

**PAID**

CK. NO. 188  
DATE 01-26-2017

**KENTUCKY REGISTRY OF ELECTION FINANCE  
CASE NO. 2016-39**

**In re: Matt Teaford, Candidate for Kentucky House of Representatives, District 67, and  
Treasurer of the Campaign Fund of Matt Teaford for State Representative,  
District 67**

**CONCILIATION AGREEMENT**

This Conciliation Agreement, entered by and between the Kentucky Registry of Election Finance (Registry) and Respondent Matt Teaford (Candidate Teaford) arises as a result of a Complaint filed by Paul L. Whalen (Whalen) on May 19, 2016. In this Complaint, Whalen alleged that Teaford violated KRS 121.180 and 32 KAR 1:020 by failing to file the 32 Day Pre Election Finance Statement, due to be filed with the Registry by no later than April 20, 2016, for the 2016 primary election. In addition to Whalen's allegation, Registry records demonstrated that Teaford had failed to file the 15 Day Pre Election Statement, due to be filed by no later than May 9, 2016. The Registry issued a Notice and Staff Report to Candidate Teaford on June 1, 2016, as required by KRS 121.140 and 32 KAR 2:030, to which Candidate Teaford never responded.

The case proceeded pursuant to KRS 121.140(1). On September 12, 2016, the Registry's General Counsel issued a Supplemental Staff Report and Recommendations, recommending that the Registry find probable cause to believe that Teaford had knowingly failed to file required Election Finance Statements fully disclosing the finances of the Teaford Campaign Fund during the 2016 primary election cycle, in violation of KRS 121.180 and 32 KAR 1:020, and referral to the Attorney General for further investigation. In response to the Supplemental Staff Report, the Registry received a letter from Candidate Teaford, together with a copy of his Notice of Candidate Withdrawal dated September 27, 2016. Teaford also submitted delinquent Election Finance Statements for the 2016 primary election and one Statement for the 2016 general

election indicating -0- in funds raised or spent. The Registry verified Teafor's withdrawal by reference to the official Notice of Candidate Withdrawal filed of record with the Kentucky Secretary of State's Office on September 27, 2016.

Thereafter, at its September 29, 2016, regular meeting, the General Counsel issued a Second Supplemental Staff Report and Recommendations, recommending that the Registry find probable cause to believe that Teafor has failed to file required Election Finance Statements fully disclosing the finances of the Teafor Campaign Fund, in violation of KRS 121.180 and 32 KAR 1:020, and to refer to the Executive Director and General Counsel for conciliation in light of Teafor's withdrawal and apparent lack of funding for the campaign. The Registry approved these recommendations.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the Registry and Candidate Teafor, having duly entered into conciliation pursuant to KRS 121.140(2), hereby agree as follows:

1. The Registry has jurisdiction over Candidate Teafor and the subject matter of this administrative action.
2. Candidate Teafor received a reasonable opportunity to demonstrate that no action should be taken in this matter and waives the right to further hearings.
3. Candidate Teafor enters voluntarily, with full knowledge and understanding, into this Conciliation Agreement with the Registry.
4. The relevant law and facts in this matter are as follows:
  - a. KRS 121.180(3) requires a candidate's designated campaign Treasurer to fully report to the Registry "all money, loans, or other things of value, received from any source, and expenditures authorized, incurred and made" on behalf of a candidate's campaign. All candidate campaigns - with the limited

exception of those who elect to raise or spend \$3,000.00 or less in an election - are required to file a Pre Election Finance Statement thirty-two (32) days before an election and fifteen (15) days prior to an election. See KRS 121.180(3)(b)2. and 3. In addition, all candidate campaigns - with the limited exception of those who elect to raise or spend \$1,000.00 or less in an election - are required to file a Post Election Finance Statement thirty (30) days after an election. See KRS 121.180(4).

- b. Candidate Teaforde responded to the Supplemental Staff Report on September 27, 2016, by notifying the Registry of his official withdrawal as a Candidate for the Kentucky House of Representatives, District 67, and also by submitting the delinquent Election Finance Statements from the 2016 primary election, showing -0- in funds raised or spent in his election attempt.
- c. Thereafter, at its September 29, 2016, regular meeting, the Registry approved the General Counsel's recommendations, specifically finding that Candidate Teaforde violated (1) KRS 121.180(3)(b)2. and 3., by failing to timely file required Pre Election Finance Statements, due thirty-two (32) days and fifteen (15) days prior to the primary election; and (2) KRS 121.180(4), by failing to timely file the required Election Finance Statement, due thirty (30) days after the primary election.
- d. For purposes of settlement, the Registry finds and Candidate Teaforde agrees that the above-referenced violations occurred.

5. Pursuant to KRS 121.140(2) and as a result of the above violations, Candidate Teaforde acknowledges that his actions violated KRS Chapter 121. To resolve this matter,



Candidate Teaforde agrees to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$200.00, payable to Kentucky State Treasurer.

6. The Registry reserves the right to review compliance with this Conciliation Agreement. If the Registry believes Candidate Teaforde has not complied with the terms and/or conditions of this Conciliation Agreement, the Registry may institute a civil action in Franklin Circuit Court to enforce this Conciliation Agreement or may reopen and refer the matter to prosecutorial authorities, pursuant to KRS 121.140.

7. Upon execution of this Conciliation Agreement by all parties herein, payment of the assessed civil penalty, and approval of the Conciliation Agreement by the Registry, this Conciliation Agreement shall become effective and this complaint will be dismissed.


8. This Conciliation Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties on the matters raised herein, and no other statement, promise, or agreement, either written or oral, made by either party or by agents of either party, that is not contained in this written agreement shall be enforceable.

9. It is agreed and understood that the specific terms of this Conciliation Agreement are deemed confidential until executed by the parties hereto. Upon execution of this Conciliation Agreement by all parties hereto, this Conciliation Agreement shall become a matter of public record and the statutory requirement of confidentiality shall no longer apply to this Conciliation Agreement in accordance with 32 KAR 2:050 § 2.

**FOR THE KENTUCKY REGISTRY OF ELECTION FINANCE:**

  
John R. Steffen, Executive Director

13 Mar 2017  
Date

  
Emily Dennis, General Counsel

23 Feb 2017  
Date

RECEIVED

FOR THE RESPONDENT:

*Matt Teaford*

Matt Teaford, Candidate/ Treasurer

*01/23/17*

Date