FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the matter of:

Policies, Solutions, and Action for America Christopher Marston, Treasurer, Policies, Solutions, and Action for America, in his official capacity as treasurer and in his personal capacity Moses Ayala, Vice President and Secretary, Policies, Solutions, and Action for America, in his official capacity as treasurer and in his personal capacity RightOn Issues, Inc. Caleb Crosby, Treasurer of RightOn Issues, Inc., in his official capacity as treasurer and in his personal capacity Georgia United Victory RightOn Time Paul Kilgore, Treasurer, Georgia United Victory and Treasurer, RightOn Time, in his official capacity as treasurer and in his personal capacity Georgia Action Fund Kayla Glaze, Treasurer, Georgia Action Fund, in her official capacity as treasurer and in her personal capacity Unknown Respondents

COMPLAINT

1. Three Georgia voters, David Key, Vladimir Shklovsky, and Rev. David Lewicki, bring this complaint before the Federal Election Commission ("FEC" or "Commission") seeking an immediate investigation and enforcement action against Policies, Solutions, and Action for America ("PSAA"), Christopher Marston, Moses Ayala, RightOn Issues, Inc., Caleb Crosby, Georgia United Victory, RightOn Time, Paul Kilgore, Georgia Action Fund, Kayla Glaze, and Unknown Respondents for direct and serious violations of the Federal Election Campaign Act

("FECA").

2. Federal law requires those who contribute to politically active groups for the

purpose of influencing federal elections to be disclosed to the public. It does this, in part, by requiring politically active groups whose major purpose is to influence federal elections to

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disclose their donors, and it requires these groups to identify the original source of a donation even when that donation is routed through various intermediaries.

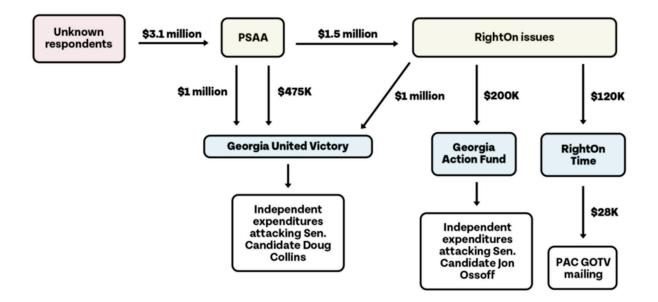
3. In violation of these laws, nearly \$2.8 million was routed through dark money groups to influence the 2020 federal Senate elections in Georgia, all originating from a single donor who has evaded disclosure.

4. In 2020, PSAA, a registered social welfare nonprofit, accepted \$3.1 million from a single source. That was the only source of funding for PSAA that year. Within three days of receiving the money, PSAA made a \$1 million contribution to a super PAC, Georgia United Victory, on July 16, 2020. Shortly thereafter, PSAA made a second contribution to the same super PAC of \$475,000, bringing PSAA's contributions to Georgia United Victory to 47.6% of the funds PSAA received.

5. At some point in the second half of 2020, PSAA took nearly all of the remaining funds, \$1.5 million, and transferred them to another nonprofit, RightOn Issues. Over the course of three days in September 2020, RightOn Issues in turn made contributions to three super PACs: \$1 million to Georgia United Victory (the same super PAC funded earlier by PSAA), \$200,000 on the same day to Georgia Action Fund, and \$120,000 to RightOn Time. RightOn Issues's contributions amounted to \$1.32 million, only slightly less than the \$1.5 million PSAA provided RightOn Issues.

6. To the extent they reported their activities, each recipient super PAC reported spending the funds from PSAA and RightOn Issues to influence the federal Senate elections in Georgia in 2020. In total, 90.2% of the \$3.1 million that a single source provided to PSAA was contributed to super PACs to influence Georgia Senate races.

7. In other words, unknown respondents were able to use the organization depicted below to distribute \$2.795 million to influence elections while evading disclosure.



8. There is reason to believe federal law requires the original single source of these funds to be disclosed.¹

9. First, there is reason to believe that the source of these funds used PSAA and RightOn Issues as conduits to direct \$2.795 million in contributions to three federal super PACs to influence the United States Senate elections in Georgia in 2020. Among other things, the structuring of the transaction, with funds passing through entities that each devote less than half of their expenses to publicly disclosed electioneering, supports a conclusion the nonprofits are mere conduits. If the original source made these contributions directly to the super PACs, it would be disclosed. If the first nonprofit contributed all of the funds to the super PACs, it would have triggered political committee reporting obligations by the nonprofit and disclosure of the

¹ In the event the single donor is itself a passthrough, federal law requires the true source of the funds, which may be one person or more, to be disclosed.

source of the funds. But by routing the funds through two nonprofits who each avoid devoting a majority of their expenses to reported electioneering activity, the nonprofits evaded triggering reporting obligations as political committees, and the original source evaded being disclosed by the super PACs. Nevertheless, the use of these entities as conduits to hide the true source of the funds violates the FECA and FEC regulations against making contributions in the name of another, and the recipient super PACs' obligations to report the true source of contributions.

10. Second and alternatively, assuming the original source did not control the funds' ultimate distribution, there is reason to believe PSAA either used RightOn Issues as a conduit for \$1.32 million in contributions to the three super PACs, or that the transfer was not so unrelated to influencing elections as to excuse PSAA from reporting as a political committee. Either way, the funds, when properly attributed to PSAA, demonstrate PSAA was required to report as a political committee, but failed to do so in violation of the FECA and FEC regulations.

11. Had PSAA itself transferred the \$1.32 million to the three super PACs that received funds from RightOn Issues, then public reporting would have plainly demonstrated that PSAA spent more than half of its funds in 2020 to influence elections. Indeed, had PSAA *not* transferred the funds to RightOn Issues, then a majority of its 2020 expenses would have gone to federal electioneering. Under either scenario, PSAA would have been obligated to register and report as a political committee, which would have required it to disclose the source of the \$3.1 million it received.

12. PSAA and its donor could attempt to evade that disclosure while still using the funds to influence elections, however, by routing half of the funds through RightOn Issues. And there is reason to believe that is what occurred: RightOn Issues made contributions to three super

PACs over three days that totaled nearly the sum it received from PSAA. One super PAC, Georgia United Victory, was the same one that already received \$1.475 million from PSAA, and used RightOn Issues's contribution to fund election advocacy opposing the same candidate it had used PSAA's contributions to attack. A second super PAC, RightOn Time, had the same treasurer as Georgia United Victory, and likely also spent the funds to influence the federal elections in Georgia. The third super PAC, Georgia Action Fund, received funds the same day RightOn Issues contributed to Georgia United Victory, had a treasurer who was also RightOn Issues's custodian of records, and spent to expressly advocate in the Georgia elections for US Senate.

13. Using RightOn Issues to make conduit contributions to these super PACS violates the FECA and FEC regulations against contributions in the name of another, and the super PAC's obligation to report the true source of contributions. Properly attributing the \$1.32 million to PSAA (or even a portion thereof) demonstrates PSAA major purpose was to influence federal elections. Further, even if the transfer did not constitute a conduit contribution, it still was not so unrelated to influencing elections that it could excuse PSAA from registering and reporting as a political committee. Either way, PSAA's failure to register and report as a political committee, including its failure to disclose the identity of the true source of its \$3.1 million donation, violated and continues to violate the FECA and FEC regulations.

14. Third and alternatively, putting aside the purposes of the transfers, the law still requires the disclosure of the original source of the donation to PSAA because the nonprofits' activities still demonstrate that they are political committees.

15. RightOn Issues's activities in 2020 demonstrate that its major purpose was to influence elections and thus that it was obligated to register and report as a political committee. A majority of RightOn Issues's 2020 expenses went to either super PAC contributions— themselves amounting to more than a third of RightOn Issues's 2020 expenses—or to expenditures that either constitute express advocacy or were at least not so unrelated to influencing federal elections that they would excuse RightOn Issues from registering and reporting as a political committee. Accordingly, RightOn Issues was and continues to be in violation of federal law by failing to register and report as a political committee.

16. In turn, because RightOn Issues was, as a matter of law, a political committee in 2020, PSAA's grant to RightOn Issues was in fact a contribution to a political committee. Combining PSAA's grant to RightOn Issues with PSAA's contributions to Georgia United Victory demonstrates that PSAA's major purpose in 2020 was to influence federal elections and that it is required to register and report as a political committee, including disclosing the source of the \$3.1 million it received in 2020. PSAA's failure to register and report as a political committee violated and continues to violate the FECA and FEC regulations.

Complainants

17. Complainant David Key, Sr., is and at all times relevant to the complaint has been a citizen of the United States and a registered voter in Clark County, Georgia. He voted for a U.S. Senate candidate in the Republican primary for the 2020 Georgia federal elections, as well as the 2020 general and 2021 run off federal elections.

18. As a registered voter, Mr. Key is entitled to receive information contained in disclosure reports required by the FECA. 52 U.S.C. § 30104; 11 C.F.R. §§ 104.1–.22, 109.10.

Mr. Key is harmed in exercising his right to vote when an individual, candidate, political committee, or other regulated entity fails to report campaign finance activity as required by the FECA. *See FEC v. Akins*, 524 U.S. 11, 20 (1998) (*quoting Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 66–67 (1976) (political committees must disclose contributors and disbursements to help voters understand who provides candidates financial support)).

19. The information contained in reports required to be filed under the FECA are useful to Mr. Key. Mr. Key uses such information to understand the influences that bear on a candidate and believes such information could impact his candidate preference. Mr. Key has and expects to review news stories that discuss donors who support or oppose candidates and has and expects to discuss such matters with other voters.

