

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD**

CONCILIATION AGREEMENT

In the matter of the Mark Johnson for MN Senate committee (18011);

1. Mark Johnson for MN Senate is the principal campaign committee of Senator Mark Johnson. The aggregate special source contribution limit, which includes contributions from lobbyists, political committees and funds, and associations not registered with the Board, was \$21,800 for candidates for state senate during the 2021-2022 election cycle. The committee's 2021 and 2022 amended year-end reports of receipts and expenditures disclosed a combined total of \$21,950 in special source contributions. The \$150 in excess special source contributions was not returned within 90 days of deposit and is therefore deemed accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.
2. The committee's treasurer, Elizabeth Davis, stated that the committee did not receive a compliance warning when using the Board's Campaign Finance Reporter software.
3. The parties agree that the committee inadvertently accepted excessive contributions from special source contributors in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11, during the 2021-2022 election cycle. This is the committee's second violation of the aggregate special source limit. The committee exceeded the same contribution limit by \$825 during the 2017-2018 election cycle segment.
4. To avoid a similar violation in the future, the committee agrees that it will transition to using the Board's Campaign Finance Reporter Online application starting with the 2023 reporting year, ensure that the committee's treasurer reviews and enters contributions within 60 days of receipt, run appropriate batch compliance reports, and review and correct all compliance warnings.
5. The committee agrees to the imposition of a civil penalty of \$300, two times the amount of the violation, for accepting contributions in excess of the limit imposed by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11. Of this amount, \$100 is due within 30 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties. The remaining \$200 of the penalty is, by the terms of this agreement, stayed until January 1, 2025. If the committee violates Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11, before January 1, 2025, the outstanding civil penalty is due immediately. If the committee does not violate Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11, before January 1, 2025, the outstanding civil penalty is waived.
6. The committee also agrees to provide to the Board, within 60 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties, a copy of the deposited check or other documentation showing that \$150 has been returned to a special source contributor.

7. If the committee does not comply with the provisions of this agreement, this matter may be reopened by the Board and the Board may take such actions as it deems appropriate.

/s/ Mark Johnson
Senator Mark Johnson
Mark Johnson for MN Senate

Dated: July 21, 2023

/s/ George W. Soule
George W. Soule, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Dated: July 6, 2023