

**STATE OF MINNESOTA  
CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD**

**CONCILIATION  
AGREEMENT**

In the Matter of the Katie Sieben Volunteer Committee (16380);

1. The Katie Sieben Volunteer Committee (the Committee) is the principal campaign committee of Senator Katie Sieben. On its 2013 year-end Report of Receipts and Expenditures and its 2014 year-end Report of Receipts and Expenditures, the Committee reported that it had accepted \$6,020 in total contributions from special sources. These sources include registered lobbyists, from whom the Committee accepted \$420, and political committees or political funds, from which the Committee accepted \$5,600. The total amount of these contributions exceeds the applicable limit on aggregate contributions from special sources during the 2013-2014 non-election segment, which for a state senate candidate is \$6,000. The \$20 that exceeded the limit was not returned within 90 days, and was therefore deemed accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.
2. In a letter to the Board dated April 6, 2015, the Committee's treasurer confirmed that the Committee had accepted contributions from special sources in excess of the statutory limit. The violation occurred, in part, because the Committee received two \$10 contributions from individuals who it did not initially recognize as lobbyists. The two \$10 contribution checks did not contain the lobbyists' registration numbers as required by statute. In an email dated April 29, 2015, the Committee's treasurer provided a copy of the checks returning the excess contributions.
3. Board records show that this is the second instance in which the Committee reported the acceptance of contributions that exceeded the special source limit. The first instance occurred when the Committee exceeded the limit by \$25 in 2006. The Committee registered with the Board on January 18, 2006.
4. The parties agree that the Committee accepted excessive contributions from special sources in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11, in the 2013-2014 non-election segment.
5. To resolve this matter informally, and to avoid these violations in the future, the Candidate and the Committee agree that they will:
  - a. Ensure that the Committee's treasurer reviews and enters contributions into the Campaign Finance Reporter software within 60 days of receipt; and
  - b. Run a batch compliance report after each time contributions are entered and take steps to remedy any violations the software identifies so that problems may be resolved within the 90 days that statutes provide for the return of a contribution before it is deemed accepted.
6. The Candidate agrees that the Board's acceptance of this agreement constitutes the imposition of a civil penalty in the amount of \$20 against the Candidate for accepting contributions in excess of the limit imposed by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11. The civil penalty is due within 30 days of the date this agreement is signed by both parties.

7. If the Candidate does not comply with the provisions of this agreement, this matter may be reopened by the Board and the Board may take such actions as it deems appropriate.

/s/ Katie Sieben Dated: 9/24/15  
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Senator Katie Sieben  
Katie Sieben Volunteer Committee

/s/ Gary Goldsmith Dated: 9/1/15  
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Gary Goldsmith, Executive Director  
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Agreement approved by Board at meeting of 9/1, 2015

/s/ George A. Beck  
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George A. Beck, Chair  
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board