In the matter of the TRIAL-PAC Political Fund (#30225):

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.28, subdivision 3, the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board and the TRIAL-PAC Political Fund hereby agree as follows:

1. During calendar year 2010 the contribution limit from a political fund to the principal campaign committee of a candidate for governor was $2,000 as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 1(a)(1). In 2010 the TRIAL-PAC Political Fund (the “Fund”) made two contributions that cumulatively total $2,119.80 to the Margaret (Kelliher) for Governor Committee. The cumulative contributions exceeded by $119.80 the applicable limit. The amount of the excess contribution was not returned within 60 days, and thus, is deemed accepted under Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.15, subdivision 3.

2. In a letter dated March 9, 2011, Carla Ferrucci, Trial PAC administrator, states “…a reporting oversight was made regarding a fundraising expense for an event hosted on behalf of the Margaret Kelliher for Governor Committee. When the invoice was received TRIAL-PAC paid the expense instead of submitting the invoice back to the Kelliher campaign for payment. We simply paid this...
bill in the normal course of business without recognizing that we would then exceed the limit for this campaign cycle."

3. Board records show that this is the first violation for the TRIAL-PAC Political Fund of Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 1(c), which prohibits a political fund from making an excess contribution to a principal campaign committee. The Fund registered with the Board on October 25, 1979.

4. The parties agree that the TRIAL-PAC Political Fund made cumulative contributions in the amount of $2,119.80 to the aforementioned principal campaign committee in calendar year 2010, resulting in an inadvertent violation of Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 1(c).

5. The TRIAL-PAC Political Fund agrees to pay a civil penalty of $119.80 to be paid to the Board for deposit in the general fund of the state. This civil penalty represents one times the amount by which the total contributions exceeded the applicable contribution limit.

6. William Sieben, treasurer, hereby agrees to forward to the Board $119.80 by check or money order payable to the State of Minnesota within thirty days after the date this Agreement is signed by both parties. It is agreed by the parties that the payment of the civil penalty of $119.80 and this Conciliation Agreement will be a bar to any civil proceeding under Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.28, subdivisions 3 and 4.
7. It is further understood and agreed, however, that failure to pay the civil penalty of $119.80 within the time specified in paragraph 6 above, is a violation of the terms of this conciliation agreement and the Board may declare this agreement to be null and void and may take further action to resolve this matter.

8. It is further understood and agreed that this Agreement is confidential until signed by the Fund's treasurer 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.

William Sieben,  
TRIAL-PAC Political Fund

Approved by the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

By John Scanlon, Chair  
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Dated: 4-27-10
Dated: April 19, 2011

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