20. Mr. Key does not know the identity of the source of the \$3.1 million contribution to PSAA.

21. Mr. Key is harmed in his ability to exercise his own franchise in an informed manner and to share information with others, including voters, when an individual, candidate, political committee, or other regulated entity fails to report campaign finance activity as required by the FECA. *See Akins*, 524 U.S. at 21 (FECA protects the right to receive information that would allow "others to whom they would communicate it" to evaluate candidates for public office).

22. Mr. Key is further harmed when the FEC fails to properly administer the FECA's reporting requirements, limiting his ability to review and distribute campaign finance information.

23. Complainant Vladimir Shklovsky is and at all times relevant to the complaint has been a citizen of the United States and a registered voter in Fulton County, Georgia. He voted for a U.S. Senate candidate in the primary for the 2020 Georgia federal elections, as well as the 2020 general and 2021 run-off federal elections.

24. As a citizen and registered voter, Mr. Shklovsky is entitled to receive information contained in disclosure reports required by the FECA. 52 U.S.C. § 30104; 11 C.F.R. §§ 104.1– .22, 109.10. Mr. Shklovsky is harmed in exercising his right to vote when an individual, candidate, political committee, or other regulated entity fails to report campaign finance activity as required by the FECA. *See Akins*, 524 U.S. at 20 (*quoting Buckley*, 424 U.S. at 66–67 (political committees must disclose contributors and disbursements to help voters understand who provides candidates financial support)).

25. The information contained in reports required to be filed under the FECA are useful to Mr. Shklovsky. Mr. Shklovsky believes the fact a donor may attempt to hide their identity demonstrates the donor understands the importance their identity may play with potential voters. He also uses the information to understand whether officials are abusing their office in favor of donors. The information required to be disclosed could impact his candidate preference. Mr. Shklovsky has and expects to review news stories that discuss donors who support or oppose candidates and has and expects to discuss such matters with other voters.

26. Mr. Shklovsky does not know the identity of the source of the \$3.1 million contribution to PSAA.

27. Mr. Shklovsky is harmed in his ability to exercise his own franchise in an informed manner and to share information with others, including voters, when an individual,

candidate, political committee, or other regulated entity fails to report campaign finance activity as required by the FECA. *See Akins*, 524 U.S. at 21 (FECA protects the right to receive information that would allow "others to whom they would communicate it" to evaluate candidates for public office).

28. Mr. Shklovsky is further harmed when the FEC fails to properly administer the FECA's reporting requirements, limiting his ability to review and distribute campaign finance information.

29. Complainant Reverend David Lewicki is and at all times relevant to the complaint has been a citizen of the United States and a registered voter in DeKalb County, Georgia. He voted for a U.S. Senate candidate in the primary for the 2020 Georgia federal elections, as well as the 2020 general and 2021 run off federal elections. Rev. Lewicki observed campaign advertisements during the course of the campaign, including at least one ad produced by, or at least similar to those produced by, respondents.

30. As a registered voter, Rev. Lewicki is entitled to receive information contained in disclosure reports required by the FECA. 52 U.S.C. § 30104; 11 C.F.R. §§ 104.1–.22, 109.10. Rev. Lewicki is harmed in exercising his right to vote when an individual, candidate, political committee, or other regulated entity fails to report campaign finance activity as required by the FECA. *See Akins*, 524 U.S. at 20 (*quoting Buckley*, 424 U.S. at 66–67 (political committees must disclose contributors and disbursements to help voters understand who provides candidates financial support)).

31. The information contained in reports required to be filed under the FECA are useful to Rev. Lewicki. He believes transparency is a principle of a healthy democracy and uses

such information to understand who may be trying to influence an official's decision-making, as well as to hold accountable anyone who may be funding unsupported attacks. The information required to be disclosed could impact his candidate preference. Rev. Lewicki has and expects to review news stories that discuss donors who support or oppose candidates and has and expects to discuss such matters with other voters.

32. Rev. Lewicki does not know the identity of the source of the \$3.1 million contribution to PSAA.

33. Rev. Lewicki is harmed in his ability to exercise his own franchise in an informed manner and to share information with others, including voters, when an individual, candidate, political committee, or other regulated entity fails to report campaign finance activity as required by the FECA. *See Akins*, 524 U.S. at 21 (FECA protects the right to receive information that would allow "others to whom they would communicate it" to evaluate candidates for public office).

34. Rev. Lewicki is further harmed when the FEC fails to properly administer the FECA's reporting requirements, limiting his ability to review and distribute campaign finance information.

Respondents

35. Policies, Solutions, and Action for America ("PSAA") is a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(4) of the tax code, incorporated in Washington, DC on May 6, 2020. PSAA, DC Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, Agency Directory (Mar. 31, 2022), <u>https://bit.ly/3wHy4qk</u>; PSAA, 2020 Form 990 (Nov. 9, 2021), <u>https://bit.ly/3DtSR15</u>. As of the time of this filing, PSAA was not a registered political committee. 36. Christopher Marston is and at all relevant times has been Treasurer to PSAA. PSAA, 2020 Form 990. Mr. Marston is listed as treasurer for 110 independent-expenditure only political committees registered with the FEC, including many that predated the events described herein. Committees, Most Recent Treasurer Search, "Marston, Chris," Federal Election Commission (last visited Jan. 30, 2023), <u>https://perma.cc/7APE-VZCD</u>. Mr. Marston is named as a respondent in both his official and personal capacities.

37. Moses Ayala is and at all relevant times has been Vice President and Secretary to PSAA, and PSAA's custodian of records. PSAA, 2020 Form 990, Part VI, Sec. C; *id.* at Part VII, Sec. A. According to the company website of the Gober Group, Mr. Ayala joined the company in 2021 and has expertise in "campaign-finance compliance." The Gober Group, Moses Ayala (last visited Jan. 30, 2023), <u>https://bit.ly/3Y5kB7u</u>. At the time of the events described herein, Mr. Ayala was a "Compliance Manager" with Aristotle International where he, according to his LinkedIn page, was responsible for "[p]repar[ing] and fil[ing] federal and state campaign finance reports with appropriate agencies." Moses Ayala, LinkedIn (last visited Jan. 30, 2023), <u>https://bit.ly/3HGHAQQ</u>. Aristotle International prepared PSAA's tax filings. PSAA, 2020 Form 990. Mr. Ayala is named as a respondent in both his official and personal capacities.

38. RightOn Issues, Inc. is a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(4) of the tax code, incorporated in Washington, DC on July 2, 2020. RightOn Issues, Inc., DC Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, Agency Directory (Mar. 31, 2022), https://bit.ly/3RhyQUA; RightOn Issues, Inc., 2020 Form 990 (Nov. 15, 2021), https://bit.ly/3DtVJyn. As of the time of this filing, RightOn Issues, Inc. was not a registered political committee.

39. Caleb Crosby is and at all relevant times has been Treasurer of RightOn Issues, Inc. RightOn Issues, Inc., 2020 Form 990. Mr. Crosby is listed as a treasurer for seven independent-expenditure only political committees registered with the FEC, including the Senate Leadership Fund. Committees, Most Recent Treasurer Search, "Crosby, Caleb," Federal Election Commission (last visited Jan. 30, 2023), https://perma.cc/8FP6-NYJB.

40. Georgia United Victory is a federally registered independent expenditure-only committee ("super PAC") formed under the FECA in July 2020. Georgia United Victory, <u>FEC Form 1, Statement of Organization</u> (July 1, 2020), <u>https://perma.cc/6GFZ-TT2M</u>. Georgia United Victory filed for termination of its political committee status with the FEC on April 19, 2021. Georgia United Victory, <u>FEC Form 3X, Termination Report</u> (Apr. 19, 2021), <u>https://perma.cc/C8DL-2G3Y</u>.

41. RightOn Time is a federally registered super PAC formed under the FECA in May 2020. RightOn Time, <u>FEC Form 1, Statement of Organization</u> (May 5, 2020), https://perma.cc/97B4-P9DX. RightOn Time terminated its status with the FEC on December 8, 2022. RightOn Time, <u>FEC Form 3x, Termination Report</u> (Dec. 8, 2022), https://perma.cc/26L7-G6X5.

42. Paul Kilgore was at all relevant times treasurer of Georgia United Victory. *See* Georgia United Victory, <u>FEC Form 1</u>; Georgia United Victory, <u>FEC Form 3x, Termination</u> <u>Report</u>. Mr. Kilgore also was at all relevant times treasurer to RightOn Time. *See* RightOn Time, <u>FEC Form 1</u>; RightOn Time, <u>FEC 24/48 Hour Report of Independent Expenditure</u> (May 19, 2022), <u>https://perma.cc/7ACE-JXVP</u>. Mr. Kilgore is also listed as treasurer to 62 super PACs registered with the FEC, including a number that predated the events described herein. Committees, Most Recent Treasurer Search, "Kilgore, Paul," Federal Election Commission (last visited Jan. 30, 2023), <u>https://perma.cc/4NUH-VTLL</u>. Mr. Kilgore was also the treasurer for the campaign of Nicole Rodden for Sixth Congressional District in Georgia. *See* Nicole Rodden for Congress, Inc., <u>FEC Form 1, Statement of Organization</u> (May 28, 2019), <u>https://perma.cc/6TUU-VEWD</u>. According to RightOn Issues's tax filings, Ms. Rodden is the secretary of the group. RightOn Issues, 2020 Form 990 Part VII Sec. A.

43. Georgia Action Fund is a federally registered super PAC formed under the FECA in January 2019. Georgia Action Fund, FEC Form 1, Statement of Organization (Jan. 9, 2019), https://perma.cc/3C6Z-S6T5.

44. Kayla Glaze is and at all relevant times has been Treasurer of Georgia Action Fund. Georgia Action Fund, <u>FEC Form 3X, October Quarterly Report</u> 1 (Oct. 15, 2020), <u>https://perma.cc/JDX4-YF7P</u>. Ms. Glaze is listed as a treasurer for five independent-expenditure only political committees registered with the FEC. Committees, Most Recent Treasurer Search, "Glaze, Kayla," Federal Election Commission (last visited Jan. 30, 2023),

https://perma.cc/EFR4-LXBH. Ms. Glaze is also listed as the custodian of records for RightOn Issues on the group's 2020 990 with the same address provided as for Georgia Action Fund. *See* RightOn Issues, 2020 Form 990, Part VI, Sec. C; Georgia Action Fund, <u>FEC Form 3X, October</u> Quarterly Report 1.

45. Unknown Respondents are the person or persons, natural or corporate, who are the true source or sources of contributions to PSAA, RightOn Issues, Georgia United Victory, RightOn Time, or Georgia Action Fund described herein.

Legal Background

46. Federal campaign finance laws impose a number of obligations on entities making transfers to influence federal elections so that the public will understand "where political campaign money comes from." *Buckley*, 424 U.S. at 66-67.²

47. In relevant part, federal law requires, in certain circumstances, that entities publicly disclose the "true source" of contributions they received. *See United States v. Hsia*, 30 F. App'x 1, 3 (D.C. Cir. 2001); *see also* 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a), (b); 11 C.F.R. §§ 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.8. That means a recipient of a contribution does not merely report the immediate provider of the funds but must report the identity of the person who first made the contribution. *See* 11 C.F.R. § 110.1(b)(6) ("[A] contribution shall be considered to be made when the contributor relinquishes control over the contribution.").

48. One such circumstance is when the recipient group qualifies as a political committee. *See* 52 U.S.C. §§ 30103, 30104(a), (b); 11 C.F.R. §§ 102.1, 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.8. To qualify as a political committee, a group must satisfy the test set out in the FECA, and it must not be excused from reporting under *Buckley*, 424 U.S. at 79.

49. First, according to the FECA and FEC regulations, a political committee is "any committee, club, association, or other group of persons which receives contributions aggregating in excess of \$1,000 during a calendar year or which makes expenditures aggregating in excess of \$1,000 during a calendar year." 52 U.S.C. § 30101(4)(A); 11 C.F.R. § 100.5(a). An "expenditure" includes "any … deposit, or gift of money or anything of value, made by any person for the purpose of influencing any election for Federal office." 52 U.S.C.

² Federal tax laws can also impose their own disclosure obligations. *See, e.g.*, 26 U.S.C. § 527.

§ 30101(9)(A)(i); 11 C.F.R. § 110.111(a). A "contribution" includes "any gift, … or deposit of money or anything of value made by any person for the purpose of influencing any election for Federal office." 52 U.S.C. § 30101(8)(A)(i); 11 C.F.R. § 100.52(a). Accordingly, any group receiving or expending more than \$1,000 in a year to influence federal elections qualifies as a political committee under the FECA. Political committees are subject to registration and continual reporting. *See* 52 U.S.C. § 30103, 30104; *see also e.g.*, 11 C.F.R. § 102.1(d), 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.8

50. Notwithstanding the statutory test, the Supreme Court has excused otherwise qualifying groups from reporting as political committees if they devote a significant majority of their spending to activities so unrelated to elections that disclosure would not "fulfill the purposes of the [FECA]." Buckley, 424 U.S. at 79. Groups who do so and are otherwise not under the control of a candidate would not have a "major purpose" to "nominat[e] or elec[t]" candidates. Id. The "major purpose" analysis is a fact-intensive, case-by-case analysis of an organization, FEC, Political Committee Status, Supplemental Explanation and Justification, 72 Fed. Reg. 5595, 5601 (Feb. 7, 2007) ("Supplemental E&J"), and an organization can demonstrate its major purpose through organizational planning documents, solicitations, or through sufficiently extensive spending on federal campaign activity, id. at 5601; FEC v. Mass. *Citizens for Life, Inc.*, 479 U.S. 238, 262 (1986). The expenditure analysis compares the group's annual expenditures, less those that are so unrelated to federal electioneering that they should excuse an otherwise qualifying group from reporting, against its total "calendar year" expenditures. 52 U.S.C. § 30101(4)(A); FEC, Supplemental E&J at 5605 (groups spending less than 50% of their funds on activities unrelated to campaigning are not excused from reporting

under the "major purpose" test); *see also CREW v. FEC*, 209 F. Supp. 3d 77, 94 (D.D.C. 2016) (noting that a group's purposes can change).

51. Accordingly, any person who contributes over \$200 to a political committee would be publicly disclosed. Any person contributing to an entity excused from reporting would not be disclosed (unless the contribution met an independent basis for disclosure), but that would mean more than half of their contribution would have to go to activities that do not influence federal elections.

52. A person could attempt to evade disclosure and still devote more than half of their contribution to influencing federal elections, however, by utilizing a number of entities to launder the contribution. A recipient entity could devote less than half of its annual spending to reportable electioneering and then transfer the remaining funds to a second entity. If the second entity is not a political committee, the transfer would appear on its face to be unrelated to influencing federal elections, and the first entity would be excused from reporting under the major purpose test. The second entity could then do the same, meaning more than 70% of the original contribution could be used to influence elections. Either entity could also use already planned non-electioneering expenses to offset its reportable electioneering.

53. Any such attempt to evade disclosure would face legal hurdles, however. First, federal law bars contributions in the name of another. 52 U.S.C. § 30122; 11 C.F.R. § 110.4 Thus, any person using a scheme to evade reporting while directing funds to the ultimate sources would be in violation of federal law (and so too would the recipient and conduit entities), and the law requires they be disclosed as the true source of the funds. Second, any of the conduit entities could be deemed to be a political committee if their transfers were not so unrelated to influencing

federal elections as to excuse them from reporting, or if any of their other activities were so deemed, that they would fail to devote more than half of their annual spending to nonelectioneering. The law would then require the conduit entities to register as political committees and to report the true source or sources of their contributions.

Factual Allegations

54. PSAA was founded in May 2020, and its 2020 tax year ran until December 31, 2020. *See* PSAA, 2020 Form 990. In 2020, PSAA received a single donation of \$3.1 million. PSAA, 2020 Form 990, Sched. B. PSAA did not disclose the source of this contribution on its tax filings. *See id.* PSAA also did not report any other donations or revenue on its tax filings. *See id.* PSAA also did not report any other donations or revenue on its tax filings. *See id.* Part 1 (reporting "Total Revenue" of \$3.1 million). PSAA further reported under penalty of perjury that as of July 13, 2020, it had no assets. PSAA, Form 1024, Part VI, B. Balance Sheet (Sept. 4, 2020), <u>https://bit.ly/3kWh4Kk</u>. PSAA reported this lack of assets on an IRS filing signed on September 4, 2020. *See id.*, Part II. PSAA's tax filing identified no reason why it reported its balance sheet as of July 13, 2020, a date nearly two months before its submission.

PSAA's Activities

55. On July 16, 2020, three days after PSAA had no assets according to its report to the IRS, PSAA made a \$1 million deposit or gift to a federal super PAC, Georgia United Victory. Georgia United Victory, <u>FEC Form 3X, October Quarterly Report</u> 9 (Oct. 8, 2020), <u>https://perma.cc/RJ99-NR4Z</u>. The super PAC reported PSAA's \$1 million deposit or gift was a "contribution," *id.*, and thus a deposit or gift made for the purposes of influencing federal elections, 52 U.S.C. § 30101(8). That deposit or gift was the first contribution Georgia United Victory received, *id.*, just fifteen days after the super PAC was founded on July 1, Georgia

United Victory, <u>FEC Form 1</u>. This deposit or gift was the super PAC's third largest contribution in the first quarter of its existence, and fifth largest the group has ever received. *See* Georgia United Victory, <u>FEC Form 3X</u>, <u>October Quarterly Report</u>.

56. Georgia United Victory used those funds to pay initial set up costs, *see* Georgia United Victory, <u>FEC Form 3X, October Quarterly Report</u> 12, 14, 17 (reporting expenses for "research," "PAC Legal Fees, " "PAC Compliance Consulting," "PAC Polling," and "PAC Strategy Consulting"), and to cover at least part of the costs of the super PAC's first independent expenditures on August 4, 2020 opposing Doug Collins's candidacy for the Georgia Senate in the 2020 election, *see id.* at 18, 25.

57. A little over a month after its first contribution, on August 31, 2020, PSAA made a second deposit or gift of \$475,000 to Georgia United Victory. Georgia United Victory, <u>FEC</u> <u>Form 3X, October Quarterly Report</u> 9. The super PAC reported PSAA's \$475,000 deposit or gift was a "contribution," *id.*, and thus a deposit or gift intended to influence federal elections, 52 U.S.C. § 30101(8). Georgia United Victory appears to have used those funds to pay for part of its September independent expenditures again opposing Mr. Collins's Senate candidacy. *See* Georgia United Victory, <u>FEC Form 3X, October Quarterly Report 20–24</u>.

58. PSAA reported these two deposits or gifts as political activity on its tax filings. PSAA, 2020 Form 990, Part IV, Line 3; *accord id.* Sched. C. These two deposits or gifts totaling \$1,475,000 amounted to 48.57% of PSAA's reported total 2020 expenditures on its tax filings. *Compare id.* with *id.* Part I, Line 18 (reporting total 2020 expenses of \$3,036,572).

59. PSAA's remaining 2020 expenses were comprised almost entirely of a single grant to another tax-exempt organization, RightOn Issues, Inc., of \$1,500,000. *Id.* Sched. I, Part

II. PSAA's tax return reported the grant was an unrestricted "General Support Grant." *Id.*; *see also id.* Part IV (PSAA "provided general support grants without any specific or particular project and may require recipients furnish a report describing activities fulfilled by use of grant funds").

