

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

FOR COMMISSION USE ONLY:
CASE NUMBER
C 2024-058

COMPLAINT FORM

COMPLAINANT: State Ethics Commission
ADDRESS: 201 Executive Center Drive
Suite 150
Columbia, SC 29210
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (803) 253-4192

RESPONDENT: Anthony L. Fogle
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
TELEPHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]
TITLE: Candidate – Charleston City Council

Section 8-13-1308, S.C. Code Ann., 1976, as amended, requires candidates to file Campaign Disclosures within ten (10) days of receiving or expending \$500; fifteen (15) days prior to each election; within ten (10) days of the end of each quarter; and a final report when the campaign account is closed. In addition, certified campaign reports detailing campaign contributions and expenditures must contain the total of contributions accepted, the name and address of each person making a contribution, the total expenditures made by or on behalf of the candidate or committee, and the name and address of each person to whom an expenditure is made from campaign funds. Pursuant to Section 8-13-1362 and Regulation 52-504 (C), the Pre-Election and quarterly report are required even when there have been no contributions or expenditures.

Records of the State Ethics Commission indicate that a Pre-Election Campaign Disclosure was due between December 22, 2021 and December 27, 2021, and a \$150.00 filing fee was paid on November 5, 2021.

Respondent was reminded of the filing requirement by letters dated September 28, 2022, December 22, 2022, January 20, 2023, and March 6, 2023 as described in the attached. To date, a properly completed Pre-Election Campaign Disclosure has not been received. All in violation of Section 8-13-1308(A), Section 8-13-1308(D)(1), and Section 8-13-1308 (F), S.C. Code Ann., 1976, as amended.

If there is a finding of probable cause, the following documents become public record: the complaint, the response (if any) by respondent, and the notice of hearing. If a hearing is to be held, the final order and all exhibits become public record. If no hearing is held following a finding of probable cause, the final disposition of the matter becomes public record.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF Richland

Personally appeared before me Meghan Walker Davson who, first being duly sworn, says that she has read and knows the contents of the above complaint and that the allegations contained therein, are true and correct to the best of her own knowledge, except for those matters therein based upon information and belief, and as to those she believes them to be true.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this
12th day of August, 2024

[REDACTED]
Meghan Walker Davson, Executive Director

[REDACTED]
Notary Public for South Carolina
My Commission expires 01/12/26

SEC-7 (Revised 3/2022)

REPLY TO: 201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina 29210 (803)253-4192
ELECTRONIC COPIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF RICHLAND) BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
))
IN THE MATTER OF:))
))
Complaint C2024-058))
))
State Ethics Commission) **NOTICE OF HEARING**
Complainant.))
))
Anthony L. Fogle))
Respondent.))
_____)

The State Ethics Commission has determined that there is probable cause pursuant to Section 8-13-320(10)(i), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, in the above-captioned complaint. The Commission will convene a formal hearing into the matter in accordance with Section 8-13-320(10)(i) & (j), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, and State Ethics Commission Regulations, S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 52-707 (1997 Cum. Supp.) on Thursday, June 19, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. at the Commission Hearing Room located at: 201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina 29210.

The following allegations will be heard:

COUNT ONE
FAILURE TO FILE A PRE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(D)(1), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to file a 2021 Pre-Election Campaign Disclosure Report (CDR), in violation of Section 8-13-1308(D)(1).

COUNT TWO
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County,

fail to file a 2021 Quarter 4 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT THREE
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file a 2022 Quarter 1 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT FOUR
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file a 2022 Quarter 2 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT FIVE
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file a 2022 Quarter 3 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT SIX
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file a 2022 Quarter 4 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT SEVEN
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file a 2023 Quarter 1 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT EIGHT
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to file a 2023 Quarter 2 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT NINE
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to file a 2023 Quarter 3 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT TEN
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to file a 2023 Quarter 4 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT ELEVEN
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to file a 2024 Quarter 1 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT TWELVE
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to report one (1) campaign contribution of \$100.00 or on his 2021 Pre-Election CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT THIRTEEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County,

fail to report three (3) campaign contributions of \$100.00 or less on his 2021 Quarter 4 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT FOURTEEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to report two (2) campaign contributions of \$100.00 or less on his 2022 Quarter 1 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT FIFTEEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to report a December 14, 2021 campaign contributions from Prentiss Parks in the amount of \$500.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT SIXTEEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to report a December 16, 2021 campaign contributions from Karen Maddox in the amount of \$500.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT SEVENTEEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to report a December 17, 2021 campaign contributions from Viva Daniel Island Inc. in the amount of \$1,000.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT EIGHTEEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to report a January 5, 2022 campaign contributions from Kelly Scruggs in the amount of \$999.70, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT NINETEEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to report a January 10, 2022 campaign contributions from The Carpenter's Hand in the amount of \$500.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWENTY
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to report a January 12, 2022 campaign contributions from Melissa Bertson in the amount of \$350.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWENTY-ONE
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to report a November 5, 2021 campaign expenditures for a filing fee in the amount of \$150.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWENTY-TWO
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County,

fail to report a December 22, 2021 campaign expenditures to TCC Political Services in the amount of \$1,400.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWENTY-THREE
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to report a January 4, 2022 campaign expenditures to Daniel Island News in the amount of \$445.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWENTY-FOUR
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to report a January 31, 2022 campaign expenditures to Ascent Strategic in the amount of \$2,000.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWENTY-FIVE
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to report a January 31, 2022 campaign expenditures to Conversion Creative in the amount of \$4,000.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWENTY-SIX
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to report a March 25, 2024 campaign expenditures of a transfer to his personal account in the amount of \$680.71, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWENTY-SEVEN
ACCEPTANCE OF CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION EXCEEDING LIMITATION
SECTION 8-13-1314, S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, accept a campaign contribution from Action Ford Mercury in the amount of \$1,500.00, exceeding the contribution limit of \$1,000.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1314.

COUNT TWENTY-EIGHT
ACCEPTANCE OF CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION EXCEEDING LIMITATION
SECTION 8-13-1314, S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, accept a campaign contribution from T A Iaria Inc. in the amount of \$2,500.00, exceeding the contribution limit of \$1,000.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1314.

COUNT TWENTY-NINE
USE OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS FOR PERSONAL EXPENSES
SECTION 8-13-1348, S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, use campaign funds to for personal use by transferring \$680.71 from his campaign bank account to his personal account on March 25, 2024, in violation of Section 8-13-1348.

You have the right to be represented by counsel, the right to call and examine witnesses, the right to introduce exhibits, and the right to cross-examine opposing witnesses. This hearing will be open to the public as required by Section 8-13-320(10)(j), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended. The procedures to be followed are set forth in the Administrative Procedures Act, Section 1-23-10, et seq., Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, the State Ethics Act, Section 8-13-100, et seq., Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, and State Ethics Commission Regulations, S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 52-707 (1997 Cum. Supp.).

A pre-hearing conference may be scheduled prior to the hearing to allow exchange of

witness lists and evidence, marking of exhibits, and disposition of motions or pleadings. In the event you fail to appear, judgment by default will be rendered against you. If there are any questions concerning the above notice or hearing times, please contact the State Ethics Commission.



Meghan Walker Dayson, Executive Director
State Ethics Commission

Dated this 3rd day,
of ~~January~~ February 2025.

Certificate of Service by Certified Mail

I hereby certify that a copy of this **NOTICE OF HEARING** was duly served on the RESPONDENT Anthony L. Fogle, 211 River Landing Drive #355, Charleston, SC 29492 by depositing said **NOTICE OF HEARING** in the United States mail, Columbia, South Carolina on this 3rd day of February 2025, by **CERTIFIED MAIL, E-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**, appropriate postage affixed, and a return address clearly indicated on said envelope.



