

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
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FOR COMMISSION USE ONLY:
CASE NUMBER
C 2023-115

COMPLAINT FORM

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

RESPONDENT: Whitney L. Farr
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
TELEPHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]
TITLE: Former Councilman – Spartanburg County

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 Campaign Disclosure was due no later than July 10, 2020, October 10, 2020, January 10, 2021, April 10, 2021, July 10, 2021, October 10, 2021, January 10, 2022, April 10, 2022, July 10, 2022, October 10, 2022, January 10, 2023, April 10, 2023, and July 10, 2023. Respondent was sent an email reminder thirty days before each Campaign Disclosure deadline from July 10, 2020 through October 2021 and was sent an email reminder thirty days before and ten days before each Campaign Disclosure deadline after October 2021.

Respondent was reminded of the filing requirements by letters dated November 18, 2022 and December 19, 2022 as described in the attached. To date, a properly completed Quarter 2 2020, Quarter 3 2020, Quarter 4 2020, Quarter 1 2021, Quarter 2 2021, Quarter 3 2021, Quarter 4 2021, Quarter 1 2022, Quarter 2 2022, Quarter 3 2022, Quarter 4 2022, Quarter 1 2023, and Quarter 2 2023 Campaign Disclosure have not been received. All in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B) 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 Dayson 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 14th day of September, 2023

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Meghan Walker Dayson, Executive Director

Notary Public for South Carolina
My Commission expires 01/22/20

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

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)	
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)	BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
)	
IN THE MATTER OF:)	
)	
Complaint C2023-115)	
)	
State Ethics Commission)	NOTICE OF HEARING
Complainant.)	
)	
Whitney L. Farr)	
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, April 17, 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 CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to file 2020 Quarter 3 Campaign Disclosure Report (CDR), in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

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

That Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County,

fail to file 2020 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file 2021 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file 2021 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file 2021 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file 2021 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file 2022 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to file 2022 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to file 2022 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to file 2022 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to file 2023 Quarter 1 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

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

That Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to file 2023 Quarter 2 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

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

That Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County,

fail to file 2023 Quarter 3 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

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

That Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to file 2023 Quarter 4 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

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

That Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to report a July 3, 2020 personal campaign contribution in the amount of \$1,000.00, 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to report a July 28, 2020 personal campaign contribution in the amount of \$1,000.00, 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to report March 26, 2021 personal campaign contributions in the amount of \$3,000.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

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

That Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County,

fail to report a June 3, 2020 campaign expenditure in the amount of \$300.00 to Woodruff Time, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

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

That Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to report a June 8, 2020 campaign expenditure in the amount of \$450.00 to Spartanburg Herald Journal, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

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

That Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to report a July 31, 2020 campaign expenditure in the amount of \$2,500.00 to Skygunsta, Inc., 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to report an August 20, 2020 campaign expenditure in the amount of \$1,000.00 to DDA Loan Payment, 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to report a March 20, 2021 campaign expenditure in the amount of \$3,000.00 to Skygunsta, Inc., 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to report campaign expenditures from April 1, 2022 through September 1, 2023 totaling \$118.00 for dormant account bank fees, 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to report an October 2, 2023 campaign expenditure in the amount of \$94.65 to Respondent, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

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.).

[THIS SPACE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

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 25th day,
of November 2024.

Certificate of Service by Certified Mail

I hereby certify that a copy of this **NOTICE OF HEARING** was duly served on the RESPONDENT Whitney L. Farr, 1951 Reidville Sharon Road, Greer, SC 29651 by depositing said **NOTICE OF HEARING** in the United States mail, Columbia, South Carolina on this 21st day of December 2024, by **CERTIFIED MAIL, E-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**, appropriate postage affixed, and a return address clearly indicated on said envelope.



Rachael O'Bryan, Administrative Assistant

Columbia, South Carolina

State Ethics Commission

(803) 253-4192

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)
IN THE MATTER OF:)
Complaint C2023-115)
State Ethics Commission)
Complainant.)
Whitney L. Farr)
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, 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 CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to file 2020 Quarter 3 Campaign Disclosure Report (CDR), in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

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

That Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County,

fail to file 2020 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file 2021 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file 2021 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file 2021 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file 2021 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County,
fail to file 2022 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to file 2022 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to file 2022 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to file 2022 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to file 2023 Quarter 1 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

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

That Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to file 2023 Quarter 2 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

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

That Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County,

fail to file 2023 Quarter 3 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

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

That Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to file 2023 Quarter 4 CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(B).

