

### FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20463

# **MEMORANDUM**

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TO: The Commission

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5 FROM: Lisa J. Stevenson

6 Acting General Counsel

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Charles Kitcher 8

9 Associate General Counsel for Enforcement

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Adrienne Baranowicz 11

12 Deputy Associate General Counsel for Enforcement

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Ana Peña-Wallace APW 14 BY: 15

Assistant General Counsel

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Christine C. Gallagher CG 17

Attorney

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20 DATE: September 19, 2023

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**SUBJECT:** MUR 8043 (Women Vote Smart) 22

Recommendation to Accept Signed Conciliation Agreement

The Commission previously found reason to believe that Women Vote Smart and Amy S. Kremer in her official capacity as treasurer (the "Committee") violated 52 U.S.C. § 30118(a) by knowingly accepting \$37,575.74 in prohibited contributions. At that time, the Commission authorized pre-probable cause conciliation and approved a conciliation agreement

Attached is a negotiated conciliation agreement signed by the Committee's treasurer with a civil penalty of \$5,000 payable in two equal installments over six months. We recommend that the Commission accept the negotiated agreement and close the file.3

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Certification ¶ 2 (July 29, 2022).

Id. ¶¶ 4, 5; see also Commission-Approved Conciliation Agreement ¶ VI.1.

The statute of limitations in this matter begins to run on February 7, 2024, and ends June 30, 2024. Counsel declined all of our requests to toll the statute of limitations in exchange for extensions of time given to provide a response to the Commission's reason-to-believe finding and a counterproposal. See infra note 6.

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In sum, we believe that this settlement represents an acceptable resolution of the matter.
it contains a full admission of the violation and a prohibition against future violations of the Act. Additionally, the remedial measures proposed by the Committee itself reflect an understanding that the Commission takes such

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- 1 conduct and the clarification of the public record seriously.<sup>22</sup> We therefore recommend that the
- 2 Commission accept the signed conciliation agreement with the Committee. Finally, we
- 3 recommend that the Commission close the file in this matter.

### 4 **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 5 1. Accept the attached signed conciliation agreement;
- 6 2. Approve the appropriate letter; and
- 7 3. Close the file.

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The remedial measures in the agreement are likewise important should the treasurer continue to work with federal political committees. Notably, in addition to the Committee in this matter, Kremer was previously treasurer of her own campaign committee when she ran for Congress. *See* Friends to Elect Amy Kremer, Inc., Statement of Organization (Mar. 2, 2017).