60. PSAA's other expenses, amounting to \$61,572, were for the group's overhead. *Id.* Part I, Line 15, 17; *id.* Part VII, Sec. 1a; *id.* Part IX.

RightOn Issues, Inc.'s Activities

61. PSAA's \$1,500,000 grant to RightOn Issues was the second largest transfer RightOn Issues received in 2020. RightOn Issues, 2020 Form 990, Sched B.

62. RightOn Issues made a \$1 million deposit or gift to Georgia United Victory on September 21, 2020—the same super PAC PSAA funded through earlier deposits or gifts. Georgia United Victory, <u>FEC Form 3X, October Quarterly Report</u> 9. Georgia United Victory reported RightOn Issues's deposit or gift was a "contribution," *id.*, and thus a deposit or gift to influence a federal election, 52 U.S.C. § 30101(8). Georgia United Victory used RightOn Issues's funds to make independent expenditures totaling approximately \$649,000 in September opposing Doug Collins's Senate campaign, Georgia United Victory, <u>FEC Form 3X, October</u> <u>Quarterly Report</u> 22, 24, and to cover part of the group's nearly \$6 million in independent expenditures targeting Mr. Collins in October, Georgia United Victory, <u>FEC Form 3X, Pre-Election Report</u> 10 (Oct. 22, 2020), <u>https://perma.cc/LMA3-RMEJ</u>, the same candidate the super PAC opposed with PSAA's deposits or gifts.

63. On the same day it made a gift or deposit to Georgia United Victory, RightOn Issues made a \$200,000 gift or deposit to another federal super PAC, Georgia Action Fund. Georgia Action Fund, FEC Form 3X, October Quarterly Report 13 (Sept. 30, 2020),

https://perma.cc/T4PA-YFH8. Georgia Action Fund reported RightOn Issues's deposit or gift was a "contribution," *id.*, and thus that RightOn Issues's deposit or gift was intended to influence elections. One day after receiving RightOn Issues's gift or deposit, Georgia Action Fund made its first independent expenditure opposing Jon Ossoff's candidacy for the US Senate in Georgia. *Id.* at 23. The treasurer of Georgia Action Fund at the time of these transfers was Kayla Glaze, Georgia Action Fund, <u>FEC Form 3X</u>, October Quarterly Report 1, who also was serving as RightOn Issues's custodian of records at the time, RightOn Issues, 2020 Form 990, Part VI, Sec. C.

64. Two days after the gift or deposit to the two super PACs, on September 23, 2020, RightOn Issues made a \$120,000 deposit or gift to yet another federal super PAC: RightOn Time. RightOn Issues, 2020 Form 990, Sched. C; RightOn Time, <u>FEC Form 3X, October</u> <u>Quarterly Report 6</u> (Oct. 8, 2020), <u>https://perma.cc/HPQ9-W54F</u>. RightOn Time reported RightOn Issues's deposit or gift was a "contribution," RightOn Time, <u>FEC Form 3X, October</u> <u>Quarterly Report 6</u>, and thus that RightOn Issues's deposit or gift was intended to influence federal elections, 52 U.S.C. § 30101(8).

65. RightOn Issues's deposit or gift to RightOn Time was the only contribution the political committee received in 2020. RightOn Time, Raising, 2019-20 (last visited Jan. 30, 2023), <u>https://perma.cc/5MSV-NU5P</u>. Paul Kilgore is the treasurer of RightOn Time, RightOn Time, <u>FEC Form 1</u>, the same individual who is treasurer to Georgia United Victory, Georgia United Victory, <u>FEC Form 1</u>. RightOn Time used the 2020 contribution to fund various consulting and polling expenses, and paid \$28,125.48 to a Georgia based company, Paces Direct

LLC, for "PAC GOTV mailing." *See* RightOn Time, Spending, 2019-20 (last visited Jan. 30, 2023), <u>https://perma.cc/PK7W-5LRC</u>. RightOn Time did not report any electioneering communications or independent expenditures in 2020, so it is unknown at which race the get-out-the-vote mailing was targeted.

66. RightOn Time also received at least \$250,000 from RightOn Issues in 2022, the only contribution the political committee received in that cycle. RightOn Time, Raising, 2021-22 (last visited Jan. 30, 2023), <u>https://perma.cc/4K6Y-ZZEB</u>. As of the time of this complaint, RightOn Time made a single \$244,278 independent expenditure supporting the House candidacy of Meagan Myers Hanson. RightOn Time, Spending 2021-22 (last visited Jan. 30, 2023) <u>https://perma.cc/7GWX-XRY9</u>. Meagan Myers Hanson is the President of RightOn Issues, Inc. RightOn Issues, 2020 Form 990, Part VII, Sec. A. On December 7, 2022, RightOn Time reported making a distribution to RightOn Issues of \$21,087.88, which RightOn Time called a "PAC Contribution." RightOn Time, FEC Form 3x, Termination Report at 7.

67. In total, RightOn Issues's deposits or gifts to federally registered super PACs totaled \$1,320,000—just shy of the \$1,500,000 it received from PSAA. RightOn Issues reported spending a total of \$3,926,986 in 2020, RightOn Issues, 2020 Form 990, Part I, Line 18, meaning its super PAC contributions amounted to 33.6% of RightOn Issues's total annual expenditures (before overhead is allocated).

68. While RightOn Issues did not report making any independent expenditures or electioneering communications itself, it reported expenditures of \$1,789,105 paid to Paces Direct LLC, a Georgia company, for "direct mail services" and \$377,401 paid to Republick LLC for "advertising services." RightOn Issues, 2020 Form 990, Part VII, Sec. B.

69. There is evidence that RightOn Issues's direct mail expenditure was, in whole or part, to influence federal elections. On October 20, 2020, a Twitter user posted an image of a mail piece they said was "Paid for by RightOn Issues" that advocated readers "Vote NOW to stop" the "Democratic Socialists of America." *See* @TuxedoGeorge10, Twitter, Oct. 20, 2020, 4:59 P.M., <u>https://perma.cc/4WJW-BNKX</u>. The mailer also read "Socialism is on the march" and 'Liberals want to bring it to Georgia." *Id.* These mailings are similar to messages on RightOn Issues's website and its Facebook advertisements that were directed at the Georgia Senate elections, *see infra*, supporting a reason to believe these mailers were similarly targeted at the Georgia electorate and intended to influence federal elections in Georgia. The mailer constitutes express advocacy, or at least a communication not so unrelated to federal electioneering that it would excuse RightOn Issues from reporting as a political committee.

70. Adding the amount RightOn Issues spent on direct mail, \$1,789,105, to the sums RightOn Issues deposited or gifted to federally registered political committees, RightOn Issues's total electioneering expenses totaled approximately \$3,109,105. That constitutes approximately 79.2% of RightOn Issues's 2020 expenses (and even more when overhead is allocated). Even assuming RightOn Issues did not devote the entirety of the nearly \$1.8 million to this mailer, and that any other mailers were unrelated to influencing federal elections, attributing even a portion of the funds would likely push RightOn Issue's electioneering to over half of its 2020 spending.

71. There is also reason to believe RightOn Issues's advertising services expenditure to Republick LLC was to influence federal elections. Republick is a company that focuses on "digital strategy," Republick, Who We Are (last visited Jan. 30, 2023), <u>https://perma.cc/4NMS-R8R8</u>, including "Social Media Management" and "Site Maintenance," Republick, What We

Do (last visited Jan. 30, 2023), <u>https://perma.cc/54JG-8KVL</u>. RightOn Issues maintains a website with the URL <u>www.rightonissues.com</u>, which has a header "Georgia Voter Alert" and "Don't Let Socialists Take Your Health Care Plan." RightOn Issues, <u>https://perma.cc/F5LT-769T</u>. The website then reads "Washington liberals have a plan for socialist, government run health care" and prominently features pictures of former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senator Bernie Sanders. *Id.* The website appears to have been created on December 29, 2020, CubDomain.com, Rightonissues.com (last visited Jan. 30, 2023), <u>https://perma.cc/R9WV-Z53R</u>, after Georgia's November general election but before Georgia's January 5, 2021, runoff election for its two U.S. Senate seats.

72. RightOn Issues also ran advertisements on Facebook on January 5, the day of the federal run-off election. Meta, Ads from RightOn Issues (last visited Jan. 30, 2023), https://www.facebook.com/ads/library/?active_status=all&ad_type=all&country=ALL&view_all page_id=105436934818398&search_type=page&media_type=all.

73. The text of one ad read "Georgia Voter Alert!" and "Don't let Socialists take your healthcare! – Election day January 5th – make a plan to VOTE," and included a video with a still saying "Radical Liberals will take your health care and close hospitals" with images of former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Democratic Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, and Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. *Id.* The ad included a link directing users to RightOn Issues's website, <u>www.rightonissues.com</u>. *Id.* The advertisement was targeted at users in Georgia. *Id.*

74. RightOn Issues's second Facebook ad read "Washington liberals have a plan for socialist, government-run health care. Call Congress and tell them to oppose socialized medicine:

202-224-3121 – make your voice heard" and included the same video as the first ad. *Id.* The third ad read "The Socialist Plan for Healthcare:" with a list that read "Government takeover of health care," "Outlawing your employer-provided plan," "Limiting your choice of doctors," "Jeopardizing dozens of Georgia hospitals," and "Thousands in new taxes on working families," and included the same video as featured in the other two ads. *Id.* Like the first ad, these Facebook ads included a link directing users to RightOn Issues's website,

www.rightonissues.com. Id.

75. Adding the amount RightOn Issues spent on digital advertising, \$377,401, to the sums RightOn Issues deposited or gifted to federally registered political committees and spent on its direct mail, RightOn Issues's electioneering totaled approximately \$3,486,506. That constitutes approximately 88.8% of RightOn Issues's 2020 expenses (and even more when overhead is allocated).

