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Missouri Ethics Commission

BEFORE THE
MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION

MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION, Petitioner, v. JIMMY D. GOTT, JR., Respondent.	)	Case No. 26-0019-I

JOINT PROPOSED FINDINGS OF FACT,
CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND CONSENT ORDER

The Missouri Ethics Commission ("MEC"), together with Jimmy D. Gott ("Respondent"), collectively the "parties," jointly stipulate and consent to action as set forth here (the "agreement").

Respondent acknowledges their right to have this agreement reviewed by counsel. Respondent further acknowledges they have received actual notice of the legal complaint filed by the MEC in this case, have reviewed the contents of the legal complaint, and submits themselves to the jurisdiction of the Missouri Ethics Commission.

Respondent further acknowledges 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 Respondent 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, Respondent knowingly and voluntarily waives 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. The Missouri Ethics Commission (MEC) is an agency of the State of Missouri established pursuant to § 105.955, RSMo, in part for the purpose of enforcing the financial interest disclosure laws in Chapter 105, RSMo.

2. Respondent Jimmy D. Gott, Jr. is an elected member of the City Council in the City of Louisiana.

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

4. Based on the investigation report, the Commission determined there were reasonable grounds to believe that violations of state laws had occurred, and it therefore authorized a hearing in this matter pursuant to § 105.961.3, RSMo.

COUNT I

Failure to File a Complete and Accurate Financial Disclosure Statement for 2024

5. In June of 2023, the City of Louisiana adopted Ordinance No. 2-2023 establishing its own method of disclosing potential conflicts of interest for elected officials.

6. Ordinance No. 2-2023 was passed on June 6, 2023, and it remained in effect for two years from the date of its passage.

7. As dictated by § 105.485.4(1)(b), RSMo, Ordinance No. 2-2023 required candidates and elected officials in Louisiana to file financial disclosure statements and to include the following information:

> a. For such person, and all persons within the first degree of consanguinity or affinity of such person, the date and the identities of the parties to each transaction with a total value in excess of five hundred dollars, if any, that such person had with the political subdivision, other than compensation received as an employee or payment of any tax, fee or penalty due to the political subdivision, and other than transfers for no consideration to the political subdivision.
>
> b. The date and the identities of the parties to each transaction known to the person with a total value in excess of five hundred dollars, if any, that any business entity in which such person had a substantial interest, had with the political subdivision.

8. On or about February 12, 2025, Respondent signed and submitted an amended Financial Disclosure Statement covering activity for the calendar year of 2024.

9. On his 2024 Financial Disclosure Statement, Respondent listed "J&D Tire & Auto" as a "sole proprietorship owned by you, your spouse or dependent child(ren) during

the time period covered by this statement."

10. There is no fictitious entity named "J&D Tire & Auto" registered with the Missouri Secretary of State.

11. There is an entity named "J & D Tire & Auto LLC" that filed Articles of Organization with the Missouri Secretary of State on January 12, 2007.

12. Respondent "held a substantial interest" in "J & D Tire & Auto LLC" during 2024.

13. "J & D Tire & Auto LLC" conducted business with the City of Louisiana during 2024.

14. Those business transactions were valued at more than $500.

15. Respondent's 2024 Financial Disclosure Statement did not identify any "transactions for any business entity, in which you, your spouse, or dependent child(ren) held a substantial interest, that conducted business with the political subdivision listed above valued at more than $500."

COUNT II

Failure to File a Complete and Accurate Financial Disclosure Statement for 2025

16. In June of 2025, the City of Louisiana repealed Ordinance No. 2-2023 and adopted in its place Ordinance No. 06-2025, thus establishing its own method of disclosing potential conflicts of interest for elected officials.

17. Ordinance No. 06-2025 was passed on June 23, 2025, and it remained in

effect for two years from the date of its passage.

18. As dictated by § 105.485.4(1)(b), RSMo, Ordinance No. 06-2025 required candidates and elected officials in Louisiana to file financial disclosure statements and to include the following information:

> a. For such person, and all persons within the first degree of consanguinity or affinity of such person, the date and the identities of the parties to each transaction with a total value in excess of five hundred dollars, if any, that such person had with the political subdivision, other than compensation received as an employee or payment of any tax, fee or penalty due to the political subdivision, and other than transfers for no consideration to the political subdivision.
>
> b. The date and the identities of the parties to each transaction known to the person with a total value in excess of five hundred dollars, if any, that any business entity in which such person had a substantial interest, had with the political subdivision.

