NEW JERSEY ELECTION LAW
ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

NJ MERIT PAC,
a Continuing Political Committee,

and

KAREN REISER,
Organizational Treasurer,

Respondents.

FINAL DECISION

C-T 0000 0030 33-Q2023

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (Commission) considered at its meeting of May 20, 2025, the Complaint against NJ Merit PAC (Respondent Committee) and Karen Reiser (Respondent Treasurer) for late reporting of expenditures and failure to file 48-hour notices of contributions during the 2023 primary election, issued on November 20, 2024, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-1 *et seq.*, which complaint is hereby incorporated by reference in this Final Decision. The Commission considered each Respondents' Affidavit and Waiver of Hearing submitted in response to the Complaint, and by a vote of 3-0, adopted as its Final Decision the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth in the Complaint. In assessing a penalty, the Commission considered penalties imposed in prior cases for similar offenses, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:25-17.3C(c), and recognizes that ten of the twelve 48-hour transactions were reported by recipient candidate committees prior to the election.

PENALTY

THEREFORE, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-22 and N.J.A.C. 19:25-17.1-17.5, the Commission hereby REPRIMANDS Respondents and imposes a joint penalty of $25,112.50 as follows:

1. For late reporting of 2022-Q4 expenditures totaling $2,000, the Commission imposes a penalty of $200; and
2. For late reporting of 2023-Q1 expenditures totaling $41,600, the Commission imposes a penalty of $4,160; and
3. For late reporting of 2023-Q2 expenditures totaling $32,200, the Commission imposes a penalty of $3,220; and
4. For late reporting of 2023-Q3 expenditures totaling $1,000, the Commission imposes a penalty of $100; and
5. For failing to file 48-hour notices for 10 contributions each in excess of $1,900, totaling $41,150, where those contributions were reported by the recipients, the Commission imposes a penalty of $14,507.50; and

6. For failing to file 48-hour notices for two contributions each in excess of $1,900, totaling $5,850, the Commission imposes a penalty of $2,925.

The Commission, having received payment prior to Final Decision action, hereby reduces the $25,112.50 total penalty upon Respondents to $20,090 pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:25-17.C(e)(3). Respondents submitted payment of $20,090. No further payment is required.

NEW JERSEY ELECTION LAW
ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

Date of Mailing: May 28, 2025

By: _____
THOMAS H. PROL
Chairman

FIRST CLASS MAIL