

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
 COUNTY OF RICHLAND )  
 )  
 IN THE MATTER OF: )  
 COMPLAINT C2013-104 )  
 )  
 State Ethics Commission, )  
 Complainant; )  
 )  
 vs. )  
 )  
 Annie Patrick, )  
 Respondent. )  
 \_\_\_\_\_ )

BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

STATE ETHICS  
 COMMISSION

2013 APR 22 AM 10: 25

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**DECISION AND ORDER**

This matter comes before the State Ethics Commission by virtue of a complaint filed by the Commission on January 28, 2013. On March 20, 2013, pursuant to S. C. Code Ann. § 8-13-320(10)(i)(Supp. 2012), the State Ethics Commission reviewed the above-captioned complaint charging the Respondent, Annie Patrick, with four violations of Section 8-13-1308(B).

Present at the meeting were Commission Members Phillip Florence, Jr., Chair, E. Kay Biermann Brohl, Priscilla L. Turner, George Carlton Manley, Jonathan H. Burnett, Richard H. Fitzgerald and James I. Warren. The Commission found probable cause.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

Having carefully reviewed the evidence presented, the Commission finds as fact:

1. The Respondent, Annie Patrick, was a member of Greenville County School Board and had an open campaign account from the 2010 election.
2. Respondent received a letter dated November 13, 2012 for failure to file a October 10, 2011, January 10, 2012, April 10, 2012 and July 10, 2012 quarterly CD. The letter was resent certified on December 4, 2012. It was returned and re-mailed first class on December 31, 2012. Penalties began accruing on January 13, 2013.

3. It was determined from a review of Respondent's campaign bank account that the account was closed out on May 31, 2011; therefore, there was no requirement for Respondent to file the CDs cited in the complaint.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Based upon the Findings of Fact, the Commission concludes, as a matter of law:

1. During all times relevant, the Respondent, Annie Patrick, was a candidate, as defined by Section 8-13-1300(4).

2. The State Ethics Commission has personal and subject matter jurisdiction

3. Section 8-13-1308(B) provides:

Following the filing of an initial certified campaign report, additional certified campaign reports must be filed within ten days following the end of each calendar quarter in which contributions are received or expenditures are made, whether before or after an election until the campaign account undergoes final disbursement pursuant to the provisions of Section 8-13-1370.

4. Section 8-13-320(10)(i) provides in part:

(10) to conduct its investigation, inquiries, and hearings in this manner:

(i) . . . If the Commission finds probable cause to believe that a violation of this chapter has occurred, the Commission may waive further proceedings if the respondent takes action to remedy or correct the alleged violation.

### **DECISION**

Based upon the evidence presented and the payment of \$100.00 within 30 days of receipt of this order, the State Ethics Commission has determined that the Respondent, Annie Patrick, has complied with the disclosure requirements of the Ethics Reform Act of 1991. THEREFORE, in accordance with Section 8-13-320(10)(i), and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, the State Ethics Commission waives further proceedings.

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 18<sup>th</sup> DAY OF April, 2013.

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION



PHILLIP FLORENCE, JR.  
CHAIRMAN

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA