

5. On August 12, 2015, the Commission filed a complaint against the Respondent based upon his apparent failure to file a Final C&E Report for the 2014 general election. That same day, the Commission sent the Respondent a letter, via certified mail with a return receipt requested, to notify him that an investigation was being commenced regarding the issue of whether or not he violated Ark. Code Ann. § 7-6-207(a)(1)(D) by failing to file a Final C&E Report for the 2014 general election in his capacity as a candidate for State Representative – District 51.

6. On September 18, 2015, staff presented the preliminary results of its investigation to the Commission and was instructed to complete the investigation. The Respondent was notified of the Commission's decision by letter that same date.

7. On October 2, 2015, the Commission sent the Respondent a letter, via first class mail, to notify him that the results of the investigation would be presented to the Commission at its regular monthly meeting on October 16, 2015, for purposes of determining whether or not probable cause existed for the finding of a violation.

8. On October 16, 2015, the Commission considered the results of staff's investigation and found, by a vote of 5-0, that probable cause existed for finding that the Respondent violated Ark. Code Ann. § 7-6-207(a)(1)(D) by failing to file a Final C&E Report for the 2014 general election.

9. On October 20, 2015, staff sent a letter to the Respondent, via first class mail, notifying him of the Commission's finding of probable cause. In accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, said letter contained a written Offer of Settlement proposing the issuance of a Public Letter of Caution and the imposition of a \$150 fine, and requiring that the Respondent file the disclosure form in question. The

Respondent was given ten (10) days to accept the written Offer of Settlement or request a public hearing before the Commission.

10. On November 10, 2015, staff sent a letter to the Respondent, via first class mail, notifying him that the time to accept the written Offer of Settlement had expired and, therefore, a final adjudication hearing would be held on November 20, 2015. Said letter contained a separate written notice of final adjudication hearing providing the information required in Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-208(a)(2).

11. The Respondent did not appear at the final adjudication hearing which was held on November 20, 2015. Said hearing was conducted in accordance with Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-213.

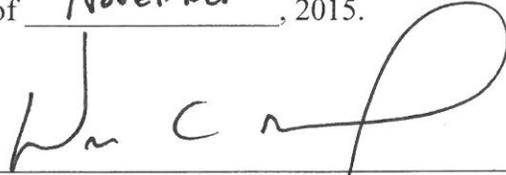
12. Upon considering the evidence presented at the hearing, the Commission found, by a vote of 4-0, with Commissioner Tony Juneau not present, that the Respondent violated Ark. Code Ann. § 7-6-207(a)(1)(D) by failing to file a Final C&E Report for the 2014 general election.

13. With respect to said violation, the Commission determined that the Respondent should be issued a Public Letter of Caution and fined \$250. Said fine is due and payable within thirty (30) days from the entry of this Order. The Respondent should further be ordered to file a Final C&E Report for the 2014 general election with the Secretary of State within ten (10) days from the entry of this Order.

IT IS, THEREFORE, CONSIDERED, DECIDED and ORDERED by the Commission that the Respondent, Rodger Paxton, shall be issued a Public Letter of Caution and is hereby fined \$250 for failing to file a Final C&E Report for the 2014 general election, and that said fine shall be due within thirty (30) days from the entry of

this Order. FURTHER, the Respondent is required to file a Final C&E Report for the 2014 general election with the Secretary of State within ten (10) days from the entry of this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 24th day of November, 2015.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W C Bird III", written over a horizontal line.

WILLIAM C. BIRD III, Chairman
Arkansas Ethics Commission