Before the

State Ethics Commission

In the Matter of

Nathaniel T. Oaks

Respondent

Complaint No. C-27-08

## ORDER

At its meeting on July 24, 2008, the State Ethics Commission reviewed the above captioned complaint to determine whether further proceedings were necessary. The State Ethics Commission determined that the matter complained of herein has been settled by Respondent's execution of a Stipulation of Settlement, attached hereto and made a part hereof, and, it is therefore

ORDERED, that Respondent is reprimanded, and that this reprimand and Order be transmitted to the Speaker of the House of Delegates.

> STATE ETHICS COMMISSION SIGNATURE APPEARS ON **ORIGINAL AGREEMENT**

Robert F. Scholz, Chair

Date: July 24, 2008

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 25 day of July, 2008, copies of the foregoing Order in State Ethics Commission proceeding C-27-08, were forwarded via regular mail, postage prepaid, to the Respondent, Nathaniel T. Oaks, 513 Normandy Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21229 and hand delivered to William J. Colquhoun, Staff Counsel to the State Ethics Commission, 45 Calvert St., 3rd Floor, Annapolis, Maryland 21401. **SIGNATURE APPEARS ON** 

**ORIGINAL AGREEMENT** 

Jennifer K. Allgair General Counsel

IN THE MATTER OF

\* BEFORE THE

NATHANIEL T. OAKS, \* STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

RESPONDENT \* COMPLAINT NO. C-27-08

## STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Stipulation of Settlement Agreement (hereinafter the "Agreement") made this 14th day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2008, by and between Nathaniel T. Oaks, Respondent, and William J. Colquhoun, Staff Counsel of the Maryland State Ethics Commission (hereinafter the "Staff Counsel").

### RECITALS

Respondent is a member of the Maryland House of Delegates form District 41, City of Baltimore, and is a State official pursuant to the Public Ethics Law and subject to the jurisdiction of the State Ethics Commission for financial disclosure purposes.

The State Ethics Commission (hereinafter the "Commission") is an executive agency of the State of Maryland established by Chapter 513, Acts of 1979 for the purpose of enforcing the Maryland Public Ethics Law (Title 15, State Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland) (hereinafter the "Ethics Law").

On June 5, 2008, the Commission issued a Complaint alleging in part that the Respondent failed to file a properly completed Financial Disclosure Statement for calendar year 2007 by April 30, 2008.

Respondent admits that he is a State official required to file financial disclosure pursuant to Section 15-601 of the Ethics Law; and that the statement was not filed in a timely manner.

Respondent has been advised as to the opportunity to be represented by counsel pursuant to the regulations of the Commission and has decided not to be represented by counsel; and

Respondent is voluntarily entering into this Agreement to admit his failure to timely file, in violation of the Ethics Law, and to accept certain sanctions.

**NOW THEREFORE**, in consideration of the Respondent's submission of the required financial disclosure statements for calendar year 2007 on June 10, 2008; and the admissions and agreements herein contained, Respondent and Staff Counsel stipulate as follows:

- 1. That Respondent admits he did not timely file the required financial disclosure statement for calendar year 2007.
- 2. That Respondent admits that the required financial disclosure statements were not submitted, despite his receipt of several reminder notices, thereby necessitating the State Ethics Commission to issue a complaint for failure to file financial disclosure on June 5, 2008.
- 3. That Respondent has subsequently submitted the required financial disclosure statement on June 10, 2008, a copy of which have been attached hereto and made a part hereof.
- 4. That Respondent admits the Commission has issued two complaints against him in previous filing years 1986 and 1987 for failure to timely file financial disclosure statements; the first complaint was deemed eured by Respondent's subsequent submission of the required statement and a settlement agreement was executed for the second complaint.
- 5. That Respondent understands a filing violation of the Ethics Law can subject an official to late fees of \$2 per day for each late day not to exceed \$250 and to fines for each violation pursuant to section 15-405(g)(2) and 15-902(b)(1)(i) of the Ethics Law respectively. Respondent hereby agrees to pay, as a settlement, the amount of \$232.00 in lieu of adjudicated late fees and fines for the above admitted filing violations (paragraphs 1 and 2) of the Ethics Law. This figure represents \$82.00 in late fees, calculated at a rate of \$2 per day for a total of 41 days, plus a payment of \$150.00 to the State in lieu of potential fines. Respondent agrees that \$232.00 will be paid by certified check or money order to the State of Maryland in eare of the State Ethics Commission by no later than July 15, 2008.
- 6. That Respondent accepts that the Commission, pursuant to section 15-405 of the Etbics Law, will issue a written reprimand for the late filing, effective the date of the Final Order in this matter, and the reprimand will be transmitted to the Speaker of the House of Delegates.
- 7. That Respondent accepts that the Commission, pursuant to section 15-407 of the Ethics Law will transmit this Agreement, including any documents or exhibits incorporated herein, to the Speaker of the House of Delegates.
- 8. That Respondent waives a formal hearing on this matter and agrees that acceptance of this Agreement by the Commission would constitute, hased on

his admission of his failure to timely file, a final action and finding of violation by the Commission, and that pursuant to Section 15-407 of the Ethics Law this Agreement and materials relating to this matter are not subject to the Confidentiality provisions of the Ethics Law, and will be public information unless otherwise protected.

- 9. That the Staff Counsel will upon execution of this Agreement by Respondent, recommend that the Commission postpone any pending hearing on this Complaint and suspend further complaint proceedings against Respondent, and recommend further that the Commission issue a Final Order consistent with this agreement. Should Respondent fail to comply with the provision of Paragraph 4 of this Agreement, the Commission may issue a further order in this matter; may reschedule the hearing; may refer the matter to the Attorney General for collection; or may take such other action as appropriate. It is understood by the Respondent that the Commission is under no obligation to accept this Stipulation of Settlement Agreement and may decide to take other action, including holding a hearing as provided in the Public Ethics Law and the Commission's regulations.
- 10. That the Respondent and the Staff Counsel have entered into this Agreement for the sole purpose of resolving the Commission's Complaint under the Ethics Law for failure to file financial disclosure and for no other purpose.
- 11. That neither this Agreement nor acceptance of it by the Commission impairs any action or proceeding pending or which may be brought in the future by any other agency of the State of Maryland or other entity which may arise from the past conduct of the Respondent, and which may have been in part, the subject of these proceedings.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Nathaniel T. Oaks, Respondent, and William J. Colquhoun, Staff Counsel, State Ethics Commission, have hereunto set their hands.

# SIGNATURE APPEARS ON ORIGINAL AGREEMENT

William J. Colquhoun Staff Counsel State Ethics Commissiou 45 Calvert Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Annapolis, Maryland 21401 SIGNATURE APPEARS ON ORIGINAL AGREEMENT

Nathaniel T. Oaks, Respondent

State of Maryland, County of Ba Himre , to wit:		
Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared Nathaniel T. Oaks, Respondent, who made oath on this day of 2008, in due form of law that the matters and facts hereinabove set forth are true to the best of his knowledge, information and belief, and are his voluntary act and that he executed this document for the purposes set forth herein.		
		SIGNATURE APPEARS ON ORIGINAL AGREEMENT
My Commission expires:		
State of Maryland County of Anne Archer, to wit:  Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared William J. Colquboun, Staff Counsel to the State Ethics Commission, who made oath on this 215 day of Toldy, 2008 in due form of law that he executed this agreement for the purposes set forth herein.		
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