STATE OF CONNECTICUT STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

In the Matter of a Complaint by Ethan Book, Bridgeport

File No. 2014-002

AGREEMENT CONTAINING A CONSENT ORDER

This Agreement by and between the Denese Taylor-Moye of the City of Bridgeport, County of Fairfield, State of Connecticut, hereinafter referred to as "Respondent" and the undersigned authorized representative of the State Elections Enforcement Commission, is entered into in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 4-177 (c) and Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies § 9-7b-54. In accordance herewith, the parties agree that:

- 1. Complainant alleged various reporting violation\s by *Taylor-Moye and Banta 2013* (hereinafter "Committee"), a political slate committee registered by Denese Taylor-Moye and Jack O. Banta for the November 5, 2013 municipal election in the City of Bridgeport. The individual identified as treasurer of the committee is James A. Banta, brother of candidate Jack O. Banta.
- 2. The Committee was established for the candidates' election to the City Council from the 131st District in Bridgeport. Respondents Taylor-Moye and Banta are currently City Council members.
- 3. By way of background, Respondents have no prior history with the Commission. Any settlements with Respondents Jack O. Banta and James A. Banta are treated under separate agreements.
- 4. General Statutes § 9-602, provides in pertinent part:
 - (a) Except with respect to an individual acting alone, or with respect to a group of two or more individuals acting together that receives funds or makes or incurs expenditures not exceeding one thousand dollars in the aggregate, no contributions may be made, solicited or received and no expenditures, other than independent expenditures, may be made, directly or indirectly, in aid of or in opposition to the candidacy for nomination or election of any individual or any party or referendum question, *unless* (1) the candidate ... of the committee has filed a designation of a treasurer and a depository institution situated in this state as the depository for the committee's funds. ... [Emphasis added.]

- 5. General Statutes § 9-606, provides in pertinent part:
 - (d) No person shall act as a treasurer or deputy treasurer (1) unless the person is an elector of this state, the person has paid any civil penalties or forfeitures assessed pursuant to chapters 155 to 157, inclusive, and a statement, signed by the chairman in the case of a party committee or political committee or by the candidate in the case of a candidate committee, designating the person as treasurer or deputy treasurer, has been filed in accordance with section 9-603, and (2) if such person has been convicted of or pled guilty or nolo contendere to, in a court of competent jurisdiction, any (A) felony involving fraud, forgery, larceny, embezzlement or bribery, or (B) criminal offense under this title, unless at least eight years have elapsed from the date of the conviction or plea or the completion of any sentence, whichever date is later, without a subsequent conviction of or plea to another such felony or offense. In the case of a political committee, the filing of a statement of organization by the chairman of the committee, in accordance with the provisions of section 9-605, shall constitute compliance with the filing requirements of this section. ... [Emphasis added.]
- 6. General Statutes § 9-602 (a) requires that a candidate registering a candidate committee shall designate a treasurer of that committee. In addition, § 9-606 (d) prohibits any person from serving as treasurer of a campaign committee unless that individual is an elector of Connecticut.
- 7. Upon investigation, the evidence establishes that Respondent filed a *Candidate Committee Registration Statement* (SEEC Form 1A) filed with the Bridgeport City Clerk's office on August 1, 2013, designating James A. Banta as treasurer of the Committee. Further, the investigation revealed that James A. Banta is *not* an elector of Connecticut.
- 8. General Statutes § 9-602 (a) requires a candidate to register a candidate committee and designate a treasurer for that committee. Furthermore, § 9-606 (d) prohibits an individual from serving as the treasurer of a candidate committee who is not an elector of Connecticut.
- 9. The Commission concludes that Respondent, by filing an SEEC Form 1A with the Bridgeport City Clerk's office on August 1, 2013 that did not designate a Connecticut elector as treasurer of the Committee, failed to meet the requirements of General Statutes § 9-602 (a) and § 9-606 (d).

- 10. The Commission, for the reasons detailed in paragraphs 6 through 9 above, concludes that Respondent violated General Statutes § 9-602 (a) and § 9-606 (d) by registering a political slate committee with the Bridgeport City Clerk's office without designating a Connecticut elector as treasurer of the Committee and by filing a SEEC Form 1A that erroneously identified a non-elector as her campaign treasurer.
- 11. The Respondent admits all jurisdictional facts and agree that this Agreement and Order shall have the same force and effect as a final decision and Order entered into after a full hearing and shall become final when adopted by the Commission.
- 12. It is understood and agreed that this Agreement will be submitted to the Commission for consideration at its next meeting and, if the Commission does not accept it, it is withdrawn and may not be used against either party in any subsequent hearing, if the same becomes necessary.
- 13. The Respondent waives:
 - a. Any further procedural steps;
 - b. The requirement that the Commission's decision contain a statement of findings of fact and conclusions of law, separately stated; and,
 - c. All rights to seek judicial review or otherwise to challenge or contest the validity of the Order entered into pursuant to this Agreement.
- 14. Upon the Respondent's agreement to comply with the Order hereinafter stated, the Commission shall not initiate any further proceedings against Respondent pertaining to this matter.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT Respondent shall henceforth strictly comply with the requirements of General Statutes § 9-602 and § 9-606.

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| The Respondent | For the State of Connecticut |
| By: | By: |
| Domoso Bylls - Maso | Aul Da. |
| Denese Taylor-Moye | Michael J Brandi, Esq. |
| 380 Iranistan Avenue | Executive Director and General Counsel and |
| Bridgeport, Connecticut | Authorized Representative of the |
| | State Elections Enforcement Commission |
| a on it | 20 Trinity Street, Suite 101 |
| Dated: 9-24-15 | Hartford, Connecticut |
| | Dated: |

Adopted this 20th day of October, 2015 at Hartford, Connecticut by vote of the Commission.

Anthony J. Castagno, Chairman By Order of the Commission

RECEIVED STATE ELECTRICS

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