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By Office of the Commission Secretary at 3:55 pm, Dec 26, 2024

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C.**SENSITIVE****MEMORANDUM**

December 27, 2024

TO: The Commission

THROUGH: Alec Palmer *AP by DCB*
Staff Director

FROM: Patricia C. Orrock *PCO*
Chief Compliance Officer

Krista J. Roche *KJR*
Director, ADR Office

Joshua A. Rebollozo *JAR*
Assistant Director, ADR Office

SUBJECT: Recommendation to Approve Negotiated Settlement
ADR 1177 - Marvin Abney for Congress and Michael J.
Tsandilas, Treasurer (C00839126)

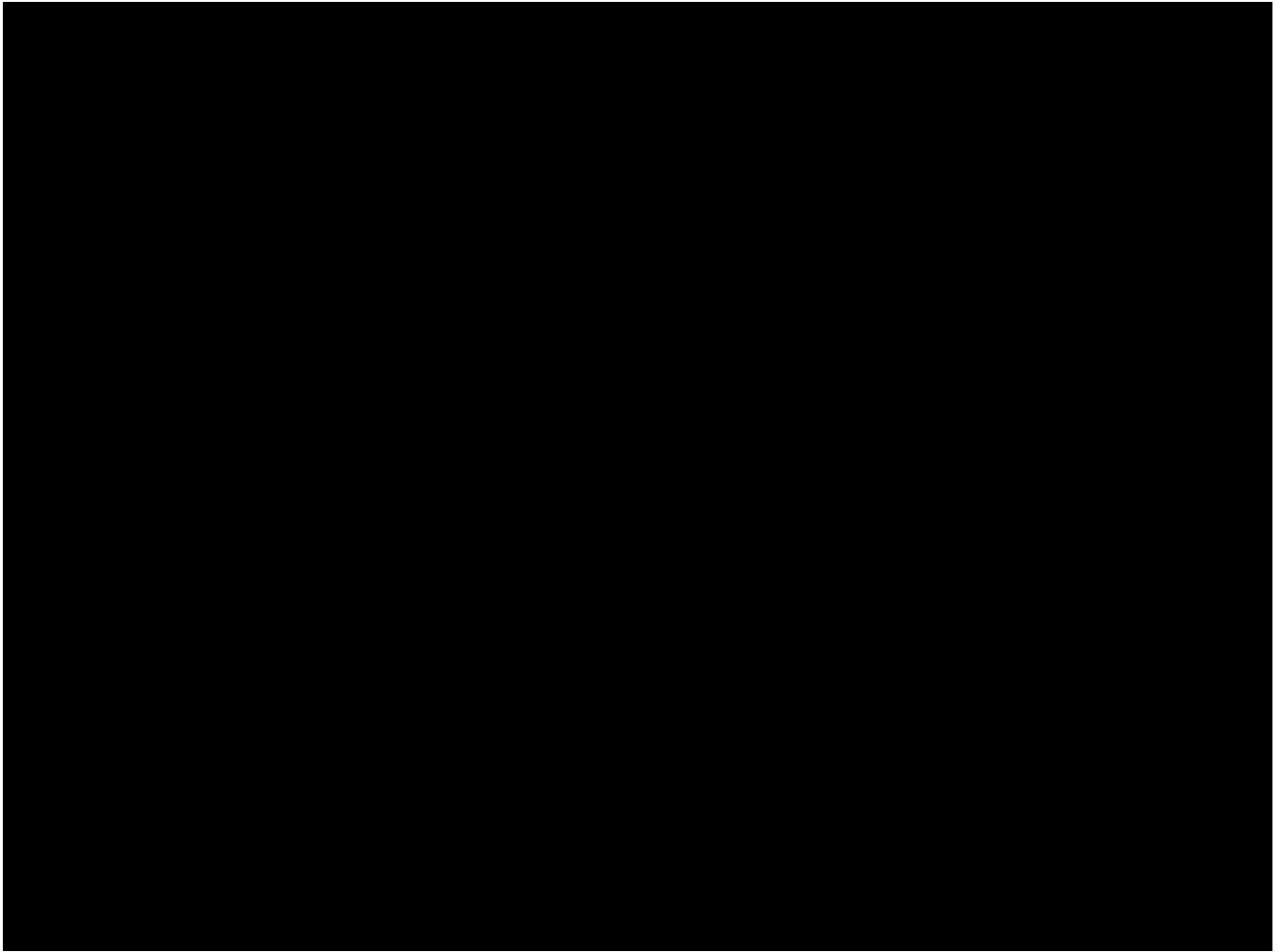
RESOLUTION TERMS: Pay a \$3,800 civil penalty and work with Commission staff
to terminate political committee status and reporting
obligations.

Attached for your review is a signed Negotiated Settlement pertaining to ADR 1177 (MUR 8151). The ADR Office received this referral from the Office of General Counsel on August 9, 2024, in accordance with a vote from the Commission.

SUMMARY: On August 1, 2023, the Rhode Island Republican State Central Committee filed a Complaint alleging that Marvin Abney for Congress and Michael J. Tsandilas, Treasurer (Respondents or the Committee) accepted an excessive contribution in the form of a \$50,000 loan from an individual. On January 10, 2024, the Reports Analysis Division (RAD) referred Respondents for failing to timely remedy \$50,550 in excessive and prohibited contributions for the 2023 Special Primary Election. The referred activity included the same \$50,000 excessive contribution and \$550 in apparent prohibited contributions from unregistered organizations. The Committee remedied all of these contributions, albeit untimely.

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In a Response received from the Committee on September 19, 2023, the Committee acknowledged it mistakenly accepted a loan that exceeded contribution limits and stated it refunded the loan 16 days after learning of the issue. On September 25, 2023, the Committee filed a Form 99 (Miscellaneous Electronic Submission) stating it was unable to confirm whether the contributions received from apparent unregistered organizations were made using permissible funds, and therefore refunded the contributions. During negotiations, the Committee stated it wishes to terminate its political committee status upon resolution of this matter.



RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Approve the attached Negotiated Settlement of Marvin Abney for Congress and Michael J. Tsandilas, Treasurer.
2. Approve the appropriate letters.
3. Close the file on this matter.