

**BEFORE THE
MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION**

Filed
SEP 08 2014
Missouri Ethics
Commission

MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
v.)	
)	
ERIN SCHULTE)	Case No. 14C218
)	
AND)	
)	
CITIZENS FOR ERIN SCHULTE,)	
)	
Respondents.)	

CONSENT ORDER

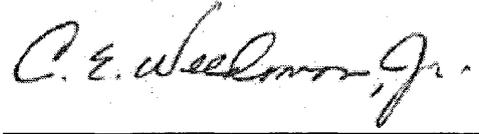
The parties having filed a Joint Stipulation of Facts, Waiver of Hearing, and Consent Order with Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law (“Joint Stipulation”) with the Missouri Ethics Commission in this matter, the Missouri Ethics Commission hereby accepts as true the facts stipulated and finds that Respondents Schulte and Citizens for Erin Schulte violated Section 130.031.8(1), RSMo, as stated in the Joint Stipulation.

The Commission directs that all terms and orders of the Joint Stipulation be adopted herein and implemented.

1. Respondents shall comply with all relevant sections of Chapter 130, RSMo.
2. It is the Order of the Missouri Ethics Commission that a fee is imposed against Respondents Schulte and Citizens for Erin Schulte in the amount of \$100.00, pursuant to Section 105.961.4(6), RSMo. The fee will be paid by check or money order made payable to and sent to the Missouri Ethics Commission at the time of execution of this Joint Stipulation.

SO ORDERED this 8th day of September,
2014

By:



Charles Weedman, Chair
Missouri Ethics Commission

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**BEFORE THE
MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION**

MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION,)
)
 Petitioner,)
)
v.)
)
ERIN SCHULTE,) Case No. 14C218
Candidate)
)
and)
)
CITIZENS FOR ERIN SCHULTE,)
Candidate Committee)
)
 Respondents.)

**JOINT STIPULATION OF FACTS, WAIVER OF HEARING
BEFORE THE MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION, AND
CONSENT ORDER WITH JOINT PROPOSED
FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The undersigned parties jointly stipulate to the facts and consent to the action set forth below.

The undersigned Respondents, Schulte and Citizens for Erin Schulte, acknowledge that they have received and reviewed a copy of the Complaint filed by the Petitioner in this case, and the parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Missouri Ethics Commission.

The undersigned Respondents further acknowledge that they are aware of the various rights and privileges afforded by law, including but not limited to: the right to appear and be represented by counsel; the right to have all charges against Respondents be proven upon the record by competent and substantial evidence; the right to cross-examine any witnesses appearing at the hearing against Respondents; the right to present evidence on Respondents' behalf at the hearing; and the right to a decision upon the record of the hearing. Being aware of

these rights provided to Respondents by operation of law, the undersigned Respondents knowingly and voluntarily waive each and every one of these rights and freely enters into this Joint Stipulation of Facts, Waiver of Hearing before the Missouri Ethics Commission, and Consent Order with Joint Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and agrees to abide by the terms of this document.

I.

Based upon the foregoing, the Petitioner and the undersigned Respondents jointly stipulate to the following and request that the Missouri Ethics Commission adopt as its own the Joint Proposed Findings of Fact and the Joint Proposed Conclusions of Law, as follows:

JOINT PROPOSED FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Missouri Ethics Commission is an agency of the State of Missouri established pursuant to Section 105.955, RSMo, in part for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of Chapter 130, RSMo.
2. Respondent Schulte was an unsuccessful candidate for State Representative, District 106 in the August 5, 2014 election.
3. Respondent Citizens for Erin Schulte is a candidate committee registered with the Missouri Ethics Commission on July 3, 2014.
4. Pursuant to Section 105.961, RSMo, the Commission's staff investigated a complaint filed with the Commission and reported the investigation findings to the Commission.
5. Based on the report of the Commission's staff, the Commission determined that there were reasonable grounds to believe that violations of law occurred, and it therefore authorized a hearing in this matter pursuant to Section 105.961.3, RSMo.

6. Respondent Schulte published, circulated, and/or distributed the yard signs and billboards, true and accurate copies of which are attached hereto as Exhibit A, by displaying them in various locations in the St. Charles area.

7. Respondent Schulte paid for the printed matter referred to in Exhibit A.

8. The printed matter referred to in Exhibit A relates to a candidate in the August 2014 election.

9. The yard signs and billboards attached hereto as Exhibit A should have contained a clear and conspicuous statement: "Paid for by Erin Schulte", but they did not when originally distributed. After the signs and billboards were published and distributed, Respondent Schulte placed corrections on them with the phrase "Paid for by Citizens for Erin Schulte, Erin Schulte, Treasurer."

