

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

CONCILIATION AGREEMENT

In the matter of the Campaign of Ann Johnson Stewart (18453);

1. The Campaign of Ann Johnson Stewart is the principal campaign committee of Senator Ann Johnson Stewart. The committee's original 2020 year-end report of receipts and expenditures disclosed contributions received totaling \$1,031.72 from Jeff Atwood. The total amount exceeded the individual contribution limit during the 2019-2020 election cycle segment, which for a candidate for state senator was \$1,000. The amount that the committee received in excess of the limit was not returned within 90 days of deposit and is therefore deemed accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.
2. The treasurer for the Johnson Stewart committee stated that Mr. Atwood contributed via ActBlue in various amounts in 2020. However, the committee inadvertently created two entities for Mr. Atwood in the Board's Campaign Finance Reporter software, which meant that the excess contribution could not be detected by the software's compliance check.
3. The Johnson Stewart committee refunded \$38.54 to Mr. Atwood on February 22, 2021, via ActBlue.
4. The parties agree that the committee inadvertently accepted contributions in excess of the individual contribution limit in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 1, during the 2019-2020 election cycle segment. This is the committee's first violation of the individual contribution limit.
5. To avoid similar violations in the future, the Johnson Stewart committee agrees that it will take steps to ensure that duplicate entities are not created and make sure that contributions from ActBlue are correctly entered.
6. The Johnson Stewart committee agrees to the imposition of a civil penalty of \$31.72, one times the amount of the violation, for accepting contributions in excess of the individual contribution limit.
7. If the committee 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/ Ann Johnson Stewart
Senator Ann Johnson Stewart
Campaign of Ann Johnson Stewart

Dated: August 12, 2021

/s/ Stephen Swanson
Stephen Swanson, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Dated: July 28, 2021