BEFORE THE OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS

FRANK D. REEVES MUNICIPAL BUILDING 2000 14th STREET, N.W., SUITE 433

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009

Telephone: (202) 671-0547 Fax: (202) 671-0658

IN THE MATTER OF)	Date: July 30, 2015
)	
Abraham for Ward 8)	Docket No: 15C-050
Treasurer Nicole Spriggs)	
1237 Raum Street, NE #4)	
Washington, D.C. 20002)	

ORDER

Statement of Case

This matter came before the Office of Campaign Finance ("OCF") Office of the General Counsel following a determination by its Public Information and Records Management Division ("PIRM") that pursuant to the District of Columbia Campaign Finance Act of 2011, D.C. Official Code § 1-1163.09(b) (2012) and District of Columbia Municipal Regulations. 3 DCMR § 3017.2 (August 2013), Treasurer, Nicole Spriggs of the **Abraham for Ward 8** principal campaign committee failed to timely file the June 10th Report of Receipts and Expenditures ("R&E report"), which was due by June 10, 2015, the OCF sanctioned deadline.

By Notice of Hearing, Statement of Violations and Order of Appearance dated June 24, 2015, OCF ordered Nicole Spriggs ("Respondent"), to appear at a scheduled hearing on July 13, 2015, and show cause why she should not be found in violation of D.C. Official Code § 1-1163.09(b) and 3 DCMR § 3017.2 and fined accordingly.

Summary of Evidence

On July 13, 2015, Respondent appeared at the scheduled hearing *pro se*. Public Affairs Specialist, Sonya Lake, appeared on behalf of the OCF. Respondent testified that she was informed that termination papers were already filed on behalf of the committee. Respondent was made aware that the committee had not been terminated and the committee would need to file a June 10th R&E report. Respondent was given until July 21, 2015 to file the June 10th R&E report. Respondent has not filed a June 10th R&E report with OCF.

The Abraham for Ward 8 principal campaign committee is not in compliance with the filing requirements set forth in the D.C. Official Code.

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Findings of Fact

Having reviewed the allegations and the record herein, I find:

- 1. Respondent is the Treasurer for the Abraham for Ward 8 principal campaign committee.
- 2. The Committee was required to file the June 10th Report of Receipts and Expenditures, which was due on June 10, 2015, the OCF sanctioned deadline.
- 3. The Committee failed to file the required R&E report by the June 10, 2015 deadline.
- 4. By Notice of Hearing, Statement of Violations and Order of Appearance dated June 24, 2015, OCF ordered Respondent to appear for a scheduled hearing on July 13, 2015.
- 5. Respondent appeared at the scheduled hearing pro se.
- 6. Respondent testified that she was informed that termination papers were already filed on behalf of the committee.
- 7. Respondent was made aware that the committee had not been terminated and that the committee would need to file a June 10th R&E report.
- 8. Respondent was given until July 21, 2015 to file the June 10th R&E report.
- 9. Respondent has not filed a June 10th R&E report with OCF.
- 10. The Committee is not in compliance with applicable regulation(s).

Conclusion of Law

Based upon the record provided by OCF, I therefore conclude:

- 1. The Committee violated D.C. Official Code § 1-1163.09(b) and 3 DCMR § 3403.2.
- 2. The penalty established by 3 DCMR § 3711.2(f) for failure to file a Report of Receipts and Expenditures with OCF, as required by D.C. Official Code § 1-1163.09(b), is a fine of \$50.00 per day for each business day subsequent to the due date.
- 3. Under the given facts, the Committee may be fined a total of \$1,100.00.
- 4. For good cause shown pursuant to 3 DCMR § 3711.7, the Director of Campaign Finance (Director) may modify, rescind, dismiss or suspend any fine.
- 5. Respondent has failed to file the June 10th R&E report.
- 6. The Abraham for Ward 8 principal campaign committee is not in compliance with the filing requirements set forth in the D.C. Official code.
- 7. Respondent has failed to provide an explanation constituting good cause for suspension of a fine.

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Recommendation

In view of the foregoing and information included in the record, I HEREBY RECOMMEND that the Director impose a fine in this matter in the amount of \$1,100.00.

Hearing Examiner

Concurrence

In view of the foregoing, I HEREBY CONCUR with the Recommendation.

July 30, 2015

General Counsel

ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR

IT IS ORDERED that the fine in this matter is hereby suspended.

30, 2015 Cecily E. Colher-Montgomery

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that a true copy of the ORDER has been served on Treasurer Nicole Spriggs, via regular and certified mail at 1237 Raum Street, NE, #4 Washington, D.C. 20002 on this 30th day of July, 2015.

Notice

Any party adversely affected by an Order of the Director may: (1) file a Motion for Reconsideration (Motion) with the OCF within five (5) days after receipt of an Order, provided that, relevant evidence was omitted from consideration at the hearing (3 DCMR §3709.13); or (2) obtain review of the Order by filing a request for a hearing de novo with the Board of Elections within fifteen (15) days from the date of issuance of an Order. Any fine imposed by the Director, pursuant to §3711.2 shall become effective on the sixteenth (16th) day following the issuance of a decision or Order; provided that, the Respondent does not request a hearing de novo with the Board of Elections. Fines imposed shall be paid within ten (10) days of the effective date of the issued Order of the Director. Make payment by check or money order, payable to: District of Columbia Treasurer. Send payment to the Office of Campaign Finance, Frank D. Reeves Municipal Building, 2000 14th Street NW, Suite 433, Washington, DC 20009.