks used to return the excess

contributions, and this conciliation agreement will be a bar to any civil proceeding under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.28, subdivisions 3 and 4.

8. It is further understood and agreed, however, that failure to pay the civil penalty of \$1,700, return the excess contributions, and provide copies of the checks returning the excess contributions within the time specified in paragraphs 5 and 7 above is a violation of the terms of this conciliation agreement and the Board may declare this agreement to be null and void and may take further action to resolve this matter.

9. It is further understood and agreed that this agreement is confidential until signed by the Candidate and the Board Chair. Once signed, the agreement shall become a matter of public record, and the statutory requirement of confidentiality shall no longer apply. Minnesota Statutes section 10A.02, subdivision 11 and section 10A.28, subdivision 3.


_____ Dated: 10/15/12
Representative Joe Hoppe

Approved by the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

By 
_____ Dated: October 2, 2012
Greg McCullough, Chair

Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board