Elizabeth L. Ziegler Executive Director

Final Action: MEC No. 19-0003-I, Senator Jamilah Nasheed, Friends of Jamilah Nasheed, and Citizens to Elect Jamilah Nasheed

Date: February 15, 2019

At its February 15, 2019 meeting, the Missouri Ethics Commission took final consideration of the complaint filed against Senator Jamilah Nasheed, Friends of Jamilah Nasheed, and Citizens to Elect Jamilah Nasheed. Friends of Jamilah Nasheed is a candidate committee supporting Senator Nasheed's candidacy for statewide office in 2024: Citizens to Elect Jamilah Nasheed is a candidate committee supporting her candidacy for President of the St. Louis City Board of Alderman. The complaint included three alleged violations of Missouri Campaign Finance Law.

The complaint alleged that both committees used contributions to support Senator Nasheed's campaign for President of the St. Louis City Board of Aldermen. Both committees supplied documentation that confirmed that no expenditures reported by the Friends of Jamilah Nasheed were expenditures for Citizens to Elect Jamilah Nasheed.

The complaint also alleged that the committees improperly transferred money from one committee to another. While candidates are prohibited from making contributions to other candidates, the law specifically states that a candidate may transfer funds from one of her candidate committees to another of her candidate committees. These transfers should be reported as miscellaneous disbursements and receipts as opposed to contributions made and contributions received.

Finally, the complaint alleged that committee expenditures were inaccurately reported as they appeared to be rounded up to the nearest hundred dollars. The investigation confirmed that the expenditures were properly supported by invoices that reflect the amounts paid.

From the facts presented, the Commission found no reasonable grounds existed to support a violation of the Chapter 130, RSMo, and dismissed the complaint.

Elizabeth L. Ziegler Executive Director