

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

**CONCILIATION AGREEMENT**

In the matter of the Friends of Eric Lucero committee (17655);

1. The Friends of Eric Lucero committee is the principal campaign committee of Representative Eric Lucero. The committee's 2017 and 2018 year-end reports of receipts and expenditures collectively disclosed receipt of contributions totaling \$1,050 from the Freedom Club State PAC, a political committee. The total amount exceeded the applicable individual contribution limit during the 2017-2018 election cycle, which for a state representative candidate was \$1,000. The amount that the Lucero committee received that exceeded the limit was not returned within 90 days of being deposited and is therefore deemed accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.
2. Representative Lucero has stated that his committee returned \$50 to the Freedom Club State PAC in July 2019.
3. Representative Lucero explained that his committee uses the Board's Campaign Finance Reporter software and he does not believe that the committee received a compliance warning regarding the contributions from the Freedom Club State PAC. Representative Lucero stated that his committee changed which computer was being used to run the software during the election cycle and he thought that the committee's contribution data was transferred from the old computer to the new computer. However, the computer that was used to enter a contribution of \$500 received in 2018 from the Freedom Club State PAC lacked the Lucero committee's contribution data from 2017, which included contributions totaling \$550 from the Freedom Club State PAC. Because the individual contribution limit applies to a two-year period and the software was operating in the absence of any contribution data from 2017, the software could not detect the Lucero committee's violation of the individual contribution limit.
4. The parties agree that the committee accepted contributions in excess of the individual contribution limit in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 1, during the 2017-2018 election cycle. This is the committee's first violation of the individual contribution limit.
5. To avoid similar violations in the future, the committee agrees to:
  - a. Ensure that the committee's installation of the Campaign Finance Reporter software contains all data entered into the software for both the odd-numbered and even-numbered year that comprise the current election cycle; and

b. Run a batch compliance report after each time contributions are entered and take steps to remedy any violations the software identifies so that problems may be resolved within the 90 days provided by statute for the return of a contribution before it is deemed accepted.

6. Because the committee was acting in good faith in attempting to satisfy its compliance and reporting obligations, the Board declines to impose a civil penalty for the violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 1.

7. The committee agrees to provide to the Board, within 90 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties, a copy of the deposited check or other documentation showing that \$50 was returned to the Freedom Club State PAC.

8. If the 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/ Eric Lucero  
Representative Eric Lucero  
Friends of Eric Lucero

Dated: September 4, 2019

/s/ Margaret Leppik  
Margaret Leppik, Chair  
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Dated: September 4, 2019