# COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Bureau of Charitable Organizations,

VS.

National Gay & Lesbian Task Force, Respondent. Docket No.: ()() 3 -98-00

ile No.: 00-98-03709

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Bureau of Charitable Organizations ("Bureau") and National Gay & Lesbian Task Force ("Respondent") stipulate as follows in settlement of the above-captioned case:

### **JURISDICTION**

- 1. This matter is before the Secretary of the Commonwealth ("Secretary") pursuant to the Solicitation of Funds for Charitable Purposes Act, Act of December 19, 1990, P.L. 1200, No. 202, as amended ("Act"), 10 P.S. §§ 162.1-162.24.
- 2. At all relevant and material times, Respondent did not hold a current registration to solicit charitable contributions within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- 3. Respondent solicited charitable contributions from residents of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

## STIPULATED FACTS

- 4. The Respondent admits that the following allegations are true:
- a. Respondent's last known business address, as on file with the Department of State is: 1700 Kalorama Road, Washington, DC 20009.

- b. Respondent was registered in the past and is currently registered as a charitable organization with the Bureau, registration number 14372.
- c. On May 15, 1999, Respondent's registration to solicit charitable contributions in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania expired.
- d. According to Bureau records, Respondent did not renew its registration until July 5, 2000.
- e. In response to a subpoena issued by the Secretary, Respondent stated that it solicited 163 residents of Pennsylvania and raised \$59,926.50 between May 15, 1999 and June 5, 2000.

## AGREED VIOLATIONS

5. Respondent agrees that by engaging in the foregoing activities it violated the Act at 10 P.S. § 162.15(a) by operating in violation of, or failing to comply with, any of the requirements of the Act, in that Respondent let its registration expire and continued to solicit charitable contributions from residents of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

#### PROPOSED ORDER

- 6. The parties consent to the issuance of the following Order in settlement of this matter:
- a. Respondent violated the Act at 10 P.S. § 162.15(a)(1) by soliciting contributions after its registration as a charitable organization had expired and Respondent had failed to renew its registration.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE FINE**

b. AN ADMINISTRATIVE FINE of \$5,000.00 is levied upon Respondent. Respondent shall tender the full sum of with this executed Consent Agreement which shall be paid by certified check, cashier's check, attorney's

check, or U.S. Postal money order made payable to the "Commonwealth of Pennsylvania."

c. This case shall be deemed settled and discontinued upon the Secretary issuing an Order adopting of this Consent Agreement and the Respondent's successful completion of any ordered discipline.

# ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF NOTICE AND WAIVER OF HEARING

Respondent waives the filing of an Order to Show Cause in this matter. Respondent knowingly and voluntarily waives the right to an administrative hearing in this matter, and to the following rights related to that hearing: to be represented by counsel at the hearing; the right to present witnesses and testimony in defense or in mitigation of any sanction that may be imposed for a violation; to cross-examine witnesses and to challenge evidence presented by the Bureau; to present legal arguments by means of a brief; and to take an appeal from any final adverse decision.

## AGREEMENT NOT BINDING ON OTHER PARTIES

8. This Consent Agreement is between the Bureau and Respondent only. It does not bind any other administrative entity of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, including any other bureau within the Department of State. Except as otherwise noted, this Agreement is to have no legal effect if a) the Office of General Counsel expresses an objection to the Agreement's form or legality and/or b) unless and until the Secretary issues the stipulated Order.

## EFFECT OF SECRETARY'S REJECTION

9. Should the Secretary not approve this Consent Agreement, presentation to and consideration of this Consent Agreement and other documents and matters by the Secretary shall not prejudice the Secretary from further participation in the adjudication of this matter. This paragraph is binding on the participants even if the Secretary does not approve this Consent

## Agreement.

## **ENTIRE AGREEMENT**

10. This agreement contains the whole agreement between the parties; provided however, that the captions printed in the various provisions of this agreement are for ease of reading only and are not to be interpreted as forming any part of this agreement. There are no other terms, obligations, covenants, representations, statements or conditions, or otherwise, of any kind whatsoever concerning this agreement.

# AGREEMENT DOES NOT PREVENT REFERRAL TO OTHER AGENCIES.

jurisdiction over the activities of, or representations made by, Respondent and its officers, directors, agents, employees or independent contractors. Nothing in this Consent Agreement or the Order based upon this Consent Agreement shall preclude representatives of the Bureau from referring any information or data produced as a result of this matter to any federal, state, or local agency or governmental unit having jurisdiction over the activities of Respondent or any officer, director, agent, employee or independent contractor of the Respondent.

## VERIFICATION OF FACTS AND STATEMENTS

12. Respondent verifies that the facts and statements set forth in this Agreement are true and correct to the best of Respondent's knowledge, information and belief. Respondent understands

that statements in this Agreement are made subject to the criminal penalties of 18 Pa.C.S.A. §4904

relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Prosecuting Attorney

Bureau of Charitable Organizations

DATED: 10(31/00)

for National Gay & Lesbian Task Force, Respondent

DATED: 10. 25.00



# IN THE MATTER OF THE SOLICITATION OF FUNDS FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES BY NATIONAL GAY & LESBIAN TASK FORCE, FILE NO.: 0098-03709

# **ORDER**

AND NOW, to wit, on this <u>22</u> day of <u>Moreover</u> 2000, the terms of paragraph 6 of the foregoing Consent Agreement are hereby adopted and incorporated as the Order of the Secretary of the Commonwealth in resolution of this matter. This Order shall take effect immediately.

BY ORDER

Kim Pizzingrilli

Secretary of the Commonwealth