Rachael O'Bryan, Administrative Assistant
State Ethics Commission (803) 253-4192

Columbia, South Carolina

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)
IN THE MATTER OF:)
Complaint C2024-058)
State Ethics Commission)
Complainant.)
Anthony L. Fogle)
Respondent.)

BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

**AMENDED
NOTICE OF HEARING**

The State Ethics Commission has determined that there is probable cause pursuant to Section 8-13-320(10)(i), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, in the above-captioned complaint. The Commission will convene a formal hearing into the matter in accordance with Section 8-13-320(10)(i) & (j), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, and State Ethics Commission Regulations, S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 52-707 (1997 Cum. Supp.) on Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. at the Commission Hearing Room located at: 201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina 29210.

The following allegations will be heard:

COUNT ONE
FAILURE TO FILE A PRE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(D)(1), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to file a 2021 Pre-Election Campaign Disclosure Report (CDR), in violation of Section 8-13-1308(D)(1).

COUNT TWO
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County,

fail to file a 2021 Quarter 4 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT THREE
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file a 2022 Quarter 1 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT FOUR
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file a 2022 Quarter 2 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT FIVE
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file a 2022 Quarter 3 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT SIX
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file a 2022 Quarter 4 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT SEVEN
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file a 2023 Quarter 1 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT EIGHT
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to file a 2023 Quarter 2 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT NINE
FAILURE TO FILE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to file a 2023 Quarter 3 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT TEN
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SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to file a 2023 Quarter 4 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT ELEVEN
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SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to file a 2024 Quarter 1 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

COUNT TWELVE
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to report one (1) campaign contribution of \$100.00 or on his 2021 Pre-Election CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT THIRTEEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to report three (3) campaign contributions of \$100.00 or less on his 2021 Quarter 4 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT FOURTEEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to report two (2) campaign contributions of \$100.00 or less on his 2022 Quarter 1 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT FIFTEEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Anthony L. Fogle, candidate for Charleston City Council, did in Richland County, fail to report a December 14, 2021 campaign contributions from Prentiss Parks in the amount of \$500.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

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SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

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COUNT TWENTY-FOUR
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USE OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS FOR PERSONAL EXPENSES
SECTION 8-13-1348, S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

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You have the right to be represented by counsel, the right to call and examine witnesses, the right to introduce exhibits, and the right to cross-examine opposing witnesses. This hearing will be open to the public as required by Section 8-13-320(10)(j), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended. The procedures to be followed are set forth in the Administrative Procedures Act, Section 1-23-10, et seq., Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, the State Ethics Act, Section 8-13-100, et seq., Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, and State Ethics

Commission Regulations, S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 52-707 (1997 Cum. Supp.).

A pre-hearing conference may be scheduled prior to the hearing to allow exchange of witness lists and evidence, marking of exhibits, and disposition of motions or pleadings. In the event you fail to appear, judgment by default will be rendered against you. If there are any questions concerning the above notice or hearing times, please contact the State Ethics Commission.


Meghan Walker Dayson, Executive Director
State Ethics Commission

Dated this 20th day,
of March 2025.

Certificate of Service by Certified Mail

I hereby certify that a copy of this **AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING** was duly served on the RESPONDENT Anthony L. Fogle, 211 River Landing Drive #355, Charleston, SC 29492 by depositing said **AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING** in the United States mail, Columbia, South Carolina on this 20th day of March 2025, by CERTIFIED MAIL, E-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED, appropriate postage affixed, and a return address clearly indicated on said envelope.



