

**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

Nicole Spriggs, Treasurer
Abraham for Ward 8
1237 Raum Street, NE #4
Washington, D.C. 20002

) Date: July 27, 2015
)
) Docket No: 15R-023
)
)
)

ORDER

Statement of Case

This matter came before the Office of Campaign Finance (“OCF”) Office of the General Counsel following a determination by its Reports Analysis and Audit Division (“RAAD”) that Nicole Spriggs, Treasurer of the Abraham for Ward 8 principal campaign committee, failed to respond to RAAD’s Request for Additional Information (RFAI) dated May 1, 2015. RAAD requested that the Committee make corrections to their 8 Day Pre Special Election Report and submit the amended report by May 16, 2015.

By Notice of Hearing, Statement of Violations and Order of Appearance dated June 26, 2015, OCF ordered Nicole Spriggs, (“Respondent”), to appear at a scheduled hearing on July 13, 2015, and show cause why the Abraham for Ward 8 Principal Campaign Committee should not be found in violation of D.C. Official Code § 1-1163.03(a)(1)(A), and fined accordingly.

Summary of Evidence

On July 13, 2015, Respondent appeared at the scheduled hearing *pro se*. Supervisory Auditor, Dewayne Gilliam and Staff Auditor Michele Steele appeared on behalf of the OCF. Respondent testified that she had received RAAD’s Request for Additional Information but did not respond to the request. Respondent further 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 that she would need to respond to the Request for Additional Information. Respondent was given additional time to both respond to the Request for Additional information and file a termination report if the committee chose to do so. Respondent subsequently filed an amended report with OCF and is now in compliance with the filing requirements set forth in the D.C. Official Code.

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. By Notice of Hearing, Statement of Violations and Order of Appearance dated June 26, 2015, OCF ordered Respondent to appear for a scheduled hearing on July 13, 2015.
3. Respondent appeared *pro se* at the July 13, 2015 hearing.
4. Respondent testified that she had in fact received the Request for Additional Information but that she did not respond to the request. Respondent further testified that she was under the belief that the committee had been terminated.
5. Respondent was made aware during the hearing that her belief that the committee was terminated was incorrect.
6. Respondent requested and was granted an extension of time to allow the committee to submit an amended report with OCF.
7. The committee subsequently filed their amended report with OCF.
8. The committee is currently in compliance with the filing requirements set forth in the D.C. Official Code.
9. The committee does not have a history of non-compliance.

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Conclusion of Law

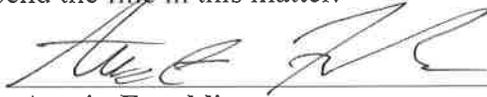
Based upon the record provided by OCF, I therefore conclude:

1. Respondent violated D.C. Official Code § 1-1163.03(a)(1)(A).
2. The penalty established at 3 DCMR § 3711.2(q) for failing to file additional information requested by the Director is \$50 per day.
3. For good cause shown pursuant to 3 DCMR § 3711.7, the Director of Campaign Finance (Director) may modify, rescind, dismiss or suspend any fine.
4. Under the given facts, Respondent may be fined a total of \$1,900.00.
5. Respondent has been cooperative with OCF staff in resolving this matter.
6. Pursuant to 3 DCMR § 3711.7 the amount of \$1,900.00 in fines will be suspended.

Recommendation

In view of the foregoing and information included in the record, **I HEREBY RECOMMEND** that the Director suspend the fine in this matter.

July 27, 2015
Date


Austin Franklin
Hearing Examiner

Concurrence

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

July 27, 2015
Date


William O. Sanford
General Counsel

ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR

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

July 27, 2015
Date

Cecily E. Collier-Montgomery
Cecily E. Collier-Montgomery
Director

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that a true copy of the **ORDER** was served on Nicole Spriggs, Treasurer for the Abraham for Ward 8 principal campaign committee, via regular mail at 1237 Raum Street, NE #4, Washington, DC, 20002 on this 27th day of July, 2015.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. J. H.', is written over a horizontal line.

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**, 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.*