

STATE OF MINNESOTA
CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

CONCILIATION
AGREEMENT

In the matter of the (Tony) Cornish for State Representative Committee (#16198);

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

1. The 2009 non-election year contribution limit from an individual to a State House of Representatives candidate is \$100, as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 1(a)(5). During 2009, the (Tony) Cornish for State Representative Committee (“the Committee”) accepted a contribution of \$300 from an individual. The contribution facially exceeded the applicable contribution limit by \$200. 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 February 5, 2010, Anna Koehler, treasurer, states “ ...I apologize for not being informed in regards to the limit on contributions from individuals during a non-election year. I did not realize we were not in compliance when accepting (and documenting) a \$300 donation for a single donor...”

3. Board records show that this is the second calendar year in which the Committee reported acceptance of a contribution that facially exceeded the applicable contribution limit. The prior violation

occurred in 2003 under a different treasurer. The Committee registered with the Board on April 4, 2002.

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

5. The Committee has returned \$200 to the individual that made the excess contributions. The Committee has provided the Board with a copy of the check and accompanying letter used to return the excess contribution.

6. The Committee agrees to pay a civil penalty of \$400, 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. Two times the amount of the excess contribution is the standard penalty for a committee that accepts a facially excessive contribution.

7. The Candidate hereby agrees to forward to the Board \$400 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 \$400 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 \$400 is not paid within the time specified in paragraph 7 above, then the terms of this conciliation agreement will be violated and the Board may initiate civil 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.

Tony Cornish

Dated: 3-8-10

Representative Tony Cornish

Approved by the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

By Bob Milbert

Dated: March 2, 2010

Bob Milbert, Chair

Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board