

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION Washington, DC 20463

October 28, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Laurence E. Gold, Esq. Trister, Ross, Schadler, & Gold, PLLC 1666 Connecticut Ave., NW, Fifth Floor Washington, D.C. 20009 lgold@tristerross.com

RE: MUR 8049 (RR 21L-71)

Workers Vote and Zaina Tannu in her official capacity as treasurer

Dear Mr. Gold:

On October 26, 2022, the Federal Election Commission accepted the signed conciliation agreement submitted on behalf of your client, Workers Vote and Zaina Tannu in her official capacity as treasurer, in settlement of a violation of 52 U.S.C. § 30104(b)(8), a provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, and 11 C.F.R. § 104.3(d) of the Commission's regulations. Accordingly, the Commission has closed the file in this matter.

Documents related to the case will be placed on the public record within 30 days. *See* Disclosure of Certain Documents in Enforcement and Other Matters, 81 Fed. Reg. 50,702 (Aug. 2, 2016). Information derived in connection with any conciliation attempt will not become public without the written consent of the respondent and the Commission. *See* 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(4)(B).

Enclosed you will find a copy of the fully executed conciliation agreement for your files. Please note that the civil penalty is due within 30 days of the conciliation agreement's effective date. If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Ana J. Pena-Wallace Ana J. Peña-Wallace

Assistant General Counsel

Enclosure:

Conciliation Agreement

| 1 | BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION | | | | |
|----------------------------|---|--|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 2 3 4 5 6 7 | Work | Matter of ers Vote and Zaina Tannu er official capacity as treasurer |) | MUR | 8049 |
| 8 | CONCILIATION AGREEMENT | | | | |
| 9 | This matter was initiated by the Federal Election Commission pursuant to information | | | | |
| 10 | ascertained in the normal course of carrying out its supervisory responsibilities. The | | | | |
| 11 | Commission found reason to believe that Workers Vote and Zaina Tannu in her official capacity | | | | |
| 12 | as treasurer (the "Committee" or "Respondent") violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(b)(8) and 11 C.F.R. | | | | |
| 13 | § 104.3(d) by failing to accurately report debt. | | | | |
| 14 | NOW, | THEREFORE, the Commission | and the Responden | t, having partici | pated in |
| 15 | informal meth | ods of conciliation, prior to a fir | iding of probable car | use to believe, d | o hereby agree |
| 16 | as follows: | | | | |
| 17 | I. | The Commission has jurisdiction | on over the Respond | ent and the subje | ect matter of |
| 18 | this proceedin | g, and this Agreement has the ef | fect of an agreement | entered pursua | nt to 52 U.S.C. |
| 19 | § 30109(a)(4)(A)(i). | | | | |
| 20 | II. | Respondent has had a reasonab | le opportunity to der | nonstrate that no | o action should |
| 21 | be taken in this matter. | | | | |
| 22 | III. | Respondent enters voluntarily i | nto this Agreement | with the Commi | ssion. |
| 23 | IV. | The pertinent facts and law in the | nis matter are as foll | ows: | |
| 24 | 1. | The Committee is an independe | ent expenditure-only | political commi | ittee that first |
| 25 | registered with the Commission on August 7, 2020. Zaina Tannu is its treasurer. | | | | |

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- 1 2. On October 15, 2020, the Committee filed its original 2020 October Monthly
- 2 Report covering the period from August 7, 2020 through September 30, 2020. The Report did
- 3 not disclose any debt.
- The Committee filed a First Amended October 2020 Monthly Report that
- 5 disclosed debt on April 13, 2021. On its Second Amended 2020 October Monthly Report, dated
- 6 July 2, 2021, the Committee disclosed \$270,368.37 in debt incurred during the reporting period
- 7 that had not been disclosed on its original report.
- 8 4. On October 21, 2020, the Committee filed its original 2020 12-Day Pre-General
- 9 Report covering the period from October 1, 2020 through October 14, 2020. The Report did not
- 10 disclose any debt.
- 11 5. The Committee filed a First Amended 12-Day Pre-General Report that disclosed
- debt on April 13, 2021. On its Second Amended 2020 12-Day Pre-General Report, dated July 2,
- 13 2021, the Committee disclosed \$636,100.37 in debt, \$365,732.00 of which was debt incurred
- during the reporting period that had not been disclosed on its original report.
- 6. On December 3, 2020, the Committee filed its original 2020 30-Day Post-General
- Report covering the period from October 15, 2020 through November 23, 2020. The Report
- 17 disclosed \$103,537.88 in debt.
- 18 7. The Committee filed a First Amended 30-Day Post-General Report that disclosed
- 19 additional debt on April 14, 2021. On its Second Amended 2020 30-Day Post-General Report,
- 20 dated July 2, 2021, the Committee disclosed \$841,605.97 in debt, \$586,348.03 of which was
- 21 debt incurred during the reporting period that had not been disclosed on its original report.
- 22 8. On January 30, 2021, the Committee filed its original 2020 Year-End Report,
- 23 which disclosed \$2,863,639.35 in debt.

