

**BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION  
STATE OF GEORGIA**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**Felix Lawson**

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**CASE NO.**

**PC2008-0019**

**CONSENT ORDER**

This matter comes before the State Ethics Commission (Commission), pursuant to a Probable Cause investigation alleging violations of the Ethics in Government Act (Act). Felix Lawson (Respondent) waived his right to a preliminary hearing and now agrees to resolve this matter by way of Consent Order.

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

In 2006, Respondent was an unsuccessful candidate for State Representative, District 90. Respondent admits that he committed the following violations of the Ethics in Government Act. First, Respondent failed to timely file three Campaign Contribution Disclosure Reports (CCDRs) with the Commission, in violation of O.C.G.A. § 21-5-34(c). These CCDRs were due on September 30, October 25 and December 31, 2006, but were not filed until July 2008. Second, Respondent failed to timely file copies of these three CCDRs with his local filing officer, in violation of O.C.G.A. § 21-5-34(a)(1)(A). Finally, Respondent accrued \$550 in late filing fees.

Respondent is hereby ordered to pay a total civil penalty of \$1,250 on the following payment schedule. Respondent shall pay \$100 to the Commission no later than the fifth day of each of the 11 calendar months following the date of this Consent Order. Respondent shall make a final payment of \$150 to the Commission no later than the fifth day of the 12<sup>th</sup> calendar month following the date of this Consent Order. The civil penalty must be paid out of Respondent's personal funds and not those of his campaign. In the event that Respondent makes a prepayment in excess of the scheduled amount required herein, Respondent may deduct the excess amount of the prepayment from the amount owed on any subsequent monthly payment(s), provided, however, that at all times Respondent's total amount due is consistent with the payment plan schedule herein described. All checks must be made out to the "State Ethics Commission." If Respondent fails to keep current with the payment plan schedule described herein, the Commission may demand immediate payment of the entire remaining balance due. In addition, Respondent shall file all delinquent copies of his CCDRs with his local filing officer within 30 days of the date of this Consent Order. Finally, Respondent shall pay all late fees accrued within six calendar months of the date of this Consent Order. Respondent is further ordered to cease and desist from any and all actions that violate the Act.

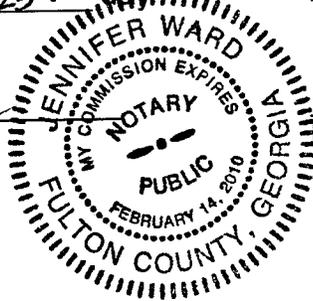
Respondent represents that the foregoing findings of fact are true, agrees to the conclusions of law, and further agrees to abide by all terms thereof. By signing this Order Respondent waives any right to an appeal pursuant to the procedures outlined in O.C.G.A. § 50-13 et seq. Failure to comply with the terms herein absent good faith attempts to comply will constitute a willful and knowing violation of said terms by the Respondent. Respondent's failure to comply with the terms herein shall constitute a breach of this agreement and thereby authorize the Commission to seek an enforcement action against the Respondent. The parties

agree that all costs and attorney fees incurred by the Commission in an enforcement action shall be assessed against the Respondent pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-5-6(b)(14)(C).

The Commission adopts the foregoing statements and conclusions as the Commission's findings of fact and conclusions of law, and orders the implementation of the terms of this Consent Order.

Signatures attested to on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2008. RESPONDENT

By: Jennifer Z. Ward



Felix Lawson  
Felix Lawson

SO ORDERED this 4<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2008.

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

By: William H. Jordan

William H. Jordan  
Chairman

Prepared by: Tom Plank

Tom Plank  
Commission Attorney