JOINT PROPOSED CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

10. "Any person publishing, circulating, or distributing any printed matter relative to any candidate for public office or any ballot measure shall on the face of the printed matter identify in a clear and conspicuous manner the person who paid for the printed matter with the words "Paid for by" followed by the proper identification of the sponsor pursuant to this section." § 130.031.8, RSMo.

11. "[P]rinted matter" shall be defined to include any pamphlet, circular, handbill, sample ballot, advertisement, including advertisements in any newspaper or other periodical, sign, including signs for display on motor vehicles, or other imprinted or lettered material; but 'printed matter' is defined to exclude ... any sign personally printed and constructed by an individual without compensation from any other person and displayed at that individual's place of residence or on that individual's personal motor vehicle; any items of personal use given away

or sold, such as campaign buttons, pins, pens, pencils, book matches, campaign jewelry, or clothing, which is paid for by a candidate or committee which supports a candidate or supports or opposes a ballot measure and which is obvious in its identification with a specific candidate or committee and is reported as required by this chapter; and any news story, commentary, or editorial printed by a regularly published newspaper or other periodical without charge to a candidate, committee or any other person.” § 130.031.8, RSMo.

12. In regard to any printed matter paid for by a candidate from the candidate's personal funds, it shall be sufficient identification to print the first and last name by which the candidate is known. § 130.031.8(1), RSMo.

13. There is probable cause to believe that Respondent Schulte violated Section 130.031.8(1), RSMo, by publishing, circulating and distributing yard signs and billboards relative to her candidacy without including the proper “paid for by” disclosure.

II.

Based on the foregoing, the parties hereto mutually agree and stipulate that the following shall constitute the order entered by the Missouri Ethics Commission in this matter. This order will be effective immediately upon the issuance of the Consent Order of the Missouri Ethics Commission without further action by any party:

1. The parties to this Joint Stipulation understand that the Petitioner will maintain this Joint Stipulation as an open and public record of the Missouri Ethics Commission.

2. The Commission shall issue its Consent Order in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B.

a. Respondents shall comply with all relevant sections of Chapter 130, RSMo.

b. It is the Order of the Missouri Ethics Commission that a fee is imposed against Respondents Schulte And Citizens For Erin Schulte in the amount of \$100.00, pursuant to Section 105.961.4(6), RSMo. The fee will be paid by check or money order made payable to and sent to the Missouri Ethics Commission at the time of execution of this Joint Stipulation.

3. The parties consent to the entry of record and approval of this Joint Stipulation and to the termination of any further proceedings before the Commission based upon the Complaint filed by the Petitioner in the above action.

4. Respondents, together with their heirs, successors, and assigns, do hereby waive, release, acquit and forever discharge the Missouri Ethics Commission and its attorneys of or from any liability, claim, actions, causes of action, fees, costs and expenses, and compensation, including but not limited to, a claim for attorney's fees whatsoever which Respondents or

Respondents' attorney may now have or which they may hereafter have, which are based upon or arise out of the above cases.

5. This joint stipulation does not settle, release, waive, or otherwise relieve Respondents from any late filing fees due to the appropriate filing authority, including Petitioner Missouri Ethics Commission. Respondents understand that late filing fees accrue automatically under Section 105.963, RSMo.

