

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD**

**CONCILIATION
AGREEMENT**

In the Matter of Isaacson (Jason) for Minnesota (Registration No. 17369);

1. A routine staff review by the Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board of Isaacson for Minnesota's 2015 year-end Report of Receipts and Expenditures identified a contribution which appeared to constitute a violation of the Minnesota Statutes.
2. Isaacson for Minnesota (the Committee) reported that, on May 28, 2015, it received \$1,000 from Friends of Joe Murphy. Staff confirmed that Friends of Joe Murphy is a campaign committee for a city council candidate.
3. Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 9(d), prohibits a principal campaign committee from accepting contributions from a candidate for office in a political subdivision, or in other words, a local candidate. In addition, Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 13(a), prohibits a principal campaign committee from accepting a contribution from an unregistered association, which includes a local candidate's committee, without receiving a written disclosure statement and providing that statement to the Board. A disclosure statement was not provided to the Board in this matter.
4. In an email to Board staff, Jason Isaacson (the Candidate) stated that the contribution was accepted under the mistaken belief that the Committee was only prohibited from accepting contributions from federal campaign committees. The Candidate also informed the Board that the local campaign committee had terminated, and, therefore, the Committee could not return the prohibited contribution. On March 25, 2016, the Candidate instead issued a check for \$1,000 to the State of Minnesota.
5. The parties agree that the Committee violated the statutory prohibitions on accepting contributions from local candidates and on accepting a contribution from an unregistered association without receiving a written disclosure statement and providing it to the Board. To resolve this matter informally, and to avoid these violations in the future, the Candidate agrees that, for any of his committees in the future, he will:
 - a. Ensure that the Committee's treasurer reviews and enters contributions into the Campaign Finance Reporter software within 60 days of receipt;
 - b. Run a batch compliance report after each time contributions are entered and take steps to remedy any violations the software identifies so that problems may be resolved within the 90 days that statutes provide for the return of a contribution before it is deemed accepted; and

- c. Update the Campaign Finance Reporter software whenever the software notifies the user that an update is available.

6. The Candidate agrees that the Board's acceptance of this agreement constitutes the imposition of a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,000 against the Candidate for accepting contributions prohibited by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 9(d) and section 10A.27, subdivision 13(a). \$250 of the penalty is due within 30 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties. \$750 of the penalty is, by the terms of this agreement, stayed until January 1, 2018. If the Committee violates Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 9(d) or section 10A.27, subdivision 13(a) before January 1, 2018, the outstanding civil penalty is due immediately. If the Committee does not violate Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 9(d) or section 10A.27 subdivision 13(a) within that timeframe, the outstanding civil penalty is waived.

7. If the Candidate does not comply with the provisions of this agreement, this matter may be reopened by the Board and the Board may take such actions as it deems appropriate.

/s/ Jason Isaacson Dated: 4/29/2016
Jason Isaacson
Isaacson for Minnesota

/s/ Gary Goldsmith Dated: 4/6/2016
Gary Goldsmith, Executive Director
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Agreement approved by Board at meeting of 4/5/2016, 2016

/s/ Christian Sande
Christian Sande, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board