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HOUSE ETHICS COMMITTEE MAY 22, 2019 ADVISORY OPINION IN THE MATTER OF ANNIE E. MCDANIEL COMPLAINT NO. C2019-013

Complainant: MaryGail Douglas
Address: 56 Kabbad Road
Winnsboro, South Carolina 29180
Telephone: 803-718-7222

Respondent: Annie E. McDaniel
Address: 2247 Kennedy Road
Winnsboro, South Carolina 29180
Telephone Number: 803-960-5782

This is in response to the State Ethics Commission's (herein "SEC") Recommendation and Investigative Report (herein "Report") dated May 17, 2019. The House Legislative Ethics Committee (herein "Committee") met on Wednesday, May 22, 2019 and issues the following advisory opinion pursuant to S.C. Code Section 8-13-540(a).

BACKGROUND

On August 23, 2018, the SEC received a complaint filed by MaryGail Douglas against Respondent Annie E. McDaniel, then candidate in the June 18, 2018 primary election and the November 6, 2018 general election for House of Representatives District 41. Said complaint alleged Respondent reported a reimbursement for gas instead of mileage, paid a family member more than fair market value, made questionable payments to campaign staff, and mailed a communication within 45 days of the primary election to influence the election. The SEC performed a thorough investigation, which did not reveal any evidence to support the allegation of overpayment to Respondent's mother or any evidence of improper payments to campaign workers. Further, the investigation did not reveal any evidence to support an actionable offense related to the mailer in question. However, review of the Respondent's personal and campaign bank records and campaign disclosure reports did reveal evidence to support offenses. As such, the SEC recommends that the Committee find probable cause is present and charge Respondent with four (4) counts of violation of § 8-13-1308(F)(2) for failing to disclose campaign contributions; thirteen

(13) counts of violation of § 8-13-1312 for failure to pay campaign expenditures from a campaign account; and three (3) counts of violation of § 8-13-1308(F)(4) for failing to disclose campaign expenditures. On May 22, 2019, the Committee met to consider, *inter alia*, this matter.

FINDINGS

Upon review of the SEC's recommendation and relevant evidence, the Committee makes the following findings:

I. S.C. Code § 8-13-1308(F)(2)

S.C. Code Ann. Section 8-13-1308(F)(2) provides that certified campaign reports detailing campaign contributions and expenditures must contain the name and address of each person making a contribution of more than one hundred dollars and the amount and date of receipt of each contribution.

A review of Respondent's campaign bank records and filings revealed that Respondent failed to identify on her campaign disclosure reports four campaign contributions, which were deposited in her campaign bank account. Those specific contributions are shown below in Table 1.

Table 1: Campaign contributions deposited into the campaign account but not identified on campaign disclosure report

	Date	Contributor	Amount
1	6/4/2018	Democracy Engine: Ragin Jeter \$200	\$200.00
2	7/2/2018	Mary Lynne Diggs	\$25.00
3	7/2/2018	Gary L. Burgess, Sr.	\$25.00
4	8/16/2018	Hilton Howe Cooper	\$50.00

Therefore, the Committee finds probable cause is present and charges Respondent with four (4) counts of violation of § 8-13-1308(F)(2) for failing to disclose campaign contributions.

II. S.C. Code § 8-13-1312

S.C. Code Ann. Section 8-13-1312 provides:

Except as is required for the separation of funds and expenditures under the provisions of Section 8-13-1300(7), a candidate shall not establish more than one campaign checking account and one campaign savings account for each office sought, and a committee shall not establish more than one checking account and one savings account unless federal or state law requires additional accounts. For purposes of this article, certificates of deposit or other interest bearing instruments are not considered separate accounts. A candidate's accounts must be established in a financial institution that conducts business within the State and in an office located within the State that conducts business with the general public. The candidate or a duly authorized officer of a committee must maintain the accounts

in the name of the candidate or committee. An acronym must not be used in the case of a candidate's accounts. An acronym or abbreviation may be used in the case of a committee's accounts if the acronym or abbreviation commonly is known or clearly recognized by the general public. Except as otherwise provided under Section 8-13-1348(C), expenses paid on behalf of a candidate or committee must be drawn from the campaign account and issued on a check signed by the candidate or a duly authorized officer of a committee. All contributions received by the candidate or committee, directly or indirectly, must be deposited in the campaign account by the candidate or committee within ten days after receipt. All contributions received by an agent of a candidate or committee must be forwarded to the candidate or committee not later than five days after receipt. A contribution must not be deposited until the candidate or committee receives information regarding the name and address of the contributor. If the name and address cannot be determined within seven days after receipt, the contribution must be remitted to the Children's Trust Fund.

A review of Respondent's personal bank records revealed thirteen campaign expenditures paid for using Respondent's personal credit card. The Committee notes that these expenditures were disclosed as expenditures on the Respondent's campaign disclosure reports. Because these expenditures were reported on the Respondent's campaign disclosure reports, the Committee finds no violation of South Carolina Code Section 8-13-1312. Use of personal funds to pay campaign expenditures is permissible; however, this type of payment must be disclosed as an in-kind contribution with a corresponding in-kind expenditure. The specific expenditures at issue are shown below in Table 2.

Table 2: Campaign expenditures paid with Respondent's personal credit card and reported on campaign disclosure report

	Date	Expense	Amount
1	4/11/2018	SC Revenue and Fiscal Affair	\$25.00
2	5/9/2018	UZ Marketing Materials	\$356.00
3	5/11/2018	Capital Consulting Strategies	\$250.00
4	5/25/2018	Office Depot	\$112.00
5	5/29/2018	Velvetex	\$567.00
6	6/1/2018	Columbia Printing & Graphics	\$586.44
7	6/2/2018	Hobby Lobby	\$19.00
8	6/2/2018	USPS	\$50.00
9	6/4/2018	Velvetex	\$25.00
10	6/5/2018	Circle K	\$25.00
11	6/11/2018	Columbia Printing & Graphics	\$444.96
12	6/11/2018	Capital Consulting Strategies	\$150.00
13	6/7/2018	Office Depot	\$188.19

Therefore, the Committee finds there is not competent and substantial evidence that a violation of § 8-13-1312 has occurred.

III. S.C. Code § 8-13-1308(F)(4)

S.C. Code Ann. Section 8-13-1308(F)(4) provides that certified campaign reports detailing campaign contributions and expenditures must contain the name and address of each person to whom an expenditure is made from campaign funds, including the date, amount, purpose, and beneficiary of the expenditure.

A review of Respondent's campaign bank records and filings revealed that Respondent failed to identify on her campaign disclosure reports three campaign expenditures. Those specific expenditures are shown below in Table 3.

Table 3: Campaign expenditures not reported on campaign disclosure report

	Date	Expense	Amount
1	6/7/2018	Office Depot	\$188.19
2	7/10/2018	County Grove Church	\$25.00
3	10/24/2018	Keondre Jones	\$125.00

Therefore, the Committee finds probable cause is present and charges Respondent with three (3) counts of violation of § 8-13-1308(F)(4) for failing to disclose campaign expenditures.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, the Committee hereby **CONCURS** in part with the SEC's recommendation and finds probable cause is present to charge Respondent with four (4) counts of violation of § 8-13-1308(F)(2) for failing to disclose campaign contributions; and three (3) counts of violation of § 8-13-1308(F)(4) for failing to disclose campaign expenditures. (See Findings Sections I and III).

The Committee hereby **NONCONCURS** in part with the SEC's recommendation and finds there is not competent and substantial evidence that a violation of § 8-13-1312 has occurred. (See Findings Section II).

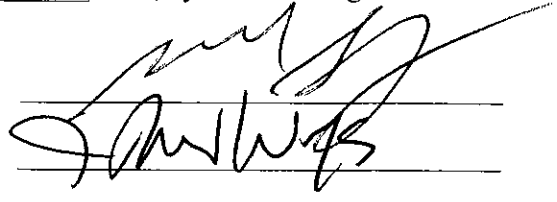
The Committee additionally **FINDS** that Respondent must pay a penalty of \$100.00 (One Hundred Dollars and 00/100) within thirty (30) days of the date of this Advisory Opinion.

The Committee **ORDERS** Respondent to submit campaign bank account records to the House Ethics Committee with the July 2019 and October 2019 quarterly campaign disclosure filing for an audit by HEC staff.

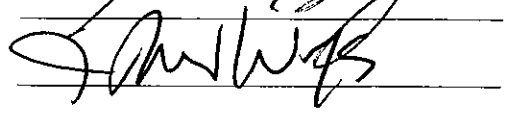
Finally, the Committee **NOTES** that there are no findings to suggest that the Respondent engaged in intentional misconduct nor did Respondent attempt to procure any personal gains.

AND IT SO ORDERED, this 22nd day of May 2019, by the following members of the House Ethics Committee:

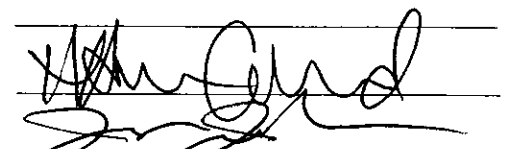
Rep. G. Murrell Smith, Jr, Chairman



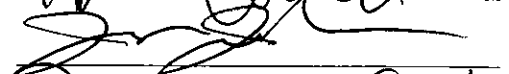
Rep. J. David Weeks, Vice-Chairman



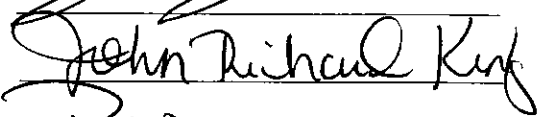
Rep. Beth E. Bernstein, Secretary



Rep. Heather Ammons Crawford



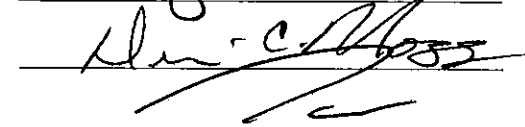
Rep. Wallace "Jay" Jordan, Jr.



Rep. John Richard C. King

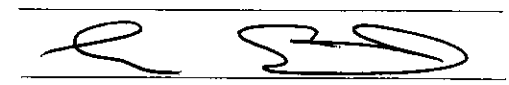


Rep. Peter M. McCoy, Jr.



Rep. Dennis C. Moss

Rep. J. Todd Rutherford



Rep. Leonidas E. "Leon" Stavrinakis

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

RECEIVED
2018 AUG 23 PM 1:47
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

FOR COMMISSION USE ONLY
CASE NUMBER
C2019-013

COMPLAINT FORM

COMPLAINANT: Mary Gail Douglas
ADDRESS: 56 Kahlberg Rd.
Windsboro, SC
TELEPHONE NUMBER: 803.718.7222
TITLE: Repres.

RESPONDENT: Annie E. McDaniel
ADDRESS: 2247 Kennedy Rd.
Windsboro, SC 29180
TELEPHONE NUMBER: 803.960.5782
TITLE: Candidate

Set forth in detail specific facts upon which you based your complaint against above-named respondent (only detailed, clear factual allegations will be considered.) (If additional space is needed, attach supplemental sheets).

See attached Supplemental Sheet.

All investigations, inquiries, hearings, and accompanying documents must remain confidential until a finding of probable cause or dismissal unless the respondent waives the right to confidentiality. The willful release of confidential information is a misdemeanor, and any person releasing such confidential information, upon conviction, must be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or imprisoned not more than one year. Section 8-13-320(10)(g).

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF Richland

Personally appeared before me Mary Gail Douglas who, first being duly sworn, says that he/she has read and knows the contents of the above complaint and that the allegations contained therein, are true and correct to the best of his/her own knowledge, except for those matters therein based upon information and belief, and as to those he/she believes them to be true.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this
27th day of August, 2018
Connie Davis Rouse
Notary Public for South Carolina
My Commission expires 9/6/2026

Mary Gail Douglas

MaryGail Douglas
56 Kabbad Road
Winnsboro, S. C. 29180
803 635-9292 803 718-7222

August 21, 2018

State of South Carolina
State Ethics Commission
201 Executive Center Drive Suite 150
Columbia, S. C. 29210

RECEIVED
2018 AUG 23 PM 1:47
STATE ETHICS
COMMISSION

Re: Supplemental Sheet to Complaint Form

Dear Sir/Madam:

Please find attached a formal complaint form and supporting documentation to ~~look into possible violations as they pertain to recent campaign activity leading up~~ to the Democratic Primary of June 12, 2018.

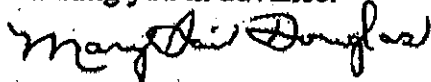
There are a number of issues in question. They are among the following:

- Per campaign disclosure report: 6/5/18 is an expense for mileage at a Circle K in the amount of \$25.00
- Per campaign disclosure report: 6/12/18 is an expense to Ms. McDaniel's mother for phone calls in the amount of \$100. Question payment to family.
- Earl Stringfellow is listed as a campaign contractor. He is a minister in Chester, S. C. and the question is raised as to whether he can legitimately receive the pay as a campaign manager; and the second part is if this amount is reported as income to DOR/IRS. This amount represents \$3500.00 as of the July 10, 2018 report. In early announcements of Ms. McDaniel's campaign, Sam Broome announced in a public meeting that he was the campaign manager. Campaign disclosure report: June 12, 2018, Mr. Broome received \$112.00 and that is the only entry for him. Description of this expenditure was for poles and sign supplies.
- A mailer went into boxes in District 41 5 days before the primary. Per campaign disclosure report: June 5 and 6: Expenditures for printing postcard and mailing in the amount of \$1544.96. These expenditures were to Columbia Printing and Graphics and to Campaign Research Strategies.

Referencing Section 8-13-1300 (31)(C). This states, "Any communication made, not more than forty-five days before an election, which promotes or supports a candidate or attacks or opposes a candidate, regardless of whether the communication expressly advocates a vote for or against a candidate..." This postcard clearly violates that part of the ethics rules.
(Postcard attached)

I appreciate your interest and assistance into this matter and will be available to answer any additional information that may help in resolving these issues. I will continue to pursue this until the proper attention is given to these types of practices. If we do not hold public officials accountable for wrongful behavior, we will be hard pressed to find decent and honorable people to serve the people of our state. Please know how much I appreciate the job you have and what it means to hold people responsible for inappropriate behaviors in our political world.

Thanking you in advance.



Mary Gail Douglas

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**SOUTH CAROLINA
State Ethics Commission**

Public Disclosure and Accountability Reporting System

**Individual Reports
Candidate Campaign Disclosure**

2018, Initial, Pre-Election Report

Candidate: McDaniel, Annie E
 Position Sought: State House Representative
 District/Locale: 41
 Election Type: Primary
 Election Date: 11/06/2018
 Filing Type: Original
 Filing Date: 05/24/2018

Demographic Information

McDaniel, Annie E
 2247 Kennedy Road
 Winnsboro, SC 29180
 803.960.5782
 Fairfield County

Report Type

2018, Initial, Pre-Election

Filing Fee

Please Note: The filing fee was paid from personal funds and is the only expense for this campaign.

Amount of Filing Fee\$ 208

Contributions

Contributions	This Period	Election Cycle
A. Candidates: Personal Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00
B1. Individual Contributions or other (+)	\$0.00	\$0.00
B2. Loans (+)	\$0.00	\$0.00
C. In-Kind Contributions (+)	\$0.00	\$0.00
D. Total Contributions (=)	\$0.00	\$0.00

Expenditures

Expenditures	This Period	Election Cycle
A. In-Kind Expenditures	\$0.00	\$0.00
B. Expenditures (+)	\$0.00	\$0.00
C. Total Expenditures (-)	\$0.00	\$0.00

Balance of Contributions	This Period
A. Contributions on Hand (Beginning this Period)	\$0.00
B. Total Contributions (This Period) (+)	\$0.00
C. Total Expenditures (This Period) (-)	\$0.00
D. Contributions On Hand (Period End) (=)	\$0.00

Loans	
Loan Balance:	\$0.00

***** No Contributions Reported. *****

***** No Expenditures Reported. *****

***** No Loans Reported. *****

***** No Loan Repayments Reported. *****

***** No Assets Purchased or Received Reported. *****

***** No Disposition of Assets Reported. *****

Filing Fee

Please Note: The filing fee was paid from personal funds and is the only expense for this campaign.

Amount of Filing Fee \$ 208

Contributions	This Period	Election Cycle
A. Candidates: Personal Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00
B1. Individual Contributions or other (+)	\$0.00	\$0.00
B2. Loans (+)	\$208.00	\$208.00
C. In-Kind Contributions (+)	\$0.00	\$0.00
D. Total Contributions (=)	\$208.00	\$208.00

Expenditures	This Period	Election Cycle
A. In-Kind Expenditures	\$0.00	\$0.00
B. Expenditures (+)	\$208.00	\$208.00
C. Total Expenditures (=)	\$208.00	\$208.00

Balance of Contributions	This Period
A. Contributions on Hand (Beginning this Period)	\$0.00
B. Total Contributions (This Period) (+)	\$208.00
C. Total Expenditures (This Period) (-)	\$208.00
D. Contributions On Hand (Period End) (=)	\$0.00

Loans

Loan Balance:	\$208.00
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SOUTH CAROLINA
State Ethics Commission

Public Disclosure and Accountability Reporting System

Individual Reports Candidate Campaign Disclosure

2018, July 10th Report

Candidate: McDaniel, Annie E
Position Sought: State House Representative
District/Locality: 41
Election Type: General
Election Date: 11/06/2018
Filing Type: Original
Filing Date: 07/10/2018

Select a tab to view more.

Summary

Contributions

Expenditures

Loans

Loan Payments

More »

Demographic Information

McDaniel, Annie E
2247 Kennedy Road
Winnsboro, SC 29180
803.960.5782
Fairfield County

Report Type

2018, July 10th

Filing Fee

Please Note: The filing fee was paid from personal funds and is the only expense for this campaign.

Amount of Filing Fee \$ 208

Contributions	This Period	Election Cycle
A. Candidates: Personal Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00
B1. Individual Contributions or other (+)	\$3,200.00	\$3,200.00
B2. Loans (+)	\$7,000.00	\$7,208.00
C. In-Kind Contributions (+)	\$0.00	\$0.00
D. Total Contributions (=)	\$10,200.00	\$10,408.00

Expenditures	This Period	Election Cycle
A. In-Kind Expenditures	\$0.00	\$0.00
B. Expenditures (+)	\$9,836.31	\$10,044.31
C. Total Expenditures (=)	\$9,836.31	\$10,044.31

Balance of Contributions	This Period
A. Contributions on Hand (Beginning this Period)	\$0.00
B. Total Contributions (This Period) (+)	\$10,200.00
C. Total Expenditures (This Period) (-)	\$9,836.31
D. Contributions On Hand (Period End) (=)	\$363.69

Loans

Loan Balance:	\$7,208.00
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Contributions

SOUTH CAROLINA
State Ethics Commission

Public Disclosure and Accountability Reporting System

Individual Reports
Candidate Campaign Disclosure

2018, July 10th Report

Download CSV File

Candidate: McDaniel, Annie E
Position Sought: State House Representative
District/Locale: 41
Election Type: General
Election Date: 11/06/2018
Filing Type: Original
Filing Date: 07/10/2018

** Democracy Engine
- Who is the
original
contributor?*

** See attached
copy of
web page
"How it Works"*

Select a tab to view more.

Summary

Contributions

Expenditures

Loans

Loan Payments

More »

Date	Contributor	Address	Occupation	Amount
06/21/2018	Democracy Engine LLC	416 Florida Ave NW 26418 Washington, DC 20001		\$50.00
06/20/2018	Democracy Engine LLC	416 Florida Ave NW 26418 Washington, DC 20001		\$50.00
06/12/2018	Democracy Engine LLC	416 Florida Ave NW 26418 Washington, DC 20001		\$275.00
06/11/2018	Evelyn Henry	14 Ribbon Road Winnsboro, SC 29180	Retored Educator	\$50.00
06/11/2018	Yvette Thompson	204 Quinton Lane Columbia, SC 29229	Retired Auditor	\$100.00
06/11/2018	Melzina Cannon	1703 Elm Abode Terrace Columbia, SC 29210	Self Employed Tax and Accounting	\$100.00
06/11/2018	Eva Prioleau	216 Fox Meadow Lane Hopkins, SC 29061	Manager	\$200.00
06/11/2018	Charles Boykin	417 Spinnakers Columbia, SC 29229	Attorney	\$100.00
06/11/2018	Kenneth Davis	225 Wood Moor Place Columbia, SC 29212	Attorney	\$100.00
06/11/2018	Lisa McLeod	Thorn Tree Lane Columbia, SC 29212	Manager	\$50.00
06/10/2018	Brenda Boykin	417 Spinnakers Columbia, SC 29229	Retired Educator	\$100.00
06/10/2018	Cynthia Vertell Brown	2905 Kennedy Dr Marion, SC 29574	Pastor	\$50.00
06/10/2018	MBKahn	101 Flintlake Road Columbia, SC 29223		\$250.00
06/10/2018	Planned Parenthood	100 S. Boylan Ave.		\$1,000.00

		Winnsboro, SC 29180		
06/10/2018	Brownstone Construction Group LLC	1310 Lady Street Suite 204 Columbia, SC 29201		\$250.00
06/09/2018	Democracy Engine LLC	416 Florida Ave NW 26418 Washington, DC 20001		\$250.00
06/05/2018	Democracy Engine LLC	416 Florida Ave NW 26418 Washington, DC 20001		\$25.00
06/02/2018	Eva P Prioleau	216 Fox Meadow Lane Hopkins, SC 29061	Manager	\$200.00
Total				\$3,200.00

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Expenditures

SOUTH CAROLINA
State Ethics Commission
Public Disclosure and Accountability Reporting System

Individual Reports
Candidate Campaign Disclosure

2018, July 10th Report

Download CSV File

Candidate: McDaniel, Annie E
Position Sought: State House Representative
District/Locale: 41
Election Type: General
Election Date: 11/06/2018
Filing Type: Original
Filing Date: 07/10/2018

• Stringfellow
Items 1, 2, 3 # 3500
(contract services)

• Mary McDaniel
(Annie's Mother)
Item 4

• Annie McDaniel
Items 5, 6. mileage reimb.
• Circle K
mileage

Select a tab to view more.

Summary

Contributions

Expenditures

Loans

Loan Payments

More »

Item 7, 8

