

COPY



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF CORPORATIONS AND CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

2018 MAY 18 AM 8:41

IN THE MATTER OF:
MERKLE GROUP, INC.

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FILE NO.: 18-98-00525
DOCKET NO.: 0041 -98-18

CEASE AND DESIST ORDER

AND NOW, THIS 18th DAY OF MAY, 2018, THE ACTING SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH, HAVING FOUND THAT **MERKLE GROUP, INC., 7001 COLUMBIA GATEWAY DRIVE, COLUMBIA, MD 21046** HAS FAILED TO SUBMIT REQUESTED DOCUMENTATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, BUREAU OF CORPORATIONS AND CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS OR THE BUREAU OF ENFORCEMENT AND INVESTIGATION; IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PENNSYLVANIA SOLICITATION OF FUNDS FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES ACT, 10 P.S. § 162.1 *ET SEQ.*, **HEREBY ORDERS MERKLE GROUP, INC. TO CEASE AND DESIST** FROM PROVIDING PROFESSIONAL FUNDRAISING COUNSEL SERVICES IN PENNSYLVANIA UNTIL SUCH TIME AS IT PROVIDES THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, BUREAU OF CORPORATIONS AND CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS WITH ALL PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED INFORMATION AND DULY REGISTERS OR PROVIDES INFORMATION THAT IT IS EXCLUDED OR EXEMPT FROM REGISTRATION, AS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, BUREAU OF CORPORATIONS AND CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS.

RESPONDENT MAY ALSO BE SUBJECT TO FORMAL ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION, WHICH COULD RESULT IN THE IMPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE FINES OF UP TO ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00) PER VIOLATION OF THE ACT PLUS AN ADDITIONAL PENALTY OF ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00) PER DAY FOR EACH DAY THE VIOLATION CONTINUES.

THIS ORDER SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY.

BY ORDER:

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**ROBERT TORRES
ACTING SECRETARY OF THE
COMMONWEALTH**

THIS ORDER MAY BE APPEALED BY REQUESTING A HEARING, IN WRITING, WITHIN TEN DAYS OF THE DATE OF THIS ORDER IN ACCORDANCE WITH 2 P.A.C.S. § 501, *ET SEQ.* THE REQUEST MUST BE SENT TO: THE BUREAU OF CORPORATIONS AND CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS, 212 NORTH OFFICE BUILDING, HARRISBURG, PA 17120-0103, AND THE PROTHONOTARY'S OFFICE, P.O. BOX 2649, HARRISBURG, PA 17105-2649.

THIS ORDER IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO SECTION 17 OF THE ACT, SPECIFICALLY, SUBSECTIONS (A)(2) AND (B)(2).

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