

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. On October 2, 2012, the Candidate entered into a conciliation agreement to remedy a violation resulting from accepting excess contributions from special sources totaling \$8,600. The 2012 limit on aggregate contributions from special sources for a state representative candidate was \$6,900. To meet the requirements of the conciliation agreement, the Committee paid a \$1,700 civil penalty and returned a sufficient amount to special source contributors to bring the Committee into compliance.

2. During a routine Board reconciliation audit of the 2012 year-end Report of Receipts and Expenditures, three additional contributions from special sources were discovered. The additional \$1,250 in contributions increased the total amount of contributions from special sources accepted by the Committee in 2012 to \$9,850. The excess amount was not returned within 60 days as permitted by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.

3. On December 30, 2013, Representative Hoppe responded that some of the contributions received by his committee did not show up on the spreadsheet that was used for record keeping.

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

5. The parties agree that the Committee accepted excessive contributions from special sources resulting in an inadvertent violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11, in calendar year 2012.

6. The Candidate hereby agrees to return to special source contributors an amount sufficient to bring the committee into compliance. Copies of the checks used to return the excess amount must be provided to the Board within 30 days after the date this conciliation agreement is signed by both parties.

7. The Candidate agrees to pay an additional civil penalty of \$1,250, one times the amount by which the additional contributions exceeded the applicable limit, to be paid to the Board for deposit in the general fund of the state.

8. The Committee hereby agrees to forward to the Board \$1,250 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 \$1,250, the return of the excess contributions, providing the Board copies of the checks used to return the excess

contributions, and this conciliation agreement will be a bar to any civil proceeding under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.28, subdivisions 3 and 4.

9. It is further understood and agreed, however, that failure to pay the civil penalty of \$1,250, return the excess contributions, and provide copies of the checks returning the excess contributions within the time specified in paragraphs 6 and 8 above is a violation of the terms of this conciliation agreement and the Board may declare this agreement to be null and void and may take further action to resolve this matter.

10. 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.

/s/ Joe Hoppe Dated: 1/15/2014

Representative Joe Hoppe

Approved by the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

By /s/ Deanna Wiener Dated: January 7, 2014

Deanna Wiener, Chair

Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board