

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

**CONCILIATION**  
**AGREEMENT**

In the matter of the Joe Hoppe Volunteer Committee (#15833);

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

1. The Joe Hoppe Volunteer Committee (“the Committee”) is the principal campaign committee of Representative Joe Hoppe. The 2009 non-election year contribution limit from a political committee to a state representative candidate is \$100, as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 1(a)(5). During 2009, the Committee accepted and deposited a contribution of \$250 from a political committee. The contribution exceeded the applicable contribution limit by \$150. 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, 2010, Representative Hoppe states “Upon a review of my records, I can confirm that I mistakenly deposited the contribution which was intended for the House Republican Campaign Committee in my campaign committee account. I have issued a refund to the [contributing committee]. ...This error was inadvertent and I have taken all possible actions to correct the matter.”

3. Board records show that this is the first calendar year in which the Committee reported acceptance of a contribution that facially exceeded the applicable contribution limit. The Committee registered with the Board on July 15, 2002.

4. The parties agree that the Committee accepted and deposited an excessive contribution from a political committee resulting an inadvertent violation of Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 1(a)(5), in calendar year 2009.

5. The Committee has returned \$250 to the political committee that issued the check. A copy of the check used to return the contribution has been provided to the Board.

6. The Committee agrees to pay a civil penalty of \$300, 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 \$300 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 \$300 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 if the civil penalty of \$300 is not paid within the time specified in paragraph 7 above, the terms of this conciliation agreement will be violated and the Board 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.

Joe Hoppe Dated: 4-23-10  
Representative Joe Hoppe

Approved by the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

By Bob Milbert Dated: April 6, 2010

Bob Milbert, Chair

Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board