## STATE OF MINNESOTA CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

## **CONCILIATION AGREEMENT**

In the matter of the People for Maria Isa (Pérez-Vega) committee (18746);

- 1. People for Maria Isa (Pérez-Vega) is the principal campaign committee of Representative María Pérez-Vega. The total amount of contributions that a candidate for state representative could accept from a single individual during the 2021-2022 election cycle was \$1,000. The committee's 2022 year-end report of receipts and expenditures included three monetary contributions of \$500 each received from one individual. The \$500 excess amount 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, Mariesa Sun-Saenz, stated that the committee accepted the third contribution of \$500 without realizing that the committee had exceeded the \$1,000 contribution limit. She explained that she was a first-time treasurer and provided documentation showing that the \$500 excess amount was refunded to the contributor by wire transfer in August 2023.
- 3. The parties agree that the committee inadvertently accepted excessive contributions in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 1, during the 2021-2022 election cycle. The committee registered with the Board in January of 2022 and has no prior violations of the individual contribution limit.
- 4. To avoid a similar violation in the future, the committee agrees to:
  - a. Begin using the Board's Campaign Finance Reporter Online application to file its periodic campaign finance reports beginning with the 2023 calendar year; and
  - b. Ensure that contributions are entered in the application within 60 days of receipt and are promptly returned if a compliance warning indicates that it is necessary to do so.
- 5. The Pérez-Vega committee agrees to the imposition of a civil penalty of \$500, one times the amount of the violation, for accepting contributions in excess of the limit imposed by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 1. Of this amount, \$125 is due within 30 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties. The remaining \$375 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 1, before January 1, 2025, the outstanding civil penalty is due immediately. If the committee does not violate Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 1, before January 1, 2025, the outstanding civil penalty is waived.

visions of this agreement, this matter may be uch actions as it deems appropriate.
Dated: September 14, 2023
Dated: <u>September 6, 2023</u>