

BILL BRADBURY
SECRETARY OF STATE



ELECTIONS DIVISION
JOHN LINDBACK
DIRECTOR
141 STATE CAPITOL
SALEM, OREGON 97310-0722
ELECTIONS—(503) 986-1518

BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF STATE
OF THE
STATE OF OREGON

In the matter of a Late Contribution and Expenditure Report)
by the Oregon Gun Owners Political Action Committee,) Final Order by Default
John T. Nichols, Treasurer, for the Second Pre-Election for)
the May 16, 2006, Primary Election) Case No. L8728
)

October 23, 2006

Oregon Gun Owners Political Action Committee (000159)
John T. Nichols, Treasurer
8576 N Polk Ave
Portland, OR 97203

Dear Mr. Nichols:

This is a Final Order by Default issued by the Secretary of State (secretary) for your failure to file a timely second pre-election contribution and expenditure report for the May 16, 2006, Primary Election.

On August 14, 2006, the secretary notified the Oregon Gun Owners Political Action Committee (committee), pursuant to ORS 260.232(2), that it had failed to file the report and that the secretary may impose a civil penalty. An opportunity for a hearing was provided in that notice; however, no request for a hearing was received by the secretary within the time permitted in the notice. Accordingly, after consideration of the records and files of the secretary regarding this matter, the secretary is entering the following Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The committee's Statement of Organization (SEL 221), applicable during the reporting period, was filed with the secretary on March 30, 2006. The statement reported John T. Nichols as the treasurer and 8576 N Polk Ave, Portland, OR 97203 as the address to which all committee correspondence was to be sent.
2. The committee was required to file a second pre-election report with the secretary on May 4, 2006.
3. The secretary sent the committee a notice that it had failed to file a timely report on May 5, 2006. The notice was sent by first class mail to the treasurer at the above-referenced address.

4. The secretary received the report on May 8, 2006, which is two business day after the date on which the report was due.
5. The committee reported no contributions or expenditures during the accounting period for the report.
6. On August 14, 2006, the secretary sent the committee a Notice of Proposed Civil Penalty. The notice was sent by both certified and first class mail to the treasurer at the above-referenced address. The notice proposed no civil penalty and allowed the committee 20 days to request a hearing. The notice sent by certified mail was received and signed for by John T. Nichols on August 15, 2006.
7. The committee did not request a public hearing or submit notarized testimony in lieu of a public hearing.
8. The secretary has record of no previous late filings during the two-year period beginning September 15, 2005.

ULTIMATE FINDINGS OF FACT

John T. Nichols, Treasurer, failed to file a timely second pre-election contribution and expenditure report for the May 16, 2006, Primary Election.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Treasurer John T. Nichols's failure to file a timely second pre-election contribution and expenditure report for the May 16, 2006, Primary Election violated ORS 260.063.

By statute, a maximum \$10,000 civil penalty may be imposed for this violation. The *2006 Campaign Finance Manual*, which contains a penalty calculation matrix on pages 104–106, is designated in OAR 165-012-0005 as the procedure manual for Oregon campaign finance regulations.

Under the penalty matrix, the maximum statutory penalty of \$10,000 is reduced to 1% of the total contributions or total expenditures—whichever is greater—for each business day the report was late as this is the first late violation by the treasurer.

Because the committee reported no activity during the accounting period for the late report, no civil penalty will be assessed.

ORDER

It is ordered that no penalty be assessed.

RIGHT TO JUDICIAL REVIEW

You have the right to appeal this Order to the Oregon Court of Appeals pursuant to ORS 183.482. To appeal you must file a petition for judicial review with the Court of Appeals within 60 days from the day this Order was served to you. Because this Order was mailed to you, the date of service is the day it was *mailed*, not the day you received it. If you do not file a petition for judicial review within the 60-day time period, you will lose your right to appeal.

Jan Flowers, Compliance Specialist

DATE of Service: _____