## STATE OF MINNESOTA

## CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

## CONCILIATION

## AGREEMENT

In the matter of the Friends of (Michelle) Fischbach Committee (#13404);

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.28, subdivision 3, the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board and Senator Michelle Fischbach (hereinafter referred to as "the Candidate") hereby agree as follows:

1. The Friends of (Michelle) Fischbach Committee ("the Committee) is the principal campaign committee of Senator Michelle Fischbach. The 2009 non-election year contribution limit from a political fund to a State Senate candidate is \$100, as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 1(a)(4). During 2009, the Committee accepted cumulative contributions that totaled \$200 from the Minneapolis Firefighters Relief Association Political Fund, and the Minneapolis Fire Department Pensioners Political Fund. The contributions from each political fund exceeded the applicable contribution limit by \$100. The amount of the excess contributions was not returned within 60 days, and thus, is deemed accepted under Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.15, subdivision 3.

2. In a letter dated January 28, 2010, Thomas St. Martin, treasurer, states "Please note that these two excess contributions are the result of an oversight on our part. Because the Friends of Fischbach account had little activity during 2009, we admittedly did not exercise the same

diligence in reviewing transactions as we would have in a more active election year. ...we returned the excess contributions promptly when...the committees involved brought the matter to our attention. Our apologies for what was a regrettable and avoidable but unintentional mistake."

3. Board records show that this is the first calendar year in which the Committee reported acceptance of a contribution that exceeded the applicable contribution limit. The Committee registered with the Board on January 16, 1996.

4. The parties agree that the Committee accepted excessive contributions from two political funds resulting in two inadvertent violations of Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 1(a)(4), in calendar year 2009.

5. The Committee has returned \$100 to each political fund that made an excess contribution. Copies of the checks used to return the excess amount have been provided to the Board.

6. The Committee agrees to pay a civil penalty of \$200, one times the amount by which the contributions from the two political funds exceeded the applicable limit, to be paid to the Board for deposit in the general fund of the state.

7. The Committee hereby agrees to forward to the Board \$200 by check or money order payable to the STATE OF MINNESOTA within 30 days after the date this Agreement is signed by both parties. It is agreed by the parties that payment of the civil penalty of \$200 and this Conciliation Agreement will be a bar to any civil proceeding under Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.28, subdivisions 3 and 4.

8. It is further understood and agreed, however, that if the civil penalty of \$200 is not paid within the time specified in paragraph 7 above, then the terms of this conciliation agreement will be violated and the Board may initiate civil action to resolve this matter.

9. It is further understood and agreed that this Agreement is confidential until signed by the Candidate and the Board Chair. Once signed, the Agreement shall become a matter of public record, and the statutory requirement of confidentiality shall no longer apply. Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.02, subdivision 11 and section 10A.28, subdivision 3.

Dated: 3/5/2010

Senator Michelle Fischbach

Approved by the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Dated: March 2, 2010 By

Bob Milbert, Chair

Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board