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| 1 | 9. The Committee filed a First Amended 2020 Year End Report that disclosed | | | |
|----|---|--|--|--|
| 2 | additional debt on April 13, 2021, and a Second Amended 2020 Year End Report that disclosed | | | |
| 3 | additional debt on May 17, 2021. On its Third Amended 2020 Year End Report, dated July 2, | | | |
| 4 | 2021, the Committee disclosed \$3,755,912.20 in debt, \$421,515.88 of which was debt incurred | | | |
| 5 | during the reporting period that had not been disclosed on its original report. | | | |
| 6 | 10. On February 4, 2021, the Committee filed its original 2021 30-Day Post-Runoff | | | |
| 7 | Report, which disclosed \$2,707,823.33 in debt. | | | |
| 8 | 11. The Committee filed a First Amended 2020 30-Day Post-Runoff Report that | | | |
| 9 | disclosed additional debt on April 13, 2021. On its Second Amended 2020 30-Day Post-Runoff | | | |
| 10 | Report, dated July 2, 2021, the Committee disclosed \$4,277,845.77 in debt, \$608,807.43 of | | | |
| 11 | which was debt incurred during the reporting period that had not been disclosed on its original | | | |
| 12 | report. | | | |
| 13 | 12. On April 29, 2021, the Commission's Reports Analysis Division (RAD) sent a | | | |
| 14 | request for additional information ("RFAI") to the Respondent concerning the debts disclosed or | | | |
| 15 | the First Amended 30-Day Post-Runoff Report. On May 3, 2021, RAD sent an RFAI to the | | | |
| 16 | Respondent concerning the debts disclosed on the First Amended 2020 Year-End Report. On | | | |
| 17 | July 8, 2021, RAD sent RFAIs to the Respondent concerning the debts disclosed on, | | | |
| 18 | respectively, the Second Amended 2020 October Monthly Report, the Second Amended 2020 | | | |
| 19 | Pre-General Report, and the Second Amended 2020 Post-General Report. The Respondent | | | |
| 20 | timely filed a FEC Form 99 responding to each RFAI. | | | |
| 21 | 13. The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the "Act"), and | | | |
| 22 | Commission regulations require political committees to disclose the amount and nature of | | | |
| | | | | |

outstanding debts and obligations until those debts are extinguished. 52 U.S.C. § 30104(b)(8);

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- 1 11 C.F.R. §§ 104.3(d), 104.11(a). Debts of \$500 or less must be reported no later than 60 days
- 2 after the obligation is incurred, while debts of more than \$500 must be reported as of the date the
- 3 obligation is incurred. 11 C.F.R. § 104.11(b).
- 4 14. The Committee failed to report the debt discussed in paragraphs IV.2-11, which
- 5 exceeded \$500, as of the date it was incurred. Therefore, the Committee failed to accurately
- 6 report its debt on its original 2020 October Monthly Report, 2020 12-Day Pre-General Report,
- 7 2020 30-Day Post-General Report, 2020 Year-End Report, and 2021 30-Day Post-Runoff
- 8 Report.
- 9 15. The Respondent contends that its under-reporting of debt was the inadvertent
- 10 consequence of operating a multi-state voter-contact canvassing operation that relied on
- information secured from numerous providers of goods and services, as well as the result of
- inadvertent errors in classifying and reporting that debt. The Respondent further contends that it
- 13 uncovered its reporting errors without prompting from the Commission, subsequently directed its
- 14 compliance firm to undertake a comprehensive review of its debt reporting, and filed a series of
- amended reports in a good faith effort to rectify the debt disclosure errors discovered in the
- 16 original reports.
- 17 V. The Committee violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(b)(8) and 11 C.F.R. § 104.3(d) by
- 18 failing to accurately report its debt.
- 19 VI. 1. The Committee will pay a civil penalty to the Federal Election
- 20 Commission in the amount of Sixty-Nine Thousand Dollars (\$69,000), pursuant to 52 U.S.C.
- 21 § 30109(a)(5)(A).
- 22 2. The Committee will cease and desist from violating 52 U.S.C.
- 23 § 30104(b)(8) and 11 C.F.R. § 104.3(d).

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| 1 | VII. | The Commission, | on request of any | yone filing a comp | plaint under 52 | 2 U.S.C. |
|---|------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------|
|---|------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------|

- 2 § 30109(a)(1) concerning the matters at issue herein or on its own motion, may review
- 3 compliance with this Agreement. If the Commission believes that this Agreement or any
- 4 requirement thereof has been violated, it may institute a civil action for relief in the United States
- 5 District Court for the District of Columbia.
- WIII. This Agreement shall become effective as of the date that all parties hereto have
- 7 executed same and the Commission has approved the entire Agreement.
- 8 IX. Respondent shall have no more than 30 days from the date this Agreement
- 9 becomes effective to comply with and implement the requirements contained in this Agreement
- and to so notify the Commission.

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| 1 | X. This Conciliation Agreement consti | tutes the entire agreement between the parties | | | |
|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2 | on the matters raised herein, and no other statement, promise, or agreement, either written or | | | | |
| 3 | oral, made by either party or by agents of either party, that is not contained in this written | | | | |
| 4 | agreement shall be enforceable. | | | | |
| 5 | FOR THE COMMISSION: | | | | |
| 6 7 | Lisa J. Stevenson Acting General Counsel Charles Digitally signed by Charles Charles | | | | |
| 8 9 10 | BY: Kitcher Date: 2022.10.28 12:30:29 -04'00' Charles Kitcher Associate General Counsel | 10/28/22 Date | | | |
| 11 | FOR THE RESPONDENT: | | | | |
| 12 13 14 15 | Laurence E. Gold Counsel to Workers Vote and Zaina Tannu in her official capacity as treasurer | October 6, 2022 Date | | | |