

STATE OF MINNESOTA
CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

CONCILIATION
AGREEMENT

In the matter of the Supporters of (Valerie) Solem Committee (#16063);

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. §10A.28, subd. 3, the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board and Valerie Solem hereby agree as follows:

1. During 2004, the Supporters of (Valerie) Solem Committee ("the Committee") accepted \$5,750 in contributions from special sources. These sources include registered political committees and funds from which the Committee accepted \$3,650 and individuals who contributed in excess of \$250, from whom the Committee accepted \$2,100. The total amount of these contributions exceeded by \$50 the applicable limit on aggregate contributions from special sources, which for this candidate was \$5,700. The amount of the excess contributions was not returned to the contributors within 60 days as required by Minn. Stat. §10A.15, subd. 3.

2. In a letter received on March 9, 2005, Ms. Solem indicated that the error was "inadvertent" and provided a copy of the check and accompanying letter returning the excess contribution.

3. Board records show that this is the first calendar year in which the Supporters of (Valerie) Solem Committee reported acceptance of contributions that exceeded the applicable aggregate contribution limit. The Committee registered with the Board on March 29, 2004.

4. The parties agree that the Committee accepted excessive contributions from special sources resulting in an inadvertent violation of Minn. Stat. §10A. 27, subd. 11, in calendar year 2004.

5. The Board imposes a civil penalty of \$50, one times the amount by which the contributions exceeded the applicable limit, to be paid to the Board for deposit in the general fund of the state.

6. Valerie Solem hereby agrees to forward to the Board \$50 by check or money order payable to the STATE OF MINNESOTA within 30 days after the date this Agreement is signed by the Board chair. It is agreed by the parties that payment of the civil penalty of \$50, and this Conciliation Agreement will be a bar to any civil proceeding under Minn. Stat. §10A.28, subds. 3 & 4.

7. It is further understood and agreed, however, that if the civil penalty of \$50 is not paid within the time specified in paragraph 6 above, then Valerie Solem will be personally liable to pay a civil penalty, under Minn. Stat. §§10A.28 and 10A.34, subd. 1, in an amount calculated as follows:

(a) \$100 or two times the amount by which the contributions exceeded the statutory limit, if payment is received 31 to 60 days after the date this Agreement is signed by the Board Chair;

(b) \$150 or three times the amount by which the contributions exceeded the statutory limit, if payment is received 61 to 90 days after the date this Agreement is signed by the Board Chair;

(c) \$200 or four times the amount by which the contributions exceeded the statutory limit, if payment is received 91 to 120 days after the date this Agreement is signed by the Board Chair.

8. It is further understood and agreed that this Agreement is confidential until signed by Valerie Solem and the Board Chair; the signed Agreement then shall become a matter of public record, and the statutory requirement of confidentiality shall no longer apply. Minn. Stat. §§10A.02, subd. 11 and 10A.28, subd. 3.

Valerie Solem Dated: 5/10/2005
Valerie Solem

Approved by the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

By Terri Ashmore Dated: 5/16/05
Terri Ashmore, chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board