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

**CONCILIATION AGREEMENT**

In the matter of the Latz (Ronald) for Senate Volunteer Committee (16553);

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 10A.28, subdivision 3, the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board and Senator Ronald Latz (the Candidate) agree as follows:

1. The Latz for Senate Volunteer Committee (the Committee) is the principal campaign committee of Senator Ronald Latz. On its 2013 year-end Report of Receipts and Expenditures and its 2014 year-end Report of Receipts and Expenditures, the Committee reported that it had accepted $6,350 in total contributions from special sources. These sources include registered lobbyists, from whom the Committee accepted $750, and political committees or political funds, from which the Committee accepted $5,600. The total amount of these contributions exceeds the applicable limit on aggregate contributions from special sources during the 2013-2014 non-election segment, which for a state senate candidate is $6,000. The $350 that exceeded the limit was not returned within 90 days, and was therefore deemed accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.

2. In a letter to the Board dated April 1, 2015, the Committee's treasurer provided a copy of the check and the letter returning the excess contributions. The treasurer explained that the Committee mistakenly exceeded the limit because he believed that all of the checks had been entered into the Campaign Finance Reporter software and later discovered that one check had not been entered.

3. Board records show that this is the first instance in which the Committee reported acceptance of contributions that exceeded the special source limit. The Committee registered with the Board on July 26, 2006.

4. The parties agree that the Committee accepted excessive contributions from special sources in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11, in the 2013-2014 non-election segment.

5. To resolve this matter informally, and to avoid these violations in the future, the Candidate and the Committee agree that they will:

   a. Ensure that the Committee's treasurer reviews and enters contributions into the Campaign Finance Reporter software within 60 days of receipt;

   b. Run a batch compliance report within five days of the acceptance of this agreement and after each time contributions are entered and take steps to remedy any violations the software identifies so that problems may be resolved within the 90 days that statutes provide for the return of a contribution before it is deemed accepted;

   c. Update the Campaign Finance Reporter software whenever the software notifies the user that an update is available; and

d. Contact Board technical staff to report and receive assistance with any software problems.

6. The Candidate agrees that the Board's acceptance of this agreement constitutes the imposition of a civil penalty in the amount of $350 against the Candidate for accepting contributions in excess of the limit imposed by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11. $87.50 of the penalty is due within 30 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties. $262.50 of the penalty is, by the terms of this agreement, stayed until January 1, 2017. If the Candidate violates Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11 before January 1, 2017, the outstanding civil penalty is due immediately. If the Candidate does not violate Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11 within that timeframe, the outstanding civil penalty is waived.

7. If the Candidate 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.

_____ Dated: 5/28/15

Senator Ronald Latz
Latz for Senate Volunteer Committee

_____ Dated: 5/5/15

Gary Goldsmith, Executive Director
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Agreement approved by Board at meeting of 5/5, 2015

_____

George A. Beck, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board