

OKLAHOMA ETHICS COMMISSION

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In the matter of:)	
Scott Biggs, Chairperson and Treasurer of Friends of Scott Biggs 2014 and Friends of Scott Biggs 2016,)	Ethics Commission Case No. 2017-14
Respondent.)	

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

In early 2017, Scott Biggs, as Chairperson and Treasurer of Friends of Scott Biggs 2014 and Friends of Scott Biggs 2016 ("Respondent"), discovered errors in the candidate committees' reporting and Biggs therefore hired a firm to amend his contributions and expenditures reports with the Oklahoma Ethics Commission ("Commission"), as necessary. In 2017, the Commission opened an investigation into these events, and the Commission and Respondent now wish to conclude this investigation.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Commission and the Respondent agree as follows:

- 1. The Commission has jurisdiction over the Respondent and the subject matter of this proceeding.
- 2. Respondent enters voluntarily into this agreement with the Commission.
- 3. The pertinent facts in this matter are as follows:
 - A. In early 2017, Scott Biggs, as Chairperson and Treasurer of Friends of Scott Biggs 2014 and Friends of Scott Biggs 2016, discovered errors in the candidate committees' reporting and Biggs therefore hired a firm to voluntarily amend his contributions and expenditures reports filed with the Oklahoma Ethics Commission ("Commission"), as necessary.
 - B. In October 2017, Biggs contacted the Commission to resolve any issues that may arise as a result of the errors he had voluntarily corrected and Biggs provided the Commission bank statements covering December 2014-October 2017 for review.
 - C. In November 2017, the Commission opened an investigation in this matter and found the voluntary amendments to reports previously made by Biggs matched his bank statements. These amendments included approximately \$12,500.00 in contributions to Friends of Scott Biggs 2014, the candidate committee formed for the 2014 election in which Biggs ran unopposed for House District 51.

- D. These errors in the Friends of Scott Biggs 2014 candidate committee resulted in an error in the reporting of the transferred amount to Friends of Scott Biggs 2016.
- 4. Respondent contends he had a right to amend the candidate committee reports pursuant to Ethics Rules 257:10-1-9(d)(4) and there was no ill intent behind the errors in his reporting.
- 5. Nevertheless, Respondent desires to resolve the issues related to the amendments of his candidate committee reports and agrees to the following:
 - A. Respondent agrees to payment to the Oklahoma Ethics Commission in the amount of \$1,500.00 for attorney fees, costs, and/or other expenses and fees incurred; the payment of which is hereby acknowledged;
 - B. Respondent agrees to forfeiture of the balance of his campaign account in the amount of \$19,674.67 to the State of Oklahoma general revenue fund, as evidenced by a receipt of deposit from the State Treasurer; the payment of which is hereby acknowledged; and
 - C. Respondent agrees to dissolution of his Friends of Scott Biggs 2016 candidate committee to the satisfaction of the Commission; said condition having previously been met.
- 6. This agreement shall become effective as of the date that all parties have executed this agreement and the Commission has approved this agreement at an official meeting.
- 7. This agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties on the matters raised within, and no other statement, promise, or agreement, either written or oral, made by either party or by agents of either party, that is not contained within this written agreement shall be enforceable.
- 8. This settlement agreement is limited to the facts of this case. This settlement agreement shall not have binding precedential effect for any other matter currently pending before the Commission or that may come before the Commission at a future date.

FOR THE COMMISSION:

Ashley Kemp Executive Director

Date

RESPONDENT:

Scott Biggs

Date