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

That Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to report a July 3, 2020 personal campaign contribution in the amount of \$1,000.00, 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 Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to report a July 28, 2020 personal campaign contribution in the amount of \$1,000.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

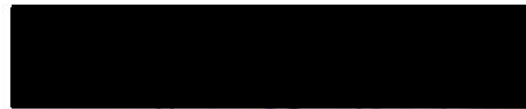
COUNT SEVENTEEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County, fail to report March 26, 2021 personal campaign contributions in the amount of \$3,000.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

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

That Whitney L. Farr, candidate for Spartanburg County Council, did in Richland County,

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.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)
IN THE MATTER OF:)
COMPLAINT C2023-115)
State Ethics Commission,)
Complainant,)
Whitney L. Farr,)
Respondent.)
_____)

BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

CONSENT ORDER

This matter comes before the State Ethics Commission (Commission) by way of a Complaint filed on September 14, 2023. Pursuant to Section 8-13-320(10)(i) of the South Carolina Ethics, Government Accountability, and Campaign Reform Act (Ethics Act), the Complaint against Whitney L. Farr (Respondent) was considered by the Commission and probable cause was found to warrant an evidentiary hearing. Prior to the call of the case, Respondent agreed to the following:

STATEMENTS OF FACT

1. Respondent was an unsuccessful candidate for Spartanburg County Council in a June 9, 2020 primary election.
2. Prior to the filing of the Complaint, Respondent's most recently filed Campaign Disclosure Report (CDR) was a Primary Pre-Election CDR filed on May 29, 2020 wherein Respondent disclosed approximately \$2,400.00 in on-hand contributions. Respondent thereafter failed to file any additional CDRs.
3. In a November 18, 2022 certified letter, the Commission notified Respondent of his failure to file ten (10) quarterly CDRs from Quarter 2 2020 through Quarter 3 2022.
4. On December 19, 2022, a Commission staff member checked the status of the November 18, 2022 certified letter, and according to the United States Postal Service (USPS), it was being "Returned to Sender – Unclaimed."
5. The letter was subsequently re-mailed via first-class with a USPS tracking number. According to

JX #1

USPS, the first-class letter was delivered to Respondent's address of record on December 21, 2022 at 3:26 p.m.

6. On December 31, 2022, late-filing penalties began to accrue at \$100.00 per day (\$10.00 per CDR).
7. On January 10, 2023, late-filing penalties began to accrue at \$1,000.00 per day (\$100.00 per CDR).
8. On July 24, 2023, a Commission staff member telephoned Respondent. Respondent verified that he had received the Commission's letter and advised he would file his CDRs that week.
9. Receiving no response from the Respondent, the complaint was filed on September 14, 2023.
10. Following the filing of the complaint, Respondent's campaign bank account records were subpoenaed. A review of these records revealed Respondent's campaign bank account closed on October 2, 2023. The records further revealed Respondent maintained a balance of approximately \$200.00 or less throughout the quarters in question.
11. On April 1, 2025, with Commission staff's assistance, Respondent filed all required CDRs with regard to the 2020 election cycle.

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. Section 8-13-1308(B) 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.

3. Section 8-13-1510(A) provides, in relevant part:

. . . a person required to file a report or statement under this chapter who files a late statement or report . . . must be assessed a civil penalty as follows: (1) a fine of one hundred dollars if the statement or report is not filed within five days after the established deadline provided by law

JX # 2

in this chapter; and (2) after notice has been given by certified or registered mail that a required statement or report has not been filed, a fine of ten dollars per calendar day for the first ten days after notice has been given, and one hundred dollars for each additional calendar day in which the required statement or report is not filed, not exceeding five thousand dollars.

4. 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.

DISCUSSION

The Commission found probable cause to charge Respondent with fourteen (14) counts of violating Section 8-13-1308(B) for failing to timely file CDRs from Quarter 3 2020 through Quarter 4 2023.¹ Through this Consent Order, Respondent admits he violated the Ethics Act as described herein. In mitigation, Respondent states that, following the election, he contracted Covid-19 and his duties under the Ethics Act were “out of sight, out of mind.” Respondent emphasizes that his campaign bank account contained approximately \$200.00 or less during the quarters in question. Finally, Respondent states that it was not his intention to hide information from the Commission or the public.

DISPOSITION

1. The Commission hereby finds Respondent in violation of fourteen (14) counts of Section 8-13-1308(B).
2. The Commission adopts the Statements of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Discussion, and Disposition as agreed upon by the Respondent.

THEREFORE, the Commission hereby issues this Public Reprimand and orders Respondent to pay the Commission, within eighteen (18) months from receipt of this Order, a reduced late-filing penalty of \$500.00 and an administrative fee of \$600.00, for a total of \$1,100.00.

By executing this Consent Order, Respondent understands that he is not only admitting to a


¹ The Commission also found probable cause to believe Respondent violated Section 8-13-1308(F) by failing to disclose a number of contributions and expenditures. However, because Respondent has since disclosed all contributions and expenditures, the Commission declines to proceed as to these counts.

JFA #3

violation of the Ethics Act, but also confessing to a judgment in the amount of \$46,100.00 (the full penalty amount of \$45,500.00 and the administrative fee of \$600.00) in the event of untimely payment as provided above. In that instance, the Commission shall file a Judgment against Respondent with the County Clerk of Court in Respondent's last known County of residence, who shall enter this Order in the amount of \$46,100.00 (less any money paid) in its Judgment Rolls, without cost to the Commission.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 21st DAY OF May 2025.

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION



WHITNEY L. FARR
RESPONDENT

