

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

CONCILIATION AGREEMENT

In the matter of the Anita Gaul for State Senate committee (18972);

1. Anita Gaul for State Senate is the principal campaign committee of Anita Gaul, a candidate for Senate District 15. The total amount of contributions that a candidate for state senator could accept from a single individual during the 2021-2022 election cycle was \$1,000. The committee received two contributions from an individual in 2022 totaling \$1,220. The excess amount of \$220 was not returned within 90 days of deposit and is therefore deemed accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.
2. The treasurer for the committee, William Thomas, stated that the \$220 excess amount was the result of an oversight. After being contacted by Board staff the committee promptly sent a check refunding the excess \$220.
3. The parties agree that the committee inadvertently accepted excessive contributions in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 1, during the 2021-2022 election cycle. This is the committee's first violation of the individual contribution limit.
4. To avoid a similar violation in the future, the committee agrees to enter contributions within the Board's Campaign Finance Reporter software within 60 days of receipt and promptly return excess contributions if a compliance warning indicates that it is necessary to do so.
5. The Gaul committee agrees to the imposition of a civil penalty of \$220, one times the amount of the violation, for accepting contributions in excess of the limit imposed by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 1. Of this amount, \$100 is due within 30 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties. The remaining \$120 of the penalty is, by the terms of this agreement, stayed until January 1, 2025. If the committee violates Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 1, before January 1, 2025, the outstanding civil penalty is due immediately. If the committee does not violate Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 1, before January 1, 2025, the outstanding civil penalty is waived.
6. The committee also agrees to provide to the Board, within 60 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties, a copy of the deposited check or other documentation showing that \$220 was refunded to the contributor.

7. 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/ Anita T. Gaul
Anita Gaul
Anita Gaul for State Senate

Dated: May 22, 2023

/s/ George Soule
George Soule, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Dated: April 26, 2023