



Federal Election Commission
Washington, DC 20463

April 2, 2012

Sharon Hawkins
Lee Hawkins for Congress
4710 Jim Hood Road
Gainesville, GA 30506

Re: ... ADR 589 (RAD 11L-23)
Lee Hawkins for Congress and Chris Masters, Treasurer

Dear Ms. Hawkins:

Enclosed is the signed copy of the agreement resolving the referral initiated on August 22, 2011 by the Federal Election Commission ("FEC/Commission") involving *against* Lee Hawkins for Congress and Chris Masters, Treasurer Treasurer ("Respondents"). The agreement for ADR 589 was approved by the Commission on March 29, 2012— the effective date of the agreement.

The civil penalty payment should be sent to the attention of the Accounting/Finance Office of the FEC. The civil penalty under the agreement is due on or before April 30, 2012.¹ Please put the ADR case number on the civil penalty check as well, to ensure crediting to the correct case.

As you are aware, the settlement agreement will be made part of the record that is released to the public. The Commission will also place on the record copies of the referral, correspondence exchanged between your office and this office prior to our entry into settlement 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 Information Office.

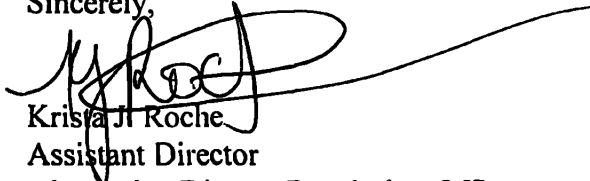
This agreement resolves the matter that was initiated by the Commission pursuant to information ascertained in the normal course of carrying out its supervisory responsibilities regarding violations of federal election campaign laws. I appreciate your

¹ Please note, if the Commission refers an unpaid civil penalty to the US Treasury or third party collection agent, additional costs and fees will be assessed.

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assistance in effectively resolving this matter and bringing the case to a mutually acceptable conclusion.

Sincerely,



Krista J. Roche
Assistant Director
Alternative Dispute Resolution Office
202-694-1661

Enclosure: Agreement

cc: Gwen Holmes, Finance and Accounting Office

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Federal Election Commission
Washington, DC 20463

Case Number: ADR 589
Source: RAD 11L-23
Case Name: Lee Hawkins for Congress

NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT

This matter was initiated by the Federal Election Commission (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 Sharon Hawkins representing Lee Hawkins for Congress and Sharon Hawkins, in her official capacity as 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 2 U.S.C. § 437g.
2. Respondents voluntarily enter into this agreement with the Commission.
3. The Reports Analysis Division referred Respondents for failing to disclose all financial activity on its 2010 12 Day Pre-Runoff Report and 2010 October Quarterly Report. On June 20, 2011, the Committee amended its 2010 12 Day Pre-Runoff Report to disclose additional disbursements totaling \$140,804.86 and its 2010 October Quarterly Report to disclose additional disbursements totaling \$155,240.00, which were not disclosed on the original reports filed May 27, 2010, and October 15, 2010, respectively.
4. Treasurers of political committees are required to report all financial activity, including all disbursements, pursuant to the FECA. 2 U.S.C. §§ 434(a)(1), 434(b)(4), 11 C.F.R. §§ 104.1, 104.3(b).
5. Respondents contend that the errors described in paragraph 3 were inadvertent, and resulted in large part from the inexperience of the campaign staff, none of whom had ever worked on a congressional campaign. Respondents contend that during the

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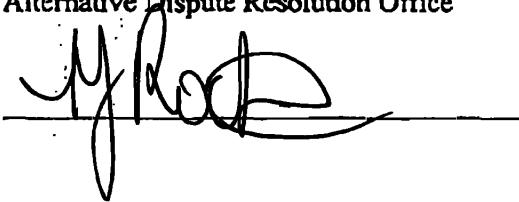
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election cycle, the candidate lost four elections, after each of which there was significant staff turnover. Respondents contend that in response to the errors, new processes and procedures were implemented to avoid failing to report disbursements in the future.

- 6. Respondents, in an effort to resolve this matter, agree to: pay a civil penalty of \$5,000 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 submit any unpaid civil penalty to the U.S. Treasury for collection or undertake civil action in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to secure compliance.
- 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 each term becomes due.
- 10. This Negotiated Settlement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties on ADR 589 (RAD 11L-23), 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.

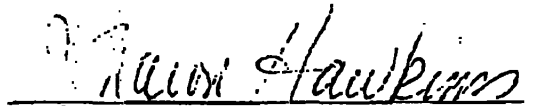
FOR THE COMMISSION:

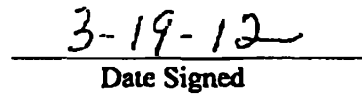
Krista J. Roche, Assistant Director
Alternative Dispute Resolution Office




_____ Date Signed

FOR THE RESPONDENTS:


Sharon Hawkins
Representing Lee Hawkins for Congress and
Sharon Hawkins, Treasurer


_____ Date Signed