

**BEFORE THE
MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION**

Filed
SEP 12 2016
Missouri Ethics
Commission

MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	Case No. 16-0064-I
v.)	
)	
ROBERT PALMER,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

**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 Respondent, Robert Palmer, acknowledges that he has 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 Respondent further acknowledges that he is 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 allegations against Respondent be proven upon the record by competent and substantial evidence; the right to cross-examine any witnesses appearing at the hearing against Respondent; the right to present evidence on Respondent's behalf at the hearing; and the right to a decision upon the record of the hearing. Being aware of these rights provided to Respondent by operation of law, the undersigned Respondent knowingly and voluntarily waives 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 Respondent 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 Palmer is a candidate for Eastern District Commissioner for Christian County, Missouri.

3. Pursuant to Sections 105.957 and 105.961, RSMo, the Commission's staff investigated a complaint filed with the Commission and reported the investigation findings to the Commission.

4. Based on the investigation report, 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.

5. To support his candidacy, Respondent Palmer circulated and distributed push cards and yards signs.

6. Some yard signs distributed by Respondent Palmer were purchased by Respondent Palmer in this election, using personal funds. Those yard signs contained the correct "paid for by"

disclosure statement for printed materials purchased by a candidate's own personal funds: "Paid for by Robert Palmer."

7. However, the push cards and some yard signs were purchased by Respondent Palmer's candidate committee when he ran for County Commission in 2012, and Respondent Palmer used these card and signs again in the 2016 election. A true and accurate copy of these yard signs is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

8. The name of Respondent Palmer's candidate committee in 2012 was "Citizens for Robert Palmer for Eastern Christian County Commission," and the committee's treasurer was Benjamin Robinson. The disclosure for the cards and these yard signs should have read "Paid for by Citizens for Robert Palmer for Eastern Christian County Commissioner, Benjamin Robinson, Treasurer," but instead read "Paid for by People for Robert Palmer for Commissioner."

9. True and accurate copies of the reused cards and yard signs referred to in paragraph 8 above are attached hereto as Exhibit B and Exhibit C, respectively.

JOINT PROPOSED CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

10. "Any person publishing, circulating, or distributing any printed matter relative to any candidate for public office ... 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." § 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. In regard to any printed matter paid for by a committee, it shall be sufficient identification to print the name of the committee as required to be registered by subsection 5 of section 130.021 and the name and title of the committee treasurer who was serving when the printed matter was paid for. § 130.031.8(2), RSMo.

14. There is probable cause to believe that Respondent Palmer violated Section 130.031.8, RSMo, by publishing, circulating and distributing reused push cards and yard signs with an incorrect "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 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 1.

a. Respondent 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 Respondent Robert Palmer in the amount of \$100, pursuant to Section 105.961.4(6), RSMo. The fee will be paid by check or money order made payable 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. Respondent, together with his heirs, successors, and assigns, does 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 Respondent or

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

RESPONDENT ROBERT PALMER

PETITIONER MISSOURI ETHICS
COMMISSION

By: Robert Palmer 9-7-16
Robert Palmer Date

By: James Klahr 9/12/16
James Klahr Date
Executive Director

By: Elizabeth L. Ziegler 9/12/16
Elizabeth L. Ziegler Date
Attorney for Petitioner

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ROBERT
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PAIVARR

Eastern Commissioner

PAID FOR BY ROBERT ROBERT

EXHIBIT

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Robert Palmer

For
Christian County Commissioner

"My job will be to protect the rights and freedoms of every citizen."

If you're willing to help
e-mail robertpalmer2@hughes.net



palmer4freedom.com



[palmer4commissioner](https://www.facebook.com/palmer4commissioner)

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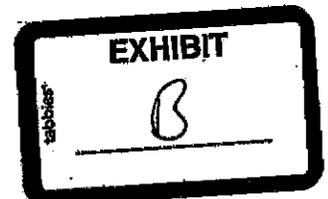


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Paid for by People for Robert Palmer for Commissioner



Robert Palmer

Christian County Commissioner

- ~ Passionate about the constitution
- ~ For small government
- ~ Create new jobs by having a business friendly environment
- ~ Protect farmer's rights
- ~ Low taxes
- ~ Strong Christian values

"The best solution to a problem is almost always the simplest."

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Commissione

per la Pace e per Robert F. Kennedy

EXHIBIT

C

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CONSENT ORDER

The parties have filed a Joint Stipulation of Facts, Waiver of Hearing, and Proposed Consent Order with the Missouri Ethics Commission. Accordingly, the Missouri Ethics Commission accepts as true the facts stipulated and finds that Respondent Palmer violated Sections 130.031.8, RSMo.

The Commission directs that the Joint Stipulation be adopted.

1. Respondent 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 Respondent Palmer in the amount of \$100 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.

SO ORDERED this 12th day of September, 2016

By:

Nancy Hagan

Nancy Hagan, Chair
Missouri Ethics Commission