



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20463

June 19, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Commission

FROM: Lisa J. Stevenson
Acting General Counsel

Charles Kitcher
Acting Associate General Counsel for Enforcement

Peter Blumberg
Acting Deputy Associate General Counsel for Enforcement

BY: Mark Shonkwiler *MS*
Assistant General Counsel

Wanda D. Brown *wdb*
Attorney

SUBJECT: MUR 7292 (Clifford "Cliff" B. Stearns, *et al.*)
Pre-Probable Cause Conciliation and Case Closing

On March 19, 2019, the Federal Election Commission (the "Commission") found reason to believe that Clifford "Cliff" B. Stearns and Friends of Cliff Stearns and Joan Stearns in her official capacity as treasurer (the "Committee") (collectively "Respondents") violated 52 U.S.C. § 30114(b) by expending campaign funds for Stearns's personal use and authorized pre-probable cause conciliation with Respondents.¹

¹ See MUR 7292 Certification (March 19, 2019).

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23 We believe that the negotiated agreement represents an acceptable resolution of this
24 matter, and we recommend that the Commission accept the signed conciliation agreement.
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26 **RECOMMENDATIONS:**
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- 28 1. Accept the signed conciliation agreement with Clifford "Cliff" B. Stearns and Friends
29 of Cliff Stearns and Joan Stearns in her official capacity as treasurer;
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31 2. Approve the appropriate letters; and
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33 3. Close the file.
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