19. On or about December 12, 2025, Respondent signed and submitted a Financial Disclosure Statement covering activity from December 12, 2024, through December 12, 2024.

20. On his 2025 Financial Disclosure Statement, Respondent listed "J&D Tire & Auto" as a "sole proprietorship owned by you, your spouse or dependent child(ren) during the time period covered by this statement."

21. There is no fictitious entity named "J&D Tire & Auto" registered with the Missouri Secretary of State.

22. There is an entity named "J & D Tire & Auto LLC" that filed Articles of Organization with the Missouri Secretary of State on January 12, 2007.

23. Respondent "held a substantial interest" in "J & D Tire & Auto LLC" during 2025.

24. "J & D Tire & Auto LLC" conducted business with the City of Louisiana between December 12, 2024 and December 12, 2025.

25. Those business transactions were valued at more than $500.

26. Respondent's 2025 Financial Disclosure Statement did not correctly identify any "transactions for any business entity, in which you, your spouse, or dependent child(ren) held a substantial interest, that conducted business with the political subdivision listed above valued at more than $500" in that Respondent failed to list individual transactions by date.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

27. Financial interest disclosure statements must be filed by many public officials, including candidates for elective office, and:

> Each elected official, candidate for elective office, the chief administrative officer, the chief purchasing officer and the general counsel, if employed full time, of each political subdivision with an annual operating budget in excess of one million dollars, and each official or employee of a political subdivision who is authorized by the governing body of the political subdivision to promulgate rules and regulations with the force of law or to vote on the adoption of rules and regulations with the force of law; unless the political subdivision adopts an ordinance, order or resolution pursuant to subsection 4 of section 105.485.

Section 105.483(2) & (11), RSMo.

28. The exception in Subsection 4 of § 105.485, RSMo, provides that:

> Each official, officer or employee or candidate of any political subdivision described in subdivision (11) of section 105.483 shall be required to file a financial interest statement as required by subsection 2 of this section, unless the political subdivision biennially adopts an ordinance, order or resolution at an open meeting by September fifteenth of the preceding year, which establishes and makes public its own method of disclosing potential conflicts of interest and substantial interests[.]

29. There is probable cause to believe that Respondent violated the provisions of § 105.485, RSMo, by failing to include accurate and complete information in his 2024 financial disclosure statement as alleged in Count I.

30. There is probable cause to believe that Respondent violated the provisions of § 105.485, RSMo, by failing to include accurate and complete information in his 2025 financial disclosure statement as alleged in Count II.

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 Respondent violated § 105.485, RSMo and pursuant to § 105.961.4, RSMo, hereby **ORDERS**:

1. Respondent shall comply with all relevant sections of Chapter 105, RSMo.

2. A fee is imposed against Respondent in the amount of $2,000; however, if Respondent pays $200 within 45 days of the consent order, the remainder of the fee will be stayed.

3. Regardless of the stay in paragraph 2, if there is probable cause to believe that Respondent has committed any further violation of the financial interest statement laws in Chapter 105, RSMo, within the two-year period from the date of this order, then Respondent will be required to pay the remainder of the fee. That remainder will be due immediately upon final adjudication of finding probable cause.

4. Fees will be paid by check or money order made payable to the Missouri Ethics Commission.

III.

The parties understand that the MEC will maintain this agreement as an open record of the Commission. This agreement does not bind the MEC or restrict the remedies available concerning any violations not expressly detailed here, including any future violations. Each party agrees to pay all their own fees and expenses incurred as a result of this case, its litigation, and/or its disposition.

Respondent, together with their heirs, assigns, agents, representatives and attorneys, does hereby waive, release, acquit and forever discharge the MEC, 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 § 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.

This agreement shall become effective immediately upon (1) the signature of all parties; (2) the adoption of the Joint Proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law by the Missouri Ethics Commission; and (3) the issuance of a Final Order by the Commission, without any further action of the parties.

SO AGREED:

RESPONDENT

JIMMY D. GOTT, JR. 10-9-26 Date

PETITIONER

Stacey Heislen 10/13/26 Date
Executive Director

Laura E Elsbury Date
Attorney for Petitioner

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Missouri Ethics Commission

BEFORE THE
MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION

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	)	
Petitioner,	)	
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v.	)	Case No. 26-0019-I
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	)	
Respondent.	)	

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4. Fees will be paid by check or money order made payable to the Missouri Ethics Commission.

SO ORDERED, this 9th day of November, 2026.

Julie Leicht, Chair
Missouri Ethics Commission