

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

May 24, 2022

Alexander Rabb, Esq. 80 Eighth avenue, 8th floor New York, NY 10011

Re: ADR 1061 (A21-15)

WFP IE Committee and Mike Boland, Treasurer (C00626861)

Dear Alexander Rabb, Esq.:

Enclosed is the signed copy of the Negotiated Settlement resolving the above-shown matter. The Negotiated Settlement was approved by the Commission on May 10, 2022 – the effective date of the agreement.

Note the specific time frames for compliance detailed in the agreement. Please forward to this office, a statement confirming Respondent's compliance with each term. The letter should note the dates on which Respondents satisfied each of the terms and contain the ADR case number. For your convenience, a compliance chart is attached.

Under the terms of the agreement, a civil penalty in the amount of \$54,925 is due on June 20, 2022. Kindly review the attached payment instructions for details on payment methods and the collection of unpaid debts.

As you are aware, the Negotiated Settlement will be made part of the record that is released to the public. The Commission will also place on the record copies of the complaint/referral, correspondence exchanged between your office and this office prior to our negotiations, and reports prepared for the Commission by this office to assist in its consideration of this matter. The Commission is obliged by Federal statute to place on the public record documents in closed enforcement and alternative dispute resolution cases; accordingly, copies of documents relative to this matter will be forwarded shortly to the FEC's Public Records Office.

ADR106100026

This agreement resolves this matter. I appreciate your assistance in effectively resolving this matter and bringing the case to a mutually acceptable conclusion.

Sincerely,

Rosa Marshall Assistant Director

Alternative Dispute Resolution Office

Enc: Payment Instructions

Compliance Chart Negotiated Settlement

ADRO Civil Penalty Payment Instructions

You may remit payment by credit card, debit card, or ACH withdrawal from your bank account through Pay.gov, the federal government's secure portal for online collections. Visit www.fec.gov/adrpayment to be directed to Pay.gov's FEC ADR Payment form.

Unpaid Civil Penalties

Unpaid civil money penalties will be subject to the Debt Collection Act of 1982 ("DCA") as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 ("DCIA"), 31 U.S.C. § 3701 et seq. If you do not pay this debt within 30 days (or file a written petition to a federal district court - see below), the Commission will transfer the debt to the U.S. Department of the Treasury ("Treasury") for collection. Within 5 days of the transfer to Treasury, Treasury will contact you to request payment. Treasury currently charges a fee of 30% of the civil money penalty amount for its collection services. If the age of the debt is greater than or equal to two years old, Treasury will charge a fee of 32% of the civil money penalty amount for its collection services. The fee will be added to the amount of the civil money penalty that you owe. Should Treasury's attempts fail, Treasury will refer the debt to a private collection agency ("PCA"). If the debt remains unpaid, Treasury may recommend that the Commission refer the matter to the Department of Justice for litigation.

Actions which may be taken to enforce recovery of a delinquent debt by Treasury may also include: (1) offset of any payments, which the debtor is due, including tax refunds and salary; (2) referral of the debt to agency counsel for litigation; (3) reporting of the debt to a credit bureau; (4) administrative wage garnishment; and (5) reporting of the debt, if discharged, to the IRS as potential taxable income. In addition, under the provisions of DCIA and other statutes applicable to the FEC, the debtor may be subject to the assessment of other statutory interest, penalties, and administrative costs.

In accordance with the DCIA, at your request, the agency will offer you the opportunity to inspect and copy records relating to the debt, the opportunity for a review of the debt, and the opportunity to enter into a written repayment agreement.

ADR 1061 Compliance Chart

Туре	Date Due
Amend relevant 2019-2020 reports to address any inadequate	8/30/2022
responses and non-responses to Requests for Additional	
Information from RAD	
Certify internal control procedures consistent with those	5/10/2023
described in the Commission's Internal Controls and Political	
Committees advisory document (2007) and the Best Practices	
for Committee Management	



Case Number: ADR 1061 Source: AD 21-15 Case Name: WFP IE Committee

NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT

This matter was initiated by the Federal Election Commission (FEC or the Commission) pursuant to information ascertained in the normal course of carrying out its supervisory responsibilities. Following review of the matter, and in an effort to promote compliance with the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, (FECA) and resolve this matter, the Commission entered into negotiations with Alexander Rabb, Esq. representing WFP IE Committee and Mike Boland, in the official capacity of Treasurer (the Committee or Respondents). It is understood that this agreement will have no precedential value relative to any other matters coming before the Commission.

