

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

**CONCILIATION**  
**AGREEMENT**

In the matter of the (Chris) Gerlach for Senate Committee (#16115);

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

1. The (Chris) Gerlach for Senate Committee (“the Committee”) is the principal campaign committee of Senator Chris Gerlach. During 2011, the Committee accepted \$2,700 in contributions from special sources. These sources include lobbyists from whom the Committee accepted \$1,150 and political committees or political funds from which the Committee accepted \$1,550. The total amount of these contributions exceeded by \$100 the applicable limit on aggregate contributions from special sources, which for a state senate candidate was \$2,600. The \$100 in 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 May 4, 2012, Rob Wills, treasurer, states, “We have received an amount that exceeds the aggregate limit from special source contributors by \$100. A check has been

written in the amount of \$100 to [the] last special source contributor in 2011. We apologize and accept responsibility for our error and await your ruling.”

3. Board records show that this is the first calendar year in which the Committee reported acceptance of contributions that exceeded the aggregate special source contribution limit. The Committee registered with the Board on June 1, 2004.

4. The parties agree that the Committee accepted excessive contributions from special sources resulting in an inadvertent violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A. 27, subdivision 11, in calendar year 2011.

5. The Committee has returned \$100 to a special source contributor mentioned in paragraph 1. A copy of the check returning the excess amount was provided to the Board.

6. The Candidate agrees to pay a civil penalty of \$100, one times the amount by which the contributions 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 \$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.

Chris Gerlach Dated: 6-11-12

Senator Chris Gerlach

Approved by the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

By Greg McCullough Dated: June 5, 2012

Greg McCullough, Chair

Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board