STATE OF MINNESOTA CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

CONCILIATION AGREEMENT

In the Matter of Chauffeured Elegance Limousine;

- 1. During the 2014 audit of candidates' eligibility for public subsidy payments, the Davern (Patrick) Volunteer Committee (the Committee) provided the Board with a copy of a contribution check that appeared to be in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 211B.15, which prohibits corporations from making contributions to candidates.
- 2. The check, dated April 15, 2014, was signed by Robert Davern, and the Committee listed the \$50 contribution as an individual contribution from Robert Davern. However, the check was written on the account of Chauffeured Elegance Limousine. An examination of business filings on the Secretary of State's website indicates that Chauffeured Elegance Limousine is a Minnesota corporation.
- 3. The owners of Chauffeured Elegance Limousine explained that they did not understand the rules prohibiting such contributions, and they were not informed by the Committee that the contribution was prohibited.
- 4. On September 10, 2014, after being notified by Board staff that the contribution appeared to be a violation of section 211B.15, Robert Davern wrote a personal check to Chauffeured Elegance Limousine for \$50 to reimburse the corporation for the donation. A copy of this check was provided to the Board. Although the Board recognizes the good faith effort of the attempted reimbursement, reimbursing the corporation does not change the characterization of the original contribution.
- 5. To resolve this matter informally, and to avoid this type of violation in the future, Chauffeured Elegance Limousine agrees that it will refrain from making corporate political contributions. Chauffeured Elegance Limousine will exercise care in making a distinction between the corporation and its individual owners when making political contributions.
- 6. Chauffeured Elegance Limousine agrees that the Board's acceptance of this agreement constitutes the imposition of a civil penalty in the amount of \$50 against Chauffeured Elegance Limousine for making a contribution that was prohibited by Minnesota Statutes section 211B.15, subdivision 2. The penalty is, by the terms of this agreement, stayed until January 1, 2017. If Chauffeured Elegance Limousine violates Minnesota Statutes section 211B.15, subdivision 2 before January 1, 2017, the civil penalty is due immediately. If Chauffeured Elegance Limousine does not violate Minnesota Statutes section 211B.15, subdivision 2 before January 1, 2017, the civil penalty is waived.

| /s/ Colleen Davern | _ Dated: | 11/24/2014 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Colleen Davern | | |
| Chauffeured Elegance Limousine | | |
| /s/ Gary Goldsmith | _ Dated: | 11/18/2014 |
| Gary Goldsmith, Executive Director | | |
| Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board | | |
| Agreement approved by Board at meeting of | of <u>Novem</u> | <u>sber 18</u> , 2014 |
| /s/ Deanna Wiener | | |
| Deanna Wiener, Chair | | |
| Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure B | Board | |