Negotiations between the Commission and Respondents addressed the issues raised in this referral. The parties agree to resolve the matter according to the following terms:

- 1. The Commission entered into this agreement as part of its responsibility for administering the FECA, and in an effort to promote compliance on the part of Respondents. The Commission's use of alternative dispute resolution procedures (ADR) is guided by "The Administrative Dispute Resolution Act of 1996," 5 U.S.C. § 572 and is an extension of 52 U.S.C. § 30109.
- 2. Respondents voluntarily enter into this agreement with the Commission.
- 3. The Reports Analysis Division (RAD) referred Respondents for a series of reporting errors and other FECA violations during the 2019-2020 election cycle. The Committee's errors included, among other items: failure to file reports and late filing; mathematical discrepancies; failure to provide supporting schedules; failure to properly itemize contributions and transfers from political committees; failure to properly itemize disbursements; and independent expenditure reporting problems. Additionally, RAD referred Respondents for failing to disclose all financial activity on its 2020 October Quarterly Report filed on October 15, 2020. On April 14, 2021, the Committee filed an Amended October Quarterly Report which disclosed \$1,193,048.61 in additional disbursements. Respondents were also referred for disclosing memo entries for independent expenditures totaling \$1,046,650.00 and \$185,600.00, on their 2020 30-Day Post-General and 2020 Year-End Reports, respectively, which were publicly disseminated prior to payment but where the Committee failed to disclose a debt on Schedule D.
- 4. a. A political committee may be referred if, after an internal review of reports filed by the committee, the Commission determines the reports do not meet the threshold requirements for substantial compliance with the FECA. 52 U.S.C. § 30109.

- b. Treasurers of political committees are required to report all financial activity, including all disbursements, pursuant to the FECA. 52 U.S.C. §§ 30104(a)(1), 30104(b)(4), 11 C.F.R. §§ 104.1, 104.3(b).
- c. Independent expenditures should be reported as a memo entry on Schedule E when the communication is publicly disseminated or distributed, and on a Schedule D if it is a reportable debt under 11 CFR §104.11. Subsequently, when the payment for the independent expenditure is made, the report should show a payment on Schedule E and the same payment on Schedule D, if applicable. 52 U.S.C. § 30104(b), 11 C.F.R. §§ 104.4, 104.11.
- 5. Respondents contend that the Committee experienced reporting challenges during the 2019-2020 election cycle. The Committee additionally notes that it intends to terminate its political committee status upon resolution of this matter.
- 6. Respondents, in an effort to resolve this matter, agree to: (a) amend relevant 2019-2020 reports to address any inadequate responses and nonresponses to requests for additional information from RAD within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this agreement; (b) certify internal control procedures consistent with those described in the Commission's Internal Controls and Political Committees advisory document (2007) and the Best Practices for Committee Management (published in the April 2009 Record, available at www.fec.gov/pages/brochures/bestpractices.shtml) have been followed consistently for the lesser of two (2) years from the effective date of this agreement or until such time as the Committee is approved for termination; (c) pay a civil penalty of \$54,925 within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this agreement.
- 7. Respondents agree that all information provided to resolve this matter is true and accurate to the best of their knowledge and that they sign this agreement under penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746.
- 8. The parties agree that if Respondents fail to comply with the terms of this settlement, the Commission may undertake civil action in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to secure compliance. Unpaid civil money penalties are subject to the Debt Collection Act of 1982 as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (DCIA), 31 U.S.C. § 3701 et seq. The Commission will transfer debt to the United States Department of the Treasury (Treasury) for collection.
- 9. This agreement shall become effective on the date signed by all parties and approved by the Commission. Respondents shall comply with the terms of this agreement as set out in paragraph 6 above, and shall certify compliance with the above settlement terms in writing to the Alternative Dispute Resolution Office on or before the date <u>each</u> term becomes due.
- 10. This Negotiated Settlement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties on ADR 1061 (AD 21-15), and resolves those issues identified in paragraph 3 above. No other statement, promise or agreement, either written or oral, made by either party, not included herein, shall be enforceable.

Rosa Marshall, Assistant Director Alternative Dispute Resolution Office

3/10/2022

Date Signed

FOR THE RESPONDENTS:

March 22, 2022

Alexander Rabb, Esq. Representing WFP IE Committee and Mike Boland, Treasurer Date Signed