CONCILIATION AGREEMENT

In the matter of the Dan Skogen for Senate Committee (#16242);

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.28, subdivision 3, the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board and Dan Skogen (hereinafter referred to as “the Candidate”) hereby agree as follows:

1. The Dan Skogen for Senate Committee (the Committee) is the principal campaign committee of Dan Skogen. The 2011 nonelection year contribution limit from an individual to a state senate candidate was $100, as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 1(a)(3). During 2011, the Committee reported accepting a facially excessive contribution from Minn CAP-PAC, a political committee registered with the Board, in the amount of $150. The contribution exceeded the applicable contribution limit by $50. 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 February 17, 2012, Dan Skogen, states, “This letter is to inform you that the Dan Skogen for Senate Committee did accept a check in 2011 from CAP-PAC for $150. The check was deposited and our mistake was not realized until we did our year end report.”
3. Board records show that this is the first calendar year in which the Committee reported acceptance of contributions that exceeded the applicable contribution limit. The Committee registered with the Board on February 10, 2005.

4. The parties agree that the Committee accepted a facially excessive contribution from a political committee resulting in an inadvertent violation of Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 1(a)(3), in calendar year 2011. The parties recognize that the contribution was excessive on its face.

5. The Committee has returned $150 to the political committee that made the excess contribution. A copy of the check returning the contribution was provided to the Board.

6. The Committee agrees to pay a civil penalty of $100, two times the amount by which the contribution exceeded the applicable limit, to be paid to the Board for deposit in the general fund of the state. The assessment of a penalty of two times the amount of the violation recognizes that this matter involved a facially excessive contribution.

7. The Committee hereby agrees to forward to the Board $100 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 $100 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 failure to pay the civil penalty of $100 within the time specified in paragraph 7 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.

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.

Dan Skogen
Dated: 4-11-12

Approved by the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

By Greg McCullough, Chair
Dated: April 3, 2012

Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board