



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
Washington, DC

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Commission

FROM: Lisa J. Stevenson
Acting General Counsel

Charles Kitcher
Associate General Counsel for Enforcement

Adrienne Baranowicz
Deputy Associate General Counsel for Enforcement

BY: Aaron Rabinowitz
Assistant General Counsel *AR*

Rocelyn Halili *RH*
Attorney

SUBJECT: MUR 7976 (John James, *et al.*)
Pre-Probable Cause Conciliation Agreement (Resubmission)

The Office of General Counsel (“OGC”) circulates this memorandum recommending that the Commission accept the negotiated conciliation agreement with the Committee, signed by Counsel and John James, with corrections to the previous version of the agreement that contained a typographical error relating to the reimbursement amount in Section VI. 3, where the numerical amount did not match the language description.¹

On, June 1, 2023, the Commission found reason to believe that John James, and John James for Senate, Inc., and Tim Caughlin in his official capacity as treasurer (the “Committee”) violated 52 U.S.C. § 30114(b) and 11 C.F.R. § 113.2 for converting campaign funds for personal

¹ See Memorandum to the Commission Withdrawing Memorandum of February 27, 2024 at 1 (Mar. 6, 2024), MUR 7976 (John James, *et al.*).

use with respect to \$2,286.71 related to speaking engagements.² The Commission also voted to enter into pre-probable cause conciliation with the Committee.³

On February 27, 2024, OGC recommended the Commission accept a signed agreement, which would resolve the violations.⁴ On March 6, 2024, OGC withdrew its February 27, 2024 memorandum after it became aware of a typographical error in Section VI. 3.⁵

Incorporated by reference is OGC's February 27, 2024, memorandum, recommending the Commission accept the pre-probable cause conciliation agreement, which explains the basis of OGC's recommendation.⁸

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Accept the attached conciliation agreement with John James, and John James for Senate, Inc., and Tim Caughlin in his official capacity as treasurer;
2. Approve the appropriate letters; and
3. Close the file.

² Certification ¶ 2.a (June 7, 2023).

³ *Id.* ¶ 2 b.

⁴ Memorandum to the Commission Recommending Acceptance of Pre-Probable Cause Conciliation Agreement at 2 (Feb. 27, 2024), MUR 7976 (John James, *et al.*).

⁵ Memorandum to the Commission Withdrawing Memorandum of February 27, 2024 at 1 (Mar. 6, 2024), MUR 7976 (John James, *et al.*).