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# FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

## **SENSITIVE**

#### **MEMORANDUM**

August 23, 2023

TO: The Commission

THROUGH: Alec Palmer

**Staff Director** 

FROM: Patricia C. Orrock PCO

Chief Compliance Officer

Krista J. Roche

Director, ADR Office

Rosa Marshall /M

Assistant Director, ADR Office

SUBJECT: Recommendation to Approve Negotiated Settlement

ADR 1106 – Pennsylvania United (C90017443)

RESOLUTION TERMS: Retain counsel to review compliance procedures and

conduct training with those responsible for preparing and filing reports; develop and certify the implementation of a compliance operations manual, which includes procedures for disclosing independent expenditures and internal

controls; and pay a civil penalty of \$2,750.

Attached for your review is a signed Negotiated Settlement pertaining to ADR 1106 (RAD 23L-12). The ADR Office received this referral from the Reports Analysis Division (RAD) on April 12, 2023.

**SUMMARY:** RAD referred Pennsylvania United for failing to file four (4) 48-Hour Reports disseminated between July 2, 2020, and September 25, 2020, totaling \$54,902.03<sup>1</sup>, to support fifteen (15) independent expenditures disclosed on the Amended 2020 October Quarterly Report. On July 26, 2023, the Respondent filed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>RAD initially referred the Respondent for failing to file four (4) 48-Hour Reports disseminated between July 1, 2020, and September 25, 2020, totaling \$66,987.88, to support twenty (20) independent expenditures disclosed on the Amended 2020 October Quarterly Report. The referral amount was revised after RAD reviewed the amended reports.

four (4) 48-Hour Reports to support these fifteen (15) independent expenditures, albeit untimely.<sup>2</sup>

During negotiations, the Respondent stated that the failure to file 48-Hour Reports occurred due to staff attrition and misunderstanding how to report independent expenditures. The Respondent recently hired a compliance firm to assist with filings.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1. Approve the attached Negotiated Settlement of Pennsylvania United.
- 2. Approve the appropriate letters.

Close the file on this matter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> RAD also referred the Respondent for two additional issues which were resolved with corrective action during negotiations.