

BEFORE THE
MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION

Filed

SEP 09 2025

Missouri Ethics
Commission

MISSOURI ETHICS)	
COMMISSION,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
v.)	
)	
MISSOURI REPUBLICAN 157TH)	Case No. 22-0010-A
LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT,)	
Continuing Committee,)	
)	
and)	
)	
ERIC VOUGHT, Former)	
Treasurer,)	
)	
Respondents.)	

JOINT FINDINGS OF FACT,
CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER

The Missouri Ethics Commission ("MEC"), together with Missouri Republican 157th Legislative District and Eric Vought ("Respondents"), collectively the "parties" jointly stipulate and consent to action as set forth here (the "agreement").

Respondents acknowledge their right to have this agreement reviewed by counsel. Respondents further acknowledge they have received actual notice of the legal complaint filed by the MEC in this case, have reviewed the contents of the Complaint, and submit to the jurisdiction of the Missouri Ethics Commission.

Respondents further acknowledge 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 at a hearing before the MEC; the right to have all allegations

against Respondents 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, Respondents knowingly and voluntarily waive each one of these rights and freely enters into this agreement and agrees to abide by its terms.

I.

The parties mutually agree and stipulate, subject to adoption by the Missouri Ethics Commission, the following shall constitute the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in this matter:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Missouri Republican 157th Legislative District is a continuing committee that was established January 28, 2013.

2. The most recent treasurer, Respondent Eric Vought, became the committee's treasurer in 2015.

3. Respondent Eric Vought submitted a letter of resignation to the MEC on May 2, 2022, effective April 15, 2022.

4. Pursuant to Sections 105.959 and 105.961, RSMo, the Commission's staff audited the reports and statements filed with the Commission and reported the findings to the Commission.

5. Based on the audit report, the Commission determined that there were reasonable grounds to believe that violations of the law had occurred, and it therefore authorized a hearing in this matter pursuant to Section 105.961.3, RSMo.

COUNT I

Failure to timely amend the statement of organization with a new treasurer.

6. The Statement of Committee Organization was not amended with a new treasurer after Respondent Eric Vought resigned.

Failure to maintain an official depository account.

7. The committee's official depository account was closed April 7, 2015.

8. Respondents did not amend their Statement of Committee Organization within twenty (20) days of a change in official depository account.

COUNT II

Failure to timely and accurately file campaign finance disclosure reports.

9. Respondents failed to timely file four (4) statements of limited activity by the quarterly report due date.

Report Name	Due Date	Date Submitted
2022		
January Quarterly - Limited Activity	1/15/22	1/24/22
2021		
October Quarterly - Limited Activity	10/15/21	10/18/21
2020		
January Quarterly - Limited Activity	1/15/20	1/16/20
2018		
October Quarterly - Limited Activity	10/15/18	10/16/18

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

COUNT I

10. "A committee which has filed a statement of organization and has not terminated shall not be required to file another statement of organization, except that when there is a change in any of the information previously reported as required by subdivisions (1) to (8) of subsection 5 of this section an amended statement of organization shall be filed within twenty days after the change occurs, but no later than the date of the filing of the next report required to be filed by that committee by section 130.046." § 130.021.7, RSMo.

Failure to timely amend the statement of organization with a new treasurer.

11. Pursuant to Section 130.021.1, RSMo, "every committee shall have a treasurer."

12. The statement of organization shall contain "the name, mailing address and telephone number of the committee treasurer, and the name, mailing address and telephone number of its deputy treasurer if the committee has named a deputy treasurer." § 130.021.5(3), RSMo.

13. Where Respondent Eric Vought resigned as treasurer and the committee failed to amend the Statement of Committee Organization to name a new treasurer, there is probable cause to believe Respondents violated §§ 130.021.1, 130.021.5(3), and 130.021.7 giving this Commission the power to act as permitted under § 105.961.

Failure to maintain an official depository account.

14. Pursuant to Section 130.021.4(1), RSMo, "every committee shall have a single official fund depository within this state which shall be a federally or state-chartered bank, a federally or state-chartered savings and loan association, or a federally or state-chartered credit union in which the committee shall open and thereafter maintain at least one official depository account in its own name."

15. The statement of organization shall contain "the name and mailing address of its depository, and the name and account number of each account the committee has in the depository." § 130.021.5(6), RSMo.

16. Where Respondents closed the committee's official depository account and failed to amend the Statement of Committee to name a new account, there is probable cause to believe Respondents violated §§ 130.021.4(1), 130.021.5(6), and 130.021.7 giving this Commission the power to act as permitted under § 105.961.

