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

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Bureau of Charitable Organizations

Vs.

Silverdale Volunteer Fire Company No. 1,
Respondent

Docket No. DEP-98-10
File No. 10-98-03893

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Bureau of Charitable Organizations ("Bureau") and the Silverdale Volunteer Fire Company No. 1, ("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, et seq.

2. Respondent solicited charitable contributions from residents of Pennsylvania.

3. Respondent was registered as a charitable organization in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania periodically between December 31, 1990 and December 31, 2008, under registration number 9430.
4. At all relevant and material times, Respondent did not hold a current registration to solicit charitable contributions within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

5. At all relevant and material times, Respondent was not exempt from registration or excluded from the requirements of the Act.

**STIPULATED FACTS**

6. Respondent admits that the following allegations are true:
   
a. Respondent's last known business address is 111 West Main Street, Silverdale, Pennsylvania 18962.

   b. Respondent's last known mailing address is P.O. Box 83, Silverdale, Pennsylvania 18962.

   c. Respondent voluntarily chose to register as a charitable organization with the Bureau for fiscal year ending December 31, 2006.

   d. On or about August 30, 2007, the Bureau sent Respondent a certified letter requesting Respondent to submit the outstanding information required to properly register with the Bureau as a charitable organization for fiscal year ending December 31, 2006.

   e. On or about November 2, 2007, the Bureau received Respondent's registration materials for fiscal year ending December 31, 2006.

   f. Respondent failed to timely register as a charitable organization with the Bureau for fiscal year ending December 31, 2007.

   g. During the time Respondent was not properly registered, Respondent utilized the services of Municipal Marketing Services, Inc., a registered professional
fundraising counsel 10188, to solicit contributions in the Commonwealth between May 15, 2007 and December 31, 2008.

h. During the time Respondent was not properly registered, Respondent and Municipal Marketing entered into another contract for professional fundraising counsel services for a two year term beginning January 1, 2009 and ending December 31, 2010.

i. On or about September 29, 2008, the Bureau received incomplete registration documents from Respondent for fiscal year ending December 31, 2007.

j. Respondent failed to list its contractual relationship with Municipal Marketing on its BCO-10 for fiscal year ending December 31, 2007.

k. On or about October 14, 2008, at the Bureau’s request, Respondent submitted a corrected BCO-10 in which Respondent’s contractual relationship with Municipal Marketing was disclosed.

AGREED VIOLATIONS

7. Respondent admits and agrees that by engaging in the foregoing activities:

   a. Respondent repeatedly violated the Act at 10 P.S. §162.15(a)(1), by and through 10 P.S. §162.5, by soliciting charitable contributions in Pennsylvania without being properly registered; and

   b. Respondent violated the Act at 10 P.S. § 162.17 (a)(3) by making a material false statement in an application, statement or report required to be filed under the Act.
PROPOSED ORDER

8. The participants, intending to be legally bound, consent to issuance of the following Order in settlement of this matter:

a. Respondent violated the Act at 10 P.S. § 162.15(a)(1) by and through 10 P.S. §162.5; and

b. Respondent violated the Act at 10 P.S. § 162.17(a)(3).

ADMINISTRATIVE FINE

c. An ADMINISTRATIVE FINE of two thousand dollars ($2,000) is levied upon Respondent. Respondent shall tender the full sum of two thousand dollars ($2,000), 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."

FILING OF REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS

d. Respondent shall submit to the Bureau all documents required to renew its registration within fifteen (15) days of the date of the Secretary’s Order adopting this Consent Agreement. Respondent is prohibited from providing soliciting contributions in Pennsylvania until such time as the Respondent becomes properly registered with the Bureau.

e. Respondent shall not enter into any contract or agreement or employ any professional fundraising counsel or professional solicitor unless that professional fundraising counsel or professional solicitor is registered with the Bureau.
CASE SETTLED AND DISCONTINUED

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF NOTICE AND WAIVER OF HEARING

10. 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; 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

11. This Consent Agreement is between the Bureau and Respondent only. It does not bind any other governmental or 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

12. 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

13. 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

14. The parties acknowledge that other federal, state, and/or local agencies may have 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

15. 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. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Silverdale Volunteer Fire Company No. 1

Charles Heiland
By: Charles Heiland
Title: Pres.
Respondent

Dated: June 23, 2010

Dated: June 18, 2010
IN THE MATTER OF THE
Silverdale Volunteer Fire Department No. 1
FILE NO. 10-98-03893

ORDER

AND NOW, to wit, on this __th day of ______________ 2010, the terms of paragraph 8 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

Basil L. Merenda
Acting Secretary of the Commonwealth