Administration of Campaign Finance, Conflict of Interest & Lobbying Laws



901 S. Kansas Avenue Topeka, Kansas 66612 (785) 296-4219 (phone) (785) 296-2548 (fax)

## **GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS COMMISSION**

https://ethics.kansas.gov

Paul Morrison Treasurer for Zach Thomas 130 N Cherry Street, Ste 103 Olathe, KS 66061 August 12, 2021

## Notification of Material Error or Omission In A Receipts and Expenditures Report

RE: Receipts and Expenditures Report Due October 26, 2020 (Covering the Period July 24, 2020 thru October 22, 2020)

A review of your Receipts and Expenditures Report identified above indicates the material error(s) or omission(s) <u>listed on the other side of this page</u>. Such error(s) and omission(s) must be corrected within thirty (30) days of the date of this notice by filing an amended report.

File the amended report within thirty (30) days with:

Secretary of State 120 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Memorial Hall Topeka, KS 66612

As provided by law, a copy of this notice has been made a part of your record in the Secretary of State's Office. The intentional failure to file an amended report within thirty (30) days is a class A misdemeanor. In addition, you may not accept contributions or make expenditures following the end of the thirty (30) day period if the amended report has not been filed.

Additional information and assistance may be obtained by writing or calling this office. If after having contacted this office substantial issues remain unresolved, you may within ten (10) days of receipt of this notice request a hearing before the Commission.

Sincerely,

Karina Renna

State Campaign Finance Coordinator

1. K.S.A. 25-4153 (a)(1) states, "The aggregate amount contributed to a candidate and such candidate's committee... shall not exceed the following: for the office of district attorney, . . . \$500 for each primary election . . . and an equal amount for each general election." The Thomas campaign reported receiving a \$150 contribution on 7-21-20 from Suzanne Prendergast and a \$725 contribution on 7-28-20. These contributions were received during the primary election period.

The Thomas campaign also reported receiving a \$1,000 contribution on 8-7-20 from Meredith DiPasquale. This contribution was received during the general election period.

Pursuant to K.S.A.25-4153, the campaign accepted contributions in excess of the legal limit amounting to \$875. We would suggest that these contributions be refunded immediately. The return of these contributions should be noted on Schedule C (Expenditures and Other Disbursements) of the January 10, 2022 Receipts and Expenditures Report.

- 2. K.S.A. 25-4148 (b) (7) requires that when an expenditure is made by payment to an advertising agency, public relations firm or political consultants for disbursement to vendors, the report of such expenditure shall show in detail the name of each such vendor and the amount, date and purpose of the payment to each. An expenditure in the amount of \$37,356.86 was made to Kessler Solutions LLC on 10-22-20. If outside vendors were not paid by Kessler Solutions LLC, the amount and description for each of the types of services that were provided must be itemized. An amended Schedule C for the October 26, 2020 Receipts and Expenditures Report must be filed disclosing this information.
- 3. Schedule C (Expenditures and Other Disbursements) of the October 26, 2020 report lists a \$49,000.00 expenditure on 10-15-20 to the Kansas Democratic Party for voter outreach services. However, the Kansas Democratic Party reports receiving \$29,000.00 from the Zach Thomas campaign. Please check your records to determine the amount of the expenditure. If the expenditure is correctly reported by the campaign, please indicate that fact in a letter to the Commission. If not, an amended Schedule C must be filed correcting this discrepancy.

If you have any questions, feel free contact this office.