COUNT II

Failure to timely and accurately file campaign finance disclosure reports.

17. Pursuant to Section 130.046.1(3), RSMo, all committees must file regular campaign finance disclosure reports "not later than the fifteenth day following the close of each calendar quarter[.]"

18. Where Respondents failed to timely file four (4) statements of limited activity, there is probable cause to believe Respondents violated § 130.046.1(3), RSMo, giving this Commission the power to act as permitted under § 105.961.

II.

Based on the foregoing, the parties mutually agree and stipulate, subject to adoption by the Missouri Ethics Commission, the following shall constitute the Order issued by the Missouri Ethics Commission in this matter:

CONSENT ORDER

The Missouri Ethics Commission finds probable cause to believe Respondents violated §§ 130.021 and 130.046.1(3), RSMo and pursuant to § 105.961.4, hereby **ORDERS:**

1. Respondents shall comply with all relevant sections of Chapter 130.
2. It is the order of the Missouri Ethics Commission that a fee is imposed against Respondents in the amount of \$2,000.00, pursuant to Section 105.961.4(6), RSMo. However, if Respondents pay \$200.00 within forty-five days after the date of the Consent Order, the remainder of the fee will be stayed. The fee will be paid by check or money order made payable to the Missouri Ethics Commission.
3. Regardless of the stay in paragraph 2 above, if there is probable cause to believe that any Respondent commits any further violation of the campaign finance laws under Chapter 130, RSMo, within the two-year period from the date of this order, then the Respondent who committed the violation will be required to pay the remainder of the fees. The fee will be due immediately upon final adjudication finding that there was probable cause to believe that such Respondent has committed such a violation.
4. Respondents shall be jointly and severally liable for all fees imposed under this order.

III.

1. The parties understand the Missouri Ethics Commission will maintain this agreement as an open record of the Commission.

2. This agreement does not bind the Missouri Ethics Commission or restrict the remedies available concerning any violations not expressly detailed here, including any future violations.

3. Each party agrees to pay all their own fees and expenses incurred as a result of this case, its litigation, and/or its disposition.

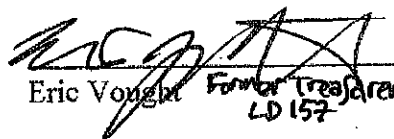
4. Respondents, together with their heirs, assigns, agents, representatives and attorneys, do hereby waive, release, acquit and forever discharge the Missouri Ethics Commission, the Commission's respective members, employees, agents and attorneys including former members, employees, agents and attorneys, of, or from any liability, claim, actions, causes of action, fees, costs, expenses and compensation, including, but not limited to, any claim for attorney's fees and expenses, whether or not now known or contemplated, including, but not limited to, any claims pursuant to Section 536.087, RSMo, as amended, or any claim arising under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, which now or in the future may be based upon, arise out of, or relate to any of the matters raised in this case or its litigation or from the negotiation or execution of this Joint Stipulation. The parties acknowledge that this paragraph is severable from the remaining portions of this agreement in that it survives in perpetuity even in the event that any court or administrative tribunal deems this agreement or any portion thereof void or unenforceable.

5. This agreement shall become effective immediately upon (1) the signature of all parties; (2) adoption of the Joint Proposed Findings of Fact,

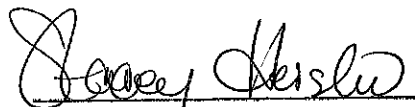
Conclusions of Law by the Missouri Ethics Commission; and (3) issuance of a Final Order by the Commission, without any further action of the parties.

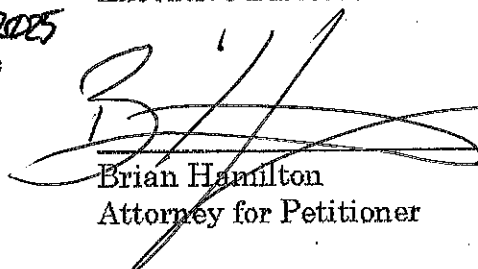
SO AGREED:

RESPONDENTS
MISSOURI REPUBLICAN 157TH
LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT and ERIC
VOUGHT

 8 Sept. 2005
Eric Vought ~~Former Treasurer~~ LD 157 Date

MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION

 9/9/2005
Stacey Helslen Date
Executive Director

 9/9/25
Brian Hamilton Date
Attorney for Petitioner

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immediately upon final adjudication finding that there was probable cause to believe that such Respondent has committed such a violation.

4. Respondents shall be jointly and severally liable for all fees imposed under this order.

SO ORDERED this 12th day of September 2025



Jeremy Schneider
Missouri Ethics Commission