



**Federal Election Commission
Washington, DC 20463**

January 15, 2014

Darrell L. Paster, Treasurer
Westiders for Progress – 2012
321 West 89th Street
New York, NY 10024

Re: ADR 660 (RAD13L-28)
Westiders for Progress – 2012 and Darrell L. Paster, Treasurer

Dear Mr. Paster:

Enclosed is the signed copy of the agreement resolving the referral initiated on September 17, 2013 by the Federal Election Commission (“FEC/Commission”) involving the Westiders for Progress – 2012 and Darrell L. Paster, Treasurer (“Respondents”). The agreement for **ADR 660 (RAD 13L-28)** was approved by the Commission on **January 13, 2014** – the effective date of the agreement.

Note the specific time frames for compliance in **paragraph 6** of the agreement. **Please forward to this office, a statement certifying Respondent’s compliance with the term in the aforementioned agreement.** The letter should note the dates on which Respondents satisfied the term listed in paragraph 6, and contain the ADR caption and case number.

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

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

Sincerely,

Lynn M. Fraser, Director
Alternative Dispute Resolution Office
202-694-1665

Enclosure: Agreement

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Washington, DC 20463**

Case Number: ADR 660
Source: RAD 13L-11
Case Name: Westsiders for Progress 2012

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 Darrell L. Paster, Esq., representing the Westsiders for Progress 2012 and Darnell L. Paate, in his 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:

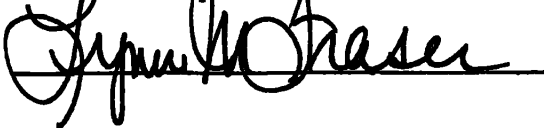
1. The Commission entered into this agreement as part of its responsibility for administering the FECA, and in an effort to promote compliance on the part of Respondents. The Commission's use of alternative dispute resolution procedures (ADR) is guided by "The Administrative Dispute Resolution Act of 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 (RAD) referred Respondents for failing to disclose timely all financial activity on their 2012 12 Day Pre-General, 2012 30 Day Post-General, and 2012 Year-End Reports. The Committee filed all three reports on April 16, 2013 with total receipts of \$61,606.70 and total disbursements of \$52,820.90. Prior to filing these three reports, the Committee did not appear to have sufficient activity for inclusion in the Administrative Fines Program during the 2011-2012 election cycle.
4. Treasurers of political committees are required to report all financial activity, including all receipts, disbursements, and debts, pursuant to the FECA. 2 U.S.C. §§ 434(b)(2), (4), and (8), 11 C.F.R. §§ 104.3(a), (b), and (d).
5. Respondents contend that this loosely organized group came together in September 2012 to sell buttons and some other Obama paraphernalia at tables set up on neighborhood sidewalks. All funds taken in were used to pay rent on their store-front and buy more buttons to sell. Respondents further contend that the delay in filing the reports was that almost immediately after agreeing to serve in September 2012, the Treasurer was called repeatedly to the bedside of

his elderly mother in Baltimore, who died in December 2012. The Treasurer asserts that due to a back injury suffered while attending his mother, he had surgery on his spine in June 2013. The Committee wishes to terminate its political committee status.

6. Respondents, in an effort to resolve this matter, agree to certify that the Committee's federal account has been closed and work with Commission staff to terminate their political committee status and reporting obligations with the Commission within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this agreement. Respondents acknowledge that a civil penalty would be appropriate under the circumstances of this matter. The Respondents, however, indicate that financial hardship prevents them from paying any civil penalty, and have submitted extensive financial documentation in support of this claim. Due to the mitigating circumstances pertaining to Respondents' material representations, the Commission agrees to depart substantially from the civil penalty justified in this matter.
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.
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 660 (RAD 13L-28), 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:

Lynn M. Fraser, Director
Alternative Dispute Resolution Office



1/13/2014
Date Signed

FOR THE RESPONDENTS:



Darrell L. Paster, Esq.
Representing Westsiders for Progress 2012 and
Darrell L. Paster, Treasurer

12/6/13
Date Signed

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