RESPONDENT ERIN SCHULTE

By:  8/31/14
Erin Schulte Date

PETITIONER MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION

By:  9/5/14
James Klahr Date
Executive Director

RESPONDENT CITIZENS FOR ERIN SCHULTE

By:  8/31/14
Erin Schulte Date

By:  9/5/14
Curtis R. Stokes Date
Attorney for Petitioner

MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION

JUL 17 2014

HAND DELIVERED

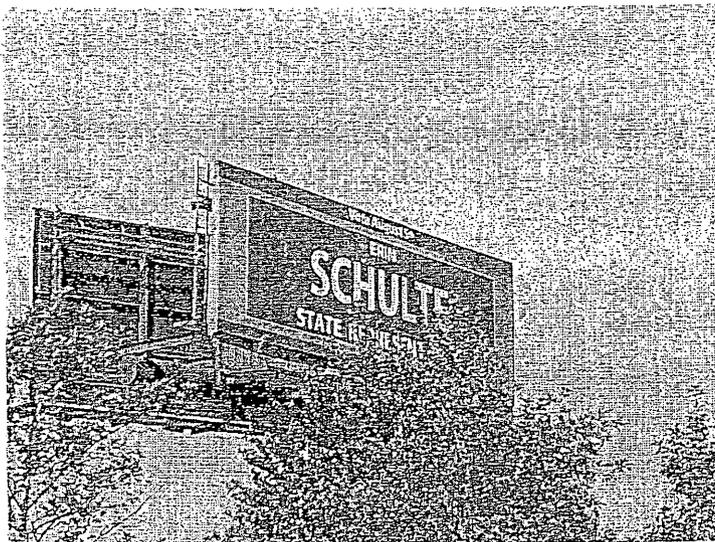
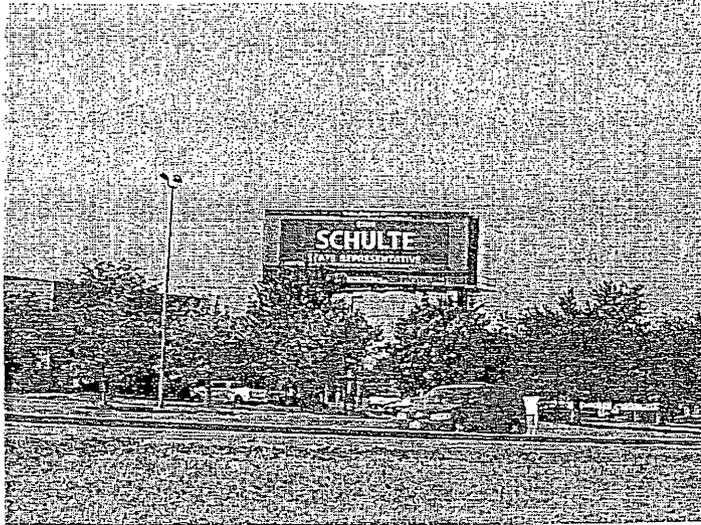
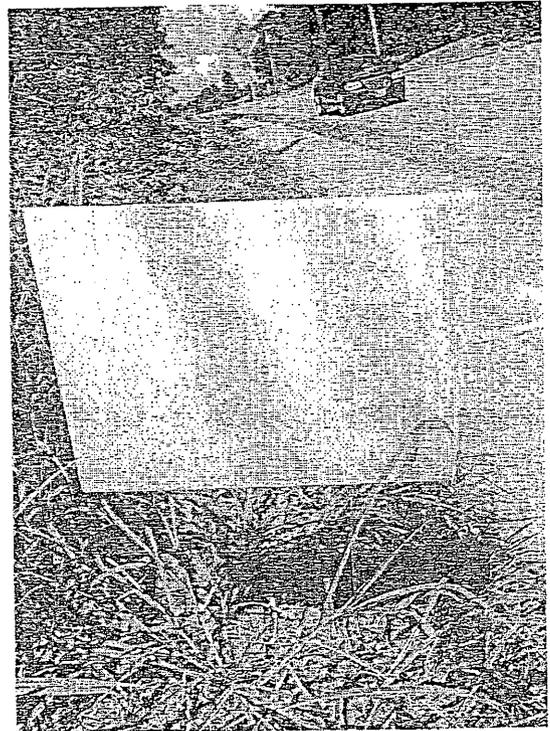
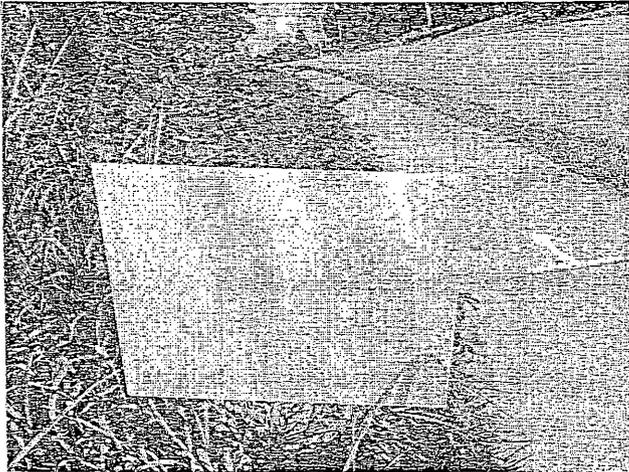


EXHIBIT
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JUL 17 2014

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