Count I

The \$2.795 Million in Conduit Contributions Through PSAA and RightOn Issues to Super PACs to Influence Federal Georgia Elections violate 52 U.S.C. §§ 30104, 30122, and 11 C.F.R. §§ 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.8, 110.4.

76. Federal law prohibits the making and the knowing receipt of a contribution in the name of another, and permitting one's name to be used to effect that contribution. 52 U.S.C. § 30122; 11 C.F.R. § 110.4(b). Relatedly, reporting entities must report the "true source" of their contributions. *Hsia*, 30 F. App'x at 3; *see also* 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a), (b); 11 C.F.R. §§ 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.8.

77. There is reason to believe an Unknown Respondent or Unknown Respondents unlawfully made a contribution or contributions in the name of another in violation of 52 U.S.C.

§ 30122 and 11 C.F.R. § 110.4(b). Specifically, Unknown Respondent or Unknown Respondents made contributions totaling \$1.475 million to Georgia United Victory in the name of PSAA, a \$1 million contribution to Georgia United Victory in the name of RightOn Issues, a \$200,000 contribution to Georgia Action Fund in the name of RightOn Issues, and a \$120,000 contribution to RightOn Time in the name of RightOn Issues.

78. PSAA was entirely funded by a single donation of \$3.1 million after its formation on May 6, 2020. PSAA, 2020 Form 990, Sched. B. PSAA reported that, as of July 13, 2020, it had no assets. PSAA, Form 1024, Part VI, B. Balance Sheet. Nonetheless, on July 16, 2020, PSAA made a \$1 million contribution to Georgia United Victory and a second contribution of \$475,000 shortly thereafter. Georgia United Victory, <u>FEC Form 3X, October Quarterly Report</u> 9. Given the reported absence of funds prior to July 13, 2020, PSAA received funds and converted a portion of them into a contribution in three days or less. Georgia United Victory used those funds to oppose the candidacy of Doug Collins for the Georgia Senate seat. *Id.* at 18, 20–25.

79. By routing the donation through PSAA rather than directly contributing to Georgia United Victory, Unknown Respondent or Unknown Respondents evaded disclosure obligations that require political committees to report the true source of any contribution and rather permitted PSAA to use its name to disguise the true source.

80. Rather than make additional contributions, PSAA transferred \$1.5 million to RightOn Issues—nearly the entirety of the remaining balance of the \$3.1 million donation. PSAA, 2020 Form 990, Sched. I, Part II. In turn, RightOn Issues made contributions in September 2020 to three super PACs amounting to nearly the amount it received from PSAA.

81. Those contributions included \$1 million to Georgia United Victory, the same political committee PSAA funded, Georgia United Victory, <u>FEC Form 3X</u>, October Quarterly <u>Report</u> 9, which also used the funds to oppose the candidacy of Doug Collins, *id.* at 22, 24; Georgia United Victory, <u>FEC Form 3X</u>, Pre-Election Report 10.

82. On the same day of its contribution to Georgia United Victory, RightOn Issues also contributed \$200,000 to Georgia Action Fund. Georgia Action Fund, <u>FEC Form 3X</u>, <u>October Quarterly Report</u> 13. Georgia Action Fund made independent expenditures to influence the Georgia Senate elections a day after it received RightOn Issues's contribution. *Id.* at 23. The treasurer of Georgia Action Fund, Kayla Glaze, is also the custodian of records for RightOn Issues. RightOn Issues, 2020 Form 990, Part VI, Sec. 3, Georgia Action Fund, <u>FEC Form 3X</u>, <u>October Quarterly Report</u> 1.

83. A few days later, RightOn Issues contributed \$120,000 to RightOn Time. RightOn Time, <u>FEC Form 3X, October Quarterly Report</u> 6. RightOn Issues was the sole funder of RightOn Time, *id.*, which had only formed in May 2020, RightOn Time, FEC Form 1, <u>Statement of Organization</u>. Paul Kilgore was the Treasurer to RightOn Time during the relevant time, *id.*, treasurer to Georgia United Victory, *see* Georgia United Victory, <u>FEC Form 3X,</u> <u>October Quarterly Report</u> 1, and treasurer to a campaign of the Secretary of RightOn Issues, Nicole Rodden for Congress, Inc., <u>FEC Form 1</u>. RightOn Time used those funds to pay a Georgia company to make get-out-the-vote mailers, RightOn Time, <u>Form 3X, October Quarterly</u> <u>Report</u> 7, likely seeking to influence the Georgia Senate elections, though RightOn Time did not report the candidate or candidates targeted by its mailers.

84. By routing contributions through RightOn Issues, PSAA evaded reporting on its tax filings that it contributed a total of \$2.795 million to the super PACs, which would constitute 92% of PSAA's annual activity. Further, by making the grant, PSAA increased its total annual expenditures, of which the contributions would have constituted a significant majority in the absence of the transfer. That level of activity would unequivocally demonstrate that PSAA's major purpose was to influence federal elections, and thus required PSAA to register as a political committee and disclose the source of the \$3.1 million donation to it. *See Buckley*, 424 U.S. at 66; Supplement E&J, 72 Fed. Reg. at 5601. By transferring the funds to RightOn Issues, PSAA evaded legal disclosure obligations, which would have required disclosure of the source of its \$3.1 million donation.

85. The single source of these funds, the fact that there was a maximum of three days between their deposit with PSAA and the beginning of their distribution to political committees, the fact the fund's recipients made contributions nearly aggregating the amount they received, the shared end to which the funds were used, the shared recipient political committee for \$2.475 million of the contributions, the shared treasurer for the recipient committees of \$2.595 million, the overlapping staff for the donor and recipient of another \$200,000, and the structuring of the transactions to evade reporting obligations all give rise to a reason to believe Unknown Respondent or Unknown Respondents routed their contributions through PSAA and RightOn Issues to evade the disclosure that would result from making a direct contribution to the recipient super PACs.

86. In addition to the Unknown Respondent or Unknown Respondents, there is reason to believe Georgia United Victory and RightOn Time, by and through their treasurer Paul Kilgore, and Georgia Action Fund, by and through its treasurer Kayla Glaze, knowingly accepted a contribution in the name of another and failed to report the true source of the contribution.

87. PSAA's gift or deposit was the first contribution received by Georgia United Victory, permitting the organization to pay for set up costs and part of its first round of independent expenditures. Georgia United Victory, <u>FEC Form 3X</u>, <u>October Quarterly Report</u> 12, 14, 17, 18, 25. PSAA's \$1 million contribution was the third largest contribution the political committee received in its first quarter of existence, and the fifth largest the group has ever received, with or without including the second \$475,000 contribution. Georgia United Victory, Raising, 2019-20. RightOn Issues's \$1 million contribution was equally as significant. Given the importance of the contributions to Georgia United Victory, there is reason to believe the super PAC knew the true source of the contribution, but knowingly accepted the contribution in the name of another and failed to disclose the true source of the contribution, in violation of 52 U.S.C. §§ 30104, 30122 and 11 C.F.R. §§ 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.8, 110.4.

88. RightOn Issues's contribution to RightOn Time was even more important to the political committee. RightOn Issues's contribution was the only contribution RightOn Time received, and RightOn Issues remains the only funder of RightOn Time. RightOn Time, <u>FEC</u> <u>Form 3X, October Quarterly Report</u> 6. RightOn Time's work is also closely associated with RightOn Issues. RightOn Time recently spent \$244,278 on independent expenditures supporting the candidacy of Megan Myers Hanson, RightOn Issues's President, which was paid for entirely out of funds RightOn Issues contributed to the political committee. *See* RightOn Time, <u>24/48</u> <u>Hour Report of Independent Expenditures;</u> RightOn Issues, 2020 Form 990, Part VII, Sec. A; RightOn Time, Raising, 2021-22. Given the complete reliance of RightOn Time on RightOn Issues's contributions and RightOn Time's support for an executive of RightOn Issues, there is reason to believe the super PAC knew the true source of the contribution, but knowingly accepted the contribution in the name of another and failed to disclose the true source of the contribution, in violation of 52 U.S.C. §§ 30104, 30122 and 11 C.F.R. §§ 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.8, 110.4(b).

89. Additionally, Paul Kilgore is the treasurer for both Georgia United Victory and RightOn Time—meaning that if he knew the true source of the contribution to one, then he also knew the true source of the contribution to the other. Further, Mr. Kilgore is the treasurer to the campaign of Nicole Rodden, the Secretary of RightOn Issues. RightOn Issues, Form 990, Part VII, Sec. A; Nicole Rodden for Congress, Inc., Form 1. Accordingly, there is reason to believe Paul Kilgore knew the true source of the contributions to Georgia United Victory and RightOn Time but knowingly permitted the political committees to accept the contributions in the name of another and failed to disclose the true source of the contributions, in violation of the obligations federal law imposes on political committee treasurers. 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a); 11 C.F.R. § 104.1(a); FEC, <u>Treasurer's liability</u> (last visited Jan. 30, 2023), <u>https://perma.cc/6R74-3KZS</u>. Mr. Kilgore, as treasurer of numerous political committees for over a decade, is personally aware of his responsibilities as treasurer and aware of the possibility of personal liability for his failure to carry out his duties as treasurer. By permitting the political committees to accept contributions in the name of another, and by falsely reporting the source of the contributions were entities other than the true source, Mr. Kilgore personally violated and continues to violate 52 U.S.C. §§ 30104(a), (b), 30122, and 11 C.F.R. §§ 102.1(d), 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.8, and 110.4(b).

90. At the time of the transfers from RightOn Issues, Georgia Action Fund's treasurer, Kayla Glaze, served as custodian of records for RightOn Issues. RightOn Issues, Form 990, Part VI, Sec. 3; Georgia Action Fund, <u>FEC Form 3X</u>, October Quarterly Report 1. In that role, Ms. Glaze would likely learn RightOn Issues was making contributions in the name of another, and thus that Georgia Action Fund would knowingly receive a conduit contribution from RightOn Issues. Moreover, Ms. Glaze, as the treasurer to several federally registered super PACs, is personally aware of her responsibilities as treasurer and aware of the possibility of personal liability for her failure to carry out her duties as treasurer. By permitting the Georgia Action Fund to accept contributions in the name of another, and by falsely reporting the source of the contributions were entities other than the true source, Georgia Action Fund and Ms. Glaze violated and continue to violate 52 U.S.C. §§ 30104(a), (b), 30122 and 11 C.F.R. §§ 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.8, and § 110.4(b).

91. Finally, there is reason to believe PSAA and RightOn Issues knowingly permitted their names to effect contributions in the name of another.

92. The \$3.1 million donation to PSAA is the group's sole funding source. PSAA, 2020 Form 990, Sched. B. Within three days of receiving the funds, it made a contribution to Georgia United Victory, then made a second contribution to the same group a little over a month later. It also made a \$1.5 million grant to RightOn Issues which permitted an increase in its total expenditures, making its own contributions appear to be less than half its total annual expenditures and avoiding taking direct responsibility for any other contributions that would have shown PSAA devoted more than half its funds to electioneering. RightOn Issues made contributions to super PACs nearly aggregating \$1.5 million, including one already funded by PSAA, another sharing a treasurer with the first, and a third whose treasurer was the group's custodian of records, all likely to influence the Georgia elections. These transfers were the totality of PSAA's 2020 activity, other than a small amount spent on overhead. Accordingly, there is reason to believe PSAA knowingly permitted its name to effect a contribution in the name of another in violation of 52 U.S.C. § 30122 and 11 C.F.R. § 110.4(b).

93. There is also reason to believe RightOn Issues knowingly permitted its name to effect contributions in the name of another. PSAA's \$1.5 million transfer to RightOn Issues was the second largest donation the group accepted in 2020. RightOn Issues, 2020 Form 990, Sched. B. In September 2020, RightOn Issues transferred \$1 million to the same super PAC to which its donor, PSAA, had contributed. Georgia United Victory, FEC Form 3X, October Quarterly <u>Report</u> 9. On the same day, RightOn Issues made a contribution to a political committee that also sought to influence the federal Georgia elections, and whose treasurer was RightOn Issues's custodian of records. RightOn Issues, Form 990, Part VI, Sec. 3, Georgia Action Fund, FEC Form 3X, October Quarterly Report 1, 23. A few days later, RightOn Issues made a contribution to a closely associated political committee that shares a treasurer with Georgia United Victory, which group also likely spent to influence the Georgia federal elections. Id. at 1; RightOn Time, FEC Form 3X, October Quarterly Report 1, 6. The similarity of the aggregate sum of RightOn Issues's contributions to the sums it received from PSAA, the overlapping identity and associations in the recipients, and the shared purposes to which the contributions were used raises a reason to believe RightOn Issues knowingly permitted its name to be used to effect a contribution in the name of another, in violation of 52 U.S.C. § 30122 and 11 C.F.R. § 110.4(b).

<u>Count II</u>

PSAA Failed to Register and Report as a Political Committee in Violation of 52 U.S.C. §§ 30103, 30104 and 11 C.F.R. §§ 102.1(d), 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.8, because PSAA's Transfer to RightOn Issues was Either an Unlawful Conduit Contribution in violation of 52 U.S.C. § 30122 and 11 C.F.R. § 110.4 or At Least Not so Unrelated to Influencing Federal Elections As to Excuse PSAA From Registering and Reporting

94. Alternatively, PSAA's transfer to RightOn Issues constitutes electioneering because either PSAA unlawfully used RightOn Issues to make conduit contributions to three super PACs or, at least, because the transfer was for the purpose of influencing federal elections and so could not excuse PSAA from registering and reporting as a political committee.

95. By making a grant to RightOn Issues that could be used to fund super PACs, PSAA evaded publicly reporting that it was the source of these contributions to federally registered political committees, which reporting would demonstrate that PSAA devoted more than half of its funding in 2020 to federal electioneering and trigger legal disclosure obligations. Nonetheless, properly attributing even a portion of the contributions to PSAA demonstrates that, no later than 2020, PSAA qualified as a political committee in 2020.

96. First, PSAA satisfied the FECA's test for political committee status in 2020.

97. PSAA made over \$1,000 in expenditures when it deposited or gifted \$1 million to a federal registered political committee, Georgia United Victory, on July 16, 2020. Georgia United Victory, <u>FEC Form 3X October Quarterly Report</u> 9. Political committees are "by definition, campaign related," *Buckley*, 424 U.S. at 79, and thus all funds donated to them are deemed to be expenditures intended to influence federal elections. Georgia United Victory reported these funds were deposited or gifted with the intent of influencing a federal election, Georgia United Victory, FEC Form 3X October Quarterly Report 9, and in fact used those funds to make independent expenditures opposing the candidacy of Doug Collins in the federal Senate race, *id.* at 18. Accordingly, PSAA made a \$1 million expenditure no later than July 16, 2020. *See* 52 U.S.C. § 30101(4)(A); 11 C.F.R. § 100.5(a).

98. Alternatively, PSAA accepted over \$1,000 in contributions when it accepted a \$3.1 million donation. PSAA, 2020 Form 990. PSAA's near immediate use of those funds to make deposits or gifts to political committees, and the fact that nearly all of the funds were used to make deposits or gifts to political committees, whether through PSAA or through RightOn Issues, gives rise to a reason to believe the \$3.1 million donation to PSAA was intended to influence federal elections, and thus qualifies as a contribution, regardless of whether the contribution would also qualify as a conduit contribution. *See* 52 U.S.C. § 30101(8)(A)(i); 11 C.F.R. § 100.52(a).

99. PSAA also exhibited a major purpose in 2020 to influence elections and so was and is not excused from reporting.

100. PSAA reported spending more than 48% (49.6% when overhead is allocated) of its 2020 expenditures on contributions to federal super PACs. PSAA, 2020 Form 990, Sched. C. Even assuming that would not be sufficient to show PSAA has a major purpose to influence federal elections and thus is not excused from reporting, attributing any of the contributions for which RightOn Issues was a conduit would push PSAA over the 50% threshold.

101. There is reason to believe PSAA used RightOn Issues to make conduit contributions, in violation of 52 U.S.C. § 30122 and 11 C.F.R. § 110.4(b). If PSAA made these contributions directly, its public disclosures would indisputably demonstrate it devoted more than half of its funds to influencing elections and thus trigger legal disclosure obligations for

PSAA. By unlawfully routing funds through RightOn Issues, however, PSAA was able to obscure this activity and evade reporting. Further, the proximity of PSAA's transfer to RightOn Issues and RightOn Issues's super PAC contributions, the shared identity of a recipient of RightOn Issues and PSAA's contributions, the overlap in and association of personnel between the political committees and RightOn Issues staff, the shared end to which those contributions were used, the fact RightOn Issues's super PAC contributions aggregated to slightly less than PSAA's transfer to RightOn Issues, and the lack of earmarking language in the transfer that would have barred the funds from being used to influence elections supports a reason to believe PSAA's transfer to RightOn Issues was an unlawful conduit contribution.

102. Similarly, for the reasons alleged above and incorporated herein, there is reason to believe Georgia United Victory and RightOn Time, by and through their treasurer Paul Kilgore, and Georgia Action Fund, by and through its treasurer Kayla Glaze, knowingly accepted these contributions from PSAA in the name of RightOn Issues, and that RightOn Issues permitted its name to be used to effect a contribution in the name of another, in violation of 52 U.S.C. § 30122 and 11 C.F.R. § 110.4(b). Additionally, for the reasons alleged above and incorporated herein, there is reason to believe Georgia United Victory and RightOn Time, and Paul Kilgore acting as their treasurer, and Georgia Action Fund, and Kayla Glaze acting as its treasurer, failed to report the true source of their contributions, in violation of 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a), (b) and 11 C.F.R. § 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.8. *See Hsia*, 30 F. App'x at 3.

103. Further, even assuming PSAA's transfer to RightOn Issues would not qualify as a conduit contribution, the fact that RightOn Issues made in quick succession contributions nearly aggregating to the sum it received from PSAA, including a contribution to the political

committee PSAA had already funded and a political committee sharing a treasurer with the first, to likely influence the same federal Senate elections PSAA sought to influence, and the fact that PSAA's transfer to RightOn Issues was not earmarked to non-electoral activities, indicates that PSAA's purpose in transferring the funds was to influence federal elections. Accordingly, the transfer of those funds, even if not as an unlawful conduit, still supports finding PSAA's major purpose is to influence federal elections or, at the very least, cannot be used to excuse PSAA's political committee reporting.

104. Properly attributing any of RightOn Issues's contributions to PSAA would show PSAA devoted more than half of its funds to influence federal elections. Specifically, attributing RightOn Issues's \$1 million contribution to Georgia United Victory to PSAA would show that 81.5% of PSAA's 2020 expenditures (83.2% after overhead is allocated) were to influence federal elections. Attributing RightOn Issues's \$200,000 contribution to Georgia Action Fund to PSAA would show that 55.2% of PSAA's 2020 expenditures (56.3% with overhead allocated) were to influence federal elections. Attributing RightOn Issues's \$120,000 contribution to RightOn Time to PSAA would show that 52.5% of PSAA's 2020 expenditures (53.6% with overhead allocated) were to influence federal elections. Attributing all of the contributions to PSAA would show that 92% of PSAA's 2020 expenditures (93.9% with overhead allocated) were to influence federal elections. Finally, assuming the purpose of the entire transfer was to influence federal elections, then aggregating the \$1.5 million transfer from PSAA to RightOn Issues with PSAA's super PAC contributions would show that 98% of PSAA's 2020 expenditures were to influence federal elections. The remainder of PSAA's expenses appear to be overhead. Accordingly, as PSAA only formed on May 6, 2020, PSAA appears to have made no 2020 expenditures unrelated to influencing federal elections.

105. Accordingly, no later than July 16, 2020, and continuing through the date of this filing and into the future, PSAA qualified as a political committee and was and is obligated to register and report as one. To date, PSAA has not filed any report with the FEC terminating its status.

106. PSAA's failure to so register and report, and to disclose the true source of its \$3.1 million contribution, violates and continues to violate 52 U.S.C. §§ 30103, 30104(a), (b), and 11 C.F.R. §§ 102.1(d), 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.8.

107. Additionally, under the FECA, treasurers of political committees like PSAA are responsible for registering them with the FEC and filing disclosure reports as required by law. FEC, <u>Treasurer's liability</u>. A political committee treasurer is personally liable for a failure by the political committee to file required reports. *Id.*; FEC, Statement of Policy Regarding Treasurers Subject to Enforcement Proceedings, 70 Fed. Reg. 3, 5 (Jan. 3, 2005).

108. Christopher Marston is and at all relevant times has been treasurer of PSAA. PSAA, 2020 Form 990. Mr. Marston signs PSAA's tax filings. *Id.* Accordingly, for purposes of the FECA, Mr. Marston is and at all relevant times has been treasurer of PSAA. 52 U.S.C. § 30102(a), (c).

109. Mr. Marston is treasurer to numerous super PACs and is personally aware of his responsibilities as treasurer and aware of the possibility of personal liability for his failure to carry out his duties as treasurer.

110. By failing to cause PSAA to register with the FEC and by failing to cause PSAA to file disclosure reports as required by law, Mr. Marston personally violated and continues to violate 52 U.S.C. §§ 30103(a), 30104(a), (b), and 11 C.F.R. §§ 102.1(d), 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.8.

111. Further, Moses Ayala is and at all relevant times has been Vice President and Secretary of PSAA. Mr. Ayala was an employee of Aristotle International Inc., the company that prepared PSAA's tax filings. PSAA, 2020 Form 990. Accordingly, there is reason to believe Mr. Ayala was responsible for PSAA's papers and handled governmental filings. Accordingly, for purposes of the FECA, Mr. Ayala is and at all relevant times has been treasurer of PSAA. 52 U.S.C. § 30102(a), (c).

112. Mr. Ayala has declared that he has expertise in "campaign-finance compliance," The Gober Group, Moses Ayala, and so is personally aware of his responsibilities as treasurer and aware of the possibility of personal liability for his failure to carry out his duties as treasurer.

113. By failing to cause PSAA to register with the FEC and by failing to cause PSAA to file disclosure reports as required by law, Mr. Ayala personally violated and continues to violate 52 U.S.C. §§ 30103(a), 30104(a), (b), and 11 C.F.R. §§ 102.1(d), 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.8.

Count III

RightOn Issues's and PSAA's Failures to Register and Report as Political Committees in 2020 Violates 52 U.S.C. §§ 30103, 30104 and 11 C.F.R. §§ 102.1(d), 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.8 Because RightOn Issues Spent Extensively to Influence Federal Elections, including through unreported independent expenditures in violation of 52 U.S.C. § 30104 and 11 C.F.R. § 109.10,

and PSAA's \$1.5 Million Grant to RightOn Issues is Thus a Contribution to a Political Committee

114. Alternatively, RightOn Issues's activities demonstrate that it met the statutory test and that its major purpose in 2020 was to influence federal elections, and therefore that it qualified as a political committee but failed to register and report as one. Consequently, PSAA's grant to RightOn Issues was a contribution to a political committee, which makes PSAA's transfer "by definition, campaign related." *Buckley*, 424 U.S. at 76. As the entirety of PSAA's non-overhead 2020 expenses were contributions to political committees, PSAA's major purpose in 2020 was to influence federal elections and it qualified as a political committee, but PSAA failed and continues to fail to register and report as one.

115. First, RightOn Issues satisfied the FECA's test for political committee status in2020.

116. RightOn Issues made three contributions to federally registered political committees in 2020. Specifically, RightOn Issues made a \$1 million deposit or gift to Georgia United Victory on September 21, 2020, Georgia United Victory, FEC Form 3X, Quarterly Report 9, a \$200,000 deposit or gift to Georgia Action Fund on September 21, 2020, Georgia Action Fund, FEC Form 3X, October Quarterly Report 13, and a \$120,000 deposit or gift to RightOn Time on September 23, 2020, RightOn Time, FEC Form 3X, October Quarterly Report 6. Transfers to political committees are "by definition, campaign related," *Buckley*, 424 U.S. at 76, and each political committee reported RightOn Issues's deposit or gift was a contribution, and thus a deposit or gift intended to influence federal elections. Georgia United Victory, FEC Form 3X, Quarterly Report 9; Georgia Action Fund, FEC Form 3X, October Quarterly Report 13; RightOn Time, FEC Form 3X, October Quarterly Report 13; RightOn Time, FEC Form 3X, October Quarterly Report 6.

117. Accordingly, RightOn Issues's deposits or gifts to the political committees are expenditures within the meaning of the FECA. 52 U.S.C. § 30101(9)(A)(i); 11 C.F.R. § 110.111(a). Thus, no later than September 21, 2020, RightOn Issues qualified as a political committee. To date, RightOn Issues has not filed any report with the FEC terminating its status.

118. Additionally, as alleged herein, there is reason to believe RightOn Issues made more than \$1,000 in expenditures on express advocacy mailers, which expenditures also would qualify the group as a political committee on the date it made the expenditures independently of its super PAC contributions.

119. Furthermore, as alleged above and incorporated herein, there is reason to believe PSAA's \$1.5 million transfer to RightOn Issues was to influence elections, and thus constitutes a contribution within the meaning of the FECA. *See* 52 U.S.C. § 30101(8)(A)(i); 11 C.F.R. § 100.52(a). Accordingly, there is reason to believe RightOn Issues accepted contributions in excess of \$1,000 on the date it accepted the transfer from PSAA, and thus qualified as a political committee on that date. *See* 52 U.S.C. § 30101(4)(A).

120. Second, in addition to satisfying the statutory threshold for political committee status, RightOn Issues's activities demonstrate that its major purpose in 2020 was to influence federal elections, and thus that the group is not excused from reporting as a political committee.

121. Even assuming RightOn Issues's use of 33.6% of its 2020 expenses to fund federally registered political committees is insufficient to demonstrate that it should not be excused from reporting, RightOn Issues engaged in extensive electioneering that was not reported to the FEC. Reviewing these sums indicates that RightOn Issues did not devote a

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majority of its spending to expenditures so unrelated to electioneering that it should be excused from reporting as a political committee.

First, RightOn Issues reported spending \$1,789,105 on "direct mail services," 122. paid to Paces Direct LLC. RightOn Issues, 2020 Form 990, Part VII, Sec. B. There is reason to believe that all or some of those sums funded direct mailers expressly advocating readers "Vote NOW to stop" the "Democratic Socialists of America." See @ TuxedoGeorge10, Twitter, Oct. 20, 2020, 4:59 P.M. (tweet with picture of mailer which user states is "Paid for by RightOn Issues"). The mailer also read "Socialism is on the march" and 'Liberals want to bring it to Georgia." Id. Advocating that readers vote against members of a particular party qualifies the mailer as a clear identification of a candidate, and thus RightOn Issues's mailer was an unreported independent expenditure. 11 C.F.R. § 100.17 (use of "the democratic presidential nominee" is sufficient to clearly identify a candidate). It is currently unknown what the back of the mailer said, but given the similarity in language between the mailer and RightOn Issues's website and its online advertisements, it is likely the mailer identified the Georgia Senate Elections as the target for influence. RightOn Issues's failure to report this mailer as an independent expenditure thus violates 52 U.S.C. § 30104(c) and 11 C.F.R. § 109.10. This mailer is also an "expenditure" satisfying FECA's statutory test for political committee status. 52 U.S.C. § 30101(4)(A).

123. Assuming, however, that the mailer does not constitute express advocacy, the mailer still constitutes electioneering that is not so unrelated to federal elections so as to excuse its maker from reporting as a political committee. *See Buckley*, 424 U.S. at 66 (the "major

purpose" test excludes groups who devote a significant majority of their spending to activities so unrelated to elections that disclosure would not "fulfill the purposes of the Act").

124. Including the sums RightOn Issues spent on its direct mailers, \$1,789,105, to the sums RightOn Issues deposited or gifted to federally registered political committees, shows RightOn Issues's total electioneering expenses amounted to approximately \$3,109,105. That sum constitutes approximately 79.2% of RightOn Issues's 2020 expenses. Even assuming that the entirety of the expenditure did not pay for this particular mailer, and that any other mailers RightOn Issues paid for were entirely unrelated to influencing federal elections, including the sum that can be attributed to this mailer likely puts RightOn Issue's electioneering expenses above half its 2020 expenses.

125. RightOn Issues also reported spending \$377,401 on "advertising services," paid to Republick LLC. RightOn Issues, 2020 Form 990, Part VII, Sec. B. Republick is a digital advertising company specializing in websites and social media. *See* Republick, Who We Are; Republick, What We Do. There is reason to believe the sums paid to Republick maintained RightOn Issues's website and paid for its social media advertising.

126. RightOn Issues's website, <u>www.rightonissues.com</u>, apparently created shortly before the Georgia Senate run-off election, CubDomain.com, Rightonissues.com, read "Georgia Voter Alert" and "Don't Let Socialists Take Your Health Care Plan." RightOn Issues, <u>https://www.rightonissues.com/</u>. The website then reads "Washington liberals have a plan for socialist, government run health care" and prominently features pictures of former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders. *Id*. The website appears to have been created on December 29, 2020, after Georgia's November general election but just before Georgia's January 5, 2021, runoff election for its two U.S. Senate seats.

127. RightOn Issues ran advertisements on Facebook on January 5, the day of the federal run-off election. Meta, Ads from RightOn Issues.

The text of one ad read "Georgia Voter Alert!" and "Don't let Socialists take your 128. healthcare! - Election day January 5th - make a plan to VOTE," and included a video with text saying "Radical Liberals will take your health care and close hospitals" with images of former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, current Democratic Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, and New York Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. Id. Notably, Senator Schumer would only become Majority leader if the Democratic candidates in the Georgia Senate run-off election, held the day of these ads, were elected. The ad included a link directing users to RightOn Issues's website, www.rightonissues.com. Id. The advertisement was targeted at users in Georgia. Id. By identifying three prominent Democrats and urging readers to "VOTE" on "January 5th" to stop "Socialists," the advertisement expressly advocates against the election of a clearly identified candidate, namely the Democratic candidates on the ballot on January 5th. Accordingly, the advertisement qualifies as an independent expenditure. RightOn Issues's failure to report this Facebook advertisement as an independent expenditure thus violates 52 U.S.C. § 30104(c) and 11 C.F.R. § 109.10. This advertisement is also an "expenditure" satisfying FECA's statutory test for political committee status. 52 U.S.C. § 30101(4)(A).

129. Assuming, however, that the advertisement does not qualify as an independent expenditure, the advertisement still constitutes electioneering that is not so unrelated to federal

elections so as to excuse a group from reporting as a political committee. *See Buckley*, 424 U.S. at 66.

130. RightOn Issues's second Facebook ad read "Washington liberals have a plan for socialist, government-run health care. Call Congress and tell them to oppose socialized medicine: 202-224-3121 – make your voice heard" and included the same video as the first ad. *Id.* The third ad read "The Socialist Plan for Healthcare:" with a list that read "Government takeover of health care," "Outlawing your employer-provided plan," "Limiting your choice of doctors," "Jeopardizing dozens of Georgia hospitals," and "Thousands in new taxes on working families," and included the same video as featured in the other two ads. *Id.* Like the first ad, these Facebook ads included a link directing users to RightOn Issues's website,

<u>www.rightonissues.com</u>. *Id*. These ads, particularly when viewed in light of the similar language used in RightOn Issues's first advertisement and the language on RightOn Issues's website, are not so unrelated to influencing federal elections so as to excuse a group from reporting as a political committee. *See Buckley*, 424 U.S. at 66.

131. Adding the sums RightOn Issues spent on digital advertising, \$377,401, to the sums RightOn Issues deposited or gifted to federally registered political committees and spent on its electioneering mailer, RightOn Issues's electioneering amounted to approximately \$3,486,506. That constitutes approximately 88.8% of RightOn Issues's 2020 expenses. The remainder of RightOn Issues's expenses appear to be overhead. Accordingly, as RightOn Issues only formed on July 2, 2020, there appears to be no 2020 expenditures by RightOn Issues unrelated to influencing federal elections.

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132. RightOn Issues therefore did not devote a significant majority of its funds to activity so unrelated to electioneering as to demonstrate that it lacked a major purpose of influencing federal elections. Consequently, RightOn Issues was not excused from reporting as a political committee.

133. Moreover, RightOn Time, an organization closely associated with RightOn Issues, reported to the FEC that RightOn Issues was, in fact, a "PAC" and its distribution to it was a "PAC contribution." RightOn Time, <u>FEC Form 3X</u>, <u>Termination Report</u>.

134. Accordingly, no later than September 21, 2020 (and likely by the date it received the transfer from PSAA) and continuing through the date of this filing and into the future, RightOn Issues qualified as and was and is obligated to register and report as a political committee. To date, RightOn Issues has not filed any report with the FEC terminating its status.

135. RightOn Issues's failure to so register and report, and to disclose the true source of its contributions, including the true source of the \$1.5 million it reported receiving from PSAA, violates and continues to violate 52 U.S.C. §§ 30103, 30104(a), (b), and 11 C.F.R. §§ 102.1(d), 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.8.

136. Additionally, Caleb Crosby is and at all relevant times has been treasurer of RightOn Issues. RightOn Issues, 2020 Form 990. Mr. Crosby signs RightOn Issues's tax filings. *Id.* Accordingly, for purposes of the FECA, Mr. Crosby is and at all relevant times has been treasurer of PSAA. 52 U.S.C. § 30102(a), (c).

137. Under the FECA, treasurers of political committees like RightOn Issues are responsible for registering them with the FEC and filing disclosure reports as required by law. FEC, <u>Treasurer's liability</u>. A political committee treasurer is personally liable for a failure by the

political committee to file required reports. *Id.*; FEC, Statement of Policy Regarding Treasurers Subject to Enforcement Proceedings, 70 Fed. Reg. at 5.

138. Mr. Crosby is treasurer to numerous super PACs and is personally aware of his responsibilities as treasurer and aware of the possibility of personal liability for his failure to carry out his duties as treasurer.

139. By failing to cause RightOn Issues to register with the FEC and by failing to cause RightOn Issues to file disclosure reports as required by law, Mr. Crosby personally violated and continues to violate 52 U.S.C. §§ 30103(a), 30104(a), (b), and 11 C.F.R. §§ 102.1(d), 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.8.

140. Furthermore, as a result of RightOn Issues's status, PSAA's \$1.5 million grant to RightOn Issues was a gift or deposit to influence federal elections. *See Buckley*, 424 U.S. at 79 (political committees are "by definition, campaign related," and thus all transfers to them are for the purpose of influencing federal elections). Consequently, PSAA qualified as a political committee in 2020.

141. As alleged above and incorporated herein, PSAA made expenditures to influence federal elections in excess of \$1,000 no later than July 16, 2020 when it made a deposit or gift to a federally registered political committee, Georgia United Victory. Additionally, PSAA accepted a contribution in excess of \$1,000 when it accepted \$3.1 million to influence federal elections from an Unknown Respondent or Unknown Respondents.

142. Including the \$1.5 million PSAA contributed to RightOn Issues, which group was as a matter of law a political committee in 2020 and which group, for reasons alleged above, PSAA knew or should have known had a major purpose of influencing federal elections, with the other deposits or gifts PSAA made to federally registered political committees, shows that PSAA devoted 98% (or 100% with overhead allocated) of its 2020 expenditures to influencing federal elections.

143. Accordingly, no later than July 16, 2020, and continuing through the date of this filing and into the future, PSAA qualified as and was and is obligated to register and report as a political committee. To date, PSAA has not filed any report with the FEC terminating its status.

144. PSAA's failure to so register and report, and to disclose the true source of its \$3.1 million contribution, violates and continues to violate 52 U.S.C. §§ 30103, 30104(a), (b), and 11 C.F.R. §§ 102.1(d), 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.8.

145. Additionally, as alleged above and incorporated herein, Mr. Marston and/or Mr. Ayala were treasurers to PSAA at all relevant times, are personally aware of their responsibilities and their potential for personal liability, and are personally liable for violating and continuing to violate 52 U.S.C. §§ 30103, 30104(a), (b), and 11 C.F.R. §§ 102.1(d), 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.8 for PSAA's failure to register and report as a political committee.

Conclusion

146. WHEREFORE, complainants David Key, Vladimir Shklovsky, and Rev. David Lewicki request that the FEC conduct an investigation into these allegations; declare the respondents to have violated the FECA and applicable FEC regulations; and order respondents to correct these violations by filing reports and otherwise disclosing information as required by law. In addition, the complainants request that the FEC impose sanctions appropriate to these violations, and take such further action as may be appropriate, including referring this matter to the Department of Justice for criminal prosecution.

ÓN BEHALF OF COMPLAINANTS Stuart McPhail Senior Litigation Counsel Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington 1331 F St. N.W., Suite 900 Washington, D.C. 20004 (202) 408-5565 (phone) (202) 588-5020 (fax)

Verification

David Key hereby verifies that the statements made in paragraphs 1–22 and 35–146 of the attached Complaint are, upon information and belief, true. Sworn pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

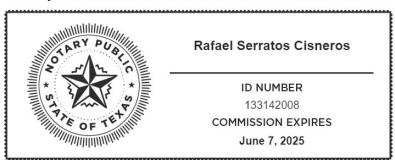
David Key

David Key

state of Texas county of El Paso, TX

Sworn to and subscribed before me this ^{2nd} day of ^{February}, ²⁰²³

Notary Public Rafael Serratos Cisneros



Notarized online using audio-video communication

Verification

Vladimir Shklovsky hereby verifies that the statements made in paragraphs 1–16, 23–28, and 35–146 of the attached Complaint are, upon information and belief, true. Sworn pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

Vladimir Shklovsky

Vladimir Shklovsky

State Of Virginia County Of Chesapeake

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2nd day of 4ay of 2023, 2023

Notary Public



Notarized online using audio-video communication

Verification

David Lewicki hereby verifies that the statements made in paragraphs 1–16 and 29–146 of the attached Complaint are, upon information and belief, true. Sworn pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

Lili

David Lewicki

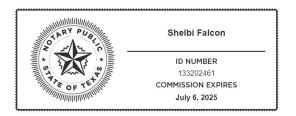
State of: Texas County of: Waller

Sworn to and subscribed before me this <u>2nd</u> day of <u>February</u>, 2023

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Notary Public, State of Texas

Notary Public



Notarized online using audio-video communication