

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

CONCILIATION AGREEMENT

In the matter of lobbyist James Erickson (6144);

1. The Simon (Steve) for Secretary of State committee's 2021 year-end report of receipts and expenditures disclosed a contribution of \$500 received on January 5, 2021 from James Erickson, who is a lobbyist registered with the Board. Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1, prohibits a registered lobbyist from making a contribution to the principal campaign committee of a candidate for constitutional office during a regular session of the legislature. The statute prohibits contributions from being made or accepted during the entire first and last day of the legislative session. The legislature was in regular session on the date the contribution was made.
2. Mr. Erickson explained that he apparently made the contribution electronically on the morning of January 5, 2021. Mr. Erickson states that he was under the impression that he could make a contribution until the legislature was called into session at noon.
3. The parties agree that Mr. Erickson made a contribution to the principal campaign committee of a candidate for constitutional office during a regular session of the legislature in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1. This is Mr. Erickson's first violation of the restrictions on contributions during the legislative session.
4. To avoid a similar violation in the future, Mr. Erickson agrees that he will ensure that any contribution made to a candidate is accompanied by his Board registration number as required by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 5, and that he will not make contributions to candidates for the legislature or for constitutional office, or the candidate's principal campaign committee, during the legislative session.
5. Mr. Erickson agrees to the imposition of a civil penalty in the amount of \$500, the amount of the contribution, for making a contribution prohibited by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1. Of this amount, \$125 is due within 30 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties. The remaining \$375 of the penalty is, by the terms of this agreement, stayed until January 1, 2025. If Mr. Erickson violates Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1, before January 1, 2025, the outstanding civil penalty is due immediately. If Mr. Erickson does not violate Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1, before January 1, 2025, the outstanding civil penalty is waived.

6. Mr. Erickson also agrees to provide to the Board, within 60 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties, a copy of a deposited check or other documentation showing that \$500 has been refunded to him by the Simon committee.

7. If Mr. Erickson 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/ James Erickson
James Erickson, Lobbyist

Dated: September 10, 2022

/s/ Faris Rashid
Faris Rashid, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Dated: August 15, 2022