Columbia, South Carolina

Rachael O'Bryan, Administrative Assistant
State Ethics Commission

(803) 253-4192

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)
IN THE MATTER OF:)
COMPLAINT C2024-058)
State Ethics Commission,)
Complainant.)
Anthony L. Fogle,)
Respondent.)
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BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

DECISION AND ORDER

Pursuant to Section 8-13-320(10)(i) of the South Carolina Ethics, Government Accountability, and Campaign Reform Act of 1991 (Ethics Act), the Commission reviewed the above-captioned Complaint against Anthony L. Fogle (Respondent) and probable cause was found to warrant an evidentiary hearing. Present at the hearing on August 21, 2025, were Commissioners Bryant S. Caldwell, Sara Parrish, and F. Xavier Starkes, Hearing Panel Chair¹. Respondent was duly notified, but did not appear. The Commission was represented by Courtney M. Laster, Esq. The following charges were considered: one (1) count of violating Section 8-13-1308(D)(1) for failing to file a Pre-Election Campaign Disclosure Report (CDR) prior to a January 11, 2022 election, ten (10) counts of violating Section 8-13-1308(B) for failing to file quarterly CDRs from Quarter 4 2021 through Quarter 1 2024, two (2) counts of violating Section 8-13-1314 for accepting excessive campaign contributions, and one (1) count of violating Section 8-13-1348 for personal use of campaign funds.²

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. Respondent was an unsuccessful candidate for Charleston City Council in a January 11, 2022

¹ Commissioners Caldwell and Parrish appeared virtually.

² At the call of the case, Commission staff moved to dismiss Counts 12-26 of the Notice of Hearing, which alleged violations of Section 8-13-1308(F) for failing to disclose campaign contributions and expenditures. Given that Respondent was also charged with failing to file the corresponding CDRs, the Panel granted the motion and proceeded on the remaining counts.

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special election.

2. Respondent did not file a Pre-Election CDR prior to the January 11, 2022 election.
3. The Commission attempted to notify Respondent of his failure to file a Pre-Election CDR by certified mail on September 28, 2022, December 22, 2022, and January 20, 2023. The September 28, 2022 and December 22, 2022 certified letters were returned to the Commission as “Unclaimed” and the January 20, 2023 was returned to the Commission as “Refused.”
4. On March 6, 2023, the certified letter was re-mailed to Respondent’s address of record via first-class letter with a United States Postal Service (USPS) tracking number. According to USPS, this letter was delivered to Respondent’s address of record on March 8, 2023 at 2:14 p.m.
5. On March 18, 2023, late-filing penalties began to accrue at \$10.00 per day with regard to the Pre-Election CDR.
6. On March 28, 2023, late-filing penalties began to accrue at \$100.00 per day with regard to the Pre-Election CDR.
7. Following the filing of the Complaint, a Commission investigator subpoenaed Respondent’s campaign bank records, which revealed the following:
 - a. Respondent’s campaign bank account was opened on December 6, 2021
 - b. Respondent’s campaign bank account reached a zero balance on March 25, 2024
 - c. The final transaction before the campaign bank account reached a zero balance was a March 25, 2024 transfer of \$680.71 to a bank account belonging to Kelly C. Scruggs, a former girlfriend of Respondent
 - d. On December 30, 2021, Respondent accepted a \$1,500.00 campaign contribution from Action Ford Mercury
 - e. On January 13, 2022, Respondent accepted a \$2,500.00 campaign contribution from TA Iaria, Inc.

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CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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

1. At all times relevant, Respondent was a “candidate” pursuant to Section 8-13-1300(4). Therefore, the Commission has personal and subject matter jurisdiction.
2. Respondent was required to file a Pre-Election CDR prior to his January 11, 2022 election in accordance with Section 8-13-1308(D)(1), which provides, in relevant part:

At least fifteen days before an election, a certified campaign report must be filed showing contributions of more than one hundred dollars and expenditures to or by the candidate for the period ending twenty days before the election.

