

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

**CONCILIATION AGREEMENT**

In the matter of lobbyist John W. Palmer (4786);

1. The Ryan Wilson for State Auditor committee self-reported a violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1, which prohibits the principal campaign committee of a candidate for constitutional office from accepting a contribution from a registered lobbyist during a regular session of the legislature. The Wilson committee admitted that it accepted an online \$100 contribution from lobbyist John Palmer on May 23, 2022, which was the last day of the 2022 legislative session. The contribution was not returned within 90 days of deposit, therefore the contribution was accepted, as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.15, subdivision 3. The contribution was refunded to Mr. Palmer on September 23, 2022.
2. Mr. Palmer explained that he waited until after the legislative session ended and made the online contribution at 11 p.m. on May 23, 2022, so he didn't think that the contribution was prohibited. However, Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 3, provides that for purposes of that statute "a 'regular session' starts at 12:00 a.m., on the first day of each annual session and ends at 11:59 p.m. on the last day of each annual session."
3. The parties agree that Mr. Palmer made a contribution to the principal campaign committee of a candidate for constitutional office during a regular session of the legislature in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1. This is Mr. Palmer's first violation of the restrictions on contributions during the legislative session.
4. Mr. Palmer agrees to the imposition of a civil penalty of \$100, the amount of the violation, for making a contribution prohibited by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1. Payment is due within 30 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties.
5. If Mr. Palmer 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/ John W Palmer  
John W. Palmer, Lobbyist

Dated: September 22, 2023

/s/ George W. Soule  
George W. Soule, Chair  
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Dated: September 6, 2023