

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

CONCILIATION AGREEMENT

In the Matter of the Gary Steuart for Minnesota committee (#19159);

1. Gary Steuart for Minnesota is the principal campaign committee of Gary Steuart, a candidate for House District 26B. On August 5, 2024, the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board received a complaint from Joseph Sheffer alleging that the Steuart committee violated Minnesota Statutes section 211B.15 when it accepted in-kind contributions from Steuart Property LLC.

2. Mr. Steuart stated he was unaware that contributions from his own single-member LLC were prohibited. Mr. Steuart did not sign a public subsidy agreement, so his campaign committee was not subject to any limit on the amount that could be contributed by Mr. Steuart to his own campaign. Board staff requested an itemized list of contributions from Steuart Property LLC. The total given to the Steuart committee by Steuart Property LLC was \$11,549.50. A total of \$9,549.50 was returned by the Steuart committee to Steuart Property LLC within 90 days of receipt; however, a \$2,000 monetary contribution to the Steuart committee by Steuart Property LLC was made January 8, 2024. That contribution was not able to be returned within 90 days and is therefore deemed accepted by the Steuart committee under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.

3. Minnesota Statutes section 211B.15, subdivision 2, prohibits a corporation, including an LLC that does business in Minnesota, from making a contribution to a candidate committee. Contributions include in-kind contributions, which are anything of value that is given to a candidate committee other than money or negotiable instruments.

4. Mr. Steuart admits that he is the sole owner of Steuart Property LLC, and that Gary Steuart for Minnesota accepted a \$2,000 contribution from Steuart Property LLC on January 8, 2024, in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 211B.15, subdivision 2. This is the Steuart committee's first violation of the prohibition on corporate contributions.

5. To avoid a similar violation in the future, the committee agrees that it will refrain from accepting any money, resources, or other assets from a corporation, including an LLC.

6. Gary Steuart for Minnesota agrees to the imposition of a civil penalty in the amount of \$200 for accepting a contribution prohibited by Minnesota Statutes section 211B.15, subdivision 2.

7. If the Steuart committee does not comply with the provisions of this agreement, this matter may be reopened by the Board and the Board may take such actions as it deems appropriate.

/s/ Gary M Steuart
Gary Steuart
Gary Steuart for Minnesota

Dated: January 2, 2025

/s/ David Asp
David Asp, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Dated: December 4, 2024