3. Because he maintained a balance of contributions until March 25, 2024, Respondent was required to file ten (10) quarterly CDRs for Quarter 4 2021 through Quarter 1 2024, in accordance with Section 8-13-1308(B), which provides, in relevant part:

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. Respondent’s acceptance of the \$1,500.00 contribution from Action Ford Mercury and the \$2,500.00 contribution from TA Iaria, Inc. were impermissible pursuant to Section 8-13-1314, which limits contributions to local candidates to \$1,000.00 per election cycle:

(A) Within an election cycle, a candidate or anyone acting on his behalf shall not solicit or accept, and a person shall not give or offer to give to a candidate or person acting on the candidate's behalf: (1) a contribution which exceeds: (a) three thousand five hundred dollars in the case of a candidate for statewide office; or (b) three thousand five hundred dollars in the aggregate for statewide candidates elected jointly . . .; or (c) one thousand dollars in the case of a candidacy for any other office;

5. Respondent’s March 25, 2024 transfer of \$680.71 to his former girlfriend was an impermissible use of campaign funds pursuant to Section 8-13-1348(A), which provides, in relevant part:

No candidate, committee, public official, or political party may use campaign funds to

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defray personal expenses which are unrelated to the campaign or the office if the candidate is an officeholder nor may these funds be converted to personal use. The prohibition of this subsection does not extend to the incidental personal use of campaign materials or equipment nor to an expenditure used to defray any ordinary expenses incurred in connection with an individual's duties as a holder of elective office.

6. Section 8-13-320(10)(l) allows the Commission to issue a civil penalty of up to \$2,000.00 for each violation of the Ethics Act.
7. Section 8-13-130 allows the Commission to "levy an enforcement or administrative fee on a person who is in violation" of the Ethics Act.

DECISION

NOW, THEREFORE, based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Panel has determined, based on a preponderance of evidence, that Respondent Anthony L. Fogle is in violation of one (1) count of Section 8-13-1308(D)(1) for failing to file a Pre-Election CDR, ten (10) counts of Section 8-13-1308(B) for failing to file ten (10) quarterly CDRs from Quarter 4 2021 through Quarter 1 2024, two (2) counts of Section 8-13-1314 for accepting excessive campaign contributions from Action Ford Mercury and TA Iaria, Inc., and one (1) count of Section 8-13-1348 for improperly transferring \$680.71.

THEREFORE, pursuant to Section 8-13-320(l)(i) of the Ethics Act, the Panel hereby issues a Public Reprimand and orders Respondent to pay the Commission a late filing penalty of \$6,000.00 (\$5,000.00 for the Pre-Election CDR and \$100.00 for each of the remaining ten (10) quarterly CDRs),³ a civil penalty of \$6,000.00 (\$2,000.00 for each excessive contribution and \$2,000.00 for the improper use of campaign funds), and an administrative fee of \$1,175.00, for a total of \$13,175.00 within one (1) year of this Order. The Panel further orders Respondent to pay \$2,680.71 (the amount Respondent

³ Respondent did not accrue any additional late filing penalties with regard to the quarterly CDRs because he did not receive certified notice of his failure to file pursuant to Section 8-13-1510.

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accepted in excess of the contribution limit and the amount of campaign funds improperly transferred to Kelly C. Scruggs) to the Children's Trust Fund and to provide proof of such payment to the Commission within one (1) year from receipt of this Order.

HOWEVER, pursuant to Section 8-13-320 of the Ethics Act, if the \$13,175.00 is not paid to the Commission and the \$2,680.71 is not paid to the Children's Trust Fund with proof of payment submitted to the Commission within one (1) year from receipt of this Order, a judgment in the maximum amount of \$15,855.71 shall be entered against Respondent. In the event of a failure to pay, upon the Commission's filing of said Judgment with the Clerk of Court in the County of Respondent's last known residence, the Clerk of Court shall enter this Order in the amount of \$15,855.71, less any money paid, in its Judgment Rolls, without cost to the Commission.

FINALLY, Respondent Anthony L. Fogle has ten (10) days from receipt of this Order to appeal this Decision and Order to the full Commission.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 26th DAY OF August 2025.

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION


F. XAVIER STARKES, HEARING CHAIR

Columbia, South Carolina