

State of Rhode Island
Board of Elections

CONSENT DECREE

In re: NRA POLITICAL VICTORY FUND PAC (National Rifle Association)

Rhode Island General Laws allow a political action committee (PAC) registered in Rhode Island to contribute to political parties, candidates and PACs and requires that PACs identify the origins of contributions over \$100 in a calendar year and accept no more than \$1,000 from any single individual, Rhode Island registered PAC or Rhode Island party committee in a calendar year.

The National Rifle Association (NRA) opened the NRA POLITICAL VICTORY FUND PAC in Rhode Island (NRA RI PAC) and has been active pre-dating the Electronic Reporting & Tracking System (ERTS). Since the ERTS roll-out in 2002, 65 filings have been received reporting contributions of \$163,495 to local and state candidates and contributions received of \$163,495 in the aggregate (no single contribution of over \$100 from an individual, Rhode Island party committee or Rhode Island registered PAC).

Since 2002, the NRA RI PAC and the NRA federal PAC have shared a single bank account which was the source account that the NRA RI PAC used to distribute its contributions. Because NRA RI PAC's reports did not reflect the shared account, NRA RI PAC's reports should not have reflected all incoming contributions as aggregate, and its reports are thus deemed as inaccurate and in violation of Rhode Island General Laws.

In order for these reports to have complied with Rhode Island General Laws, the NRA RI PAC should have received individual contributions aggregating no more than \$100 from individuals in a calendar year and deposited into its own separate bank account, and made disbursements from this account.

As such, any funds received by the NRA federal PAC intended for the NRA RI PAC should have been forwarded to NRA RI PAC for deposit in its

separate account, and not deposited into the NRA federal PAC account. The lack of separate NRA RI PAC account and the deposit of money used by the NRA RI PAC into an account shared with the NRA federal PAC resulted in the aforementioned violations.

This agreement acknowledges that the NRA RI PAC should have taken the administrative step to establish its own bank account, and that all contributions should have been deposited directly into that account; had this administrative step been taken, all contributions made and accepted, and all reports filed would have been compliant with Rhode Island General Laws.

The Board of Elections takes into consideration that the evidence of the contributions from the NRA federal PAC to the NRA RI PAC was publicly available from the Federal Elections Commission and the Rhode Island Board of Elections together with the pro-active corrective action by the NRA dissolving the NRA RI PAC following inquiries by the Board of Elections in finding that there is no evidence that the violations were willful.

The NRA federal PAC, hereby waives its right to a hearing and consents to a finding that its actions violated the provisions of Title 17, Chapter 25 and accepts a fine in the amount of Sixty Three Thousand Dollars (\$63,000) and agrees that should the NRA open a PAC in Rhode Island, in addition to the normal and usual Rhode Island reporting requirements, it will submit the following documents to the Board of Elections that support its activities for a calendar year after its organizational filing:

- Evidence of a separate bank account used exclusively by any Rhode Island PAC; and
- A statement by the Rhode Island PAC's Treasurer that contributions in that account were deposited directly into that account after having been received by the donor.

The aforementioned fine shall be paid within thirty (30) days of the execution of this consent decree; a failure to make timely payment shall render the decree null and void.

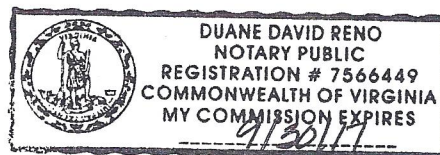
Signed by:

Christopher W. Cox

Christopher W. Cox
NRA Political Victory Fund

Witnessed this 14th of January, 2014, in Fairfax,

County of Fairfax, State of Virginia.



So entered this _____ of January, 2014.

Chairman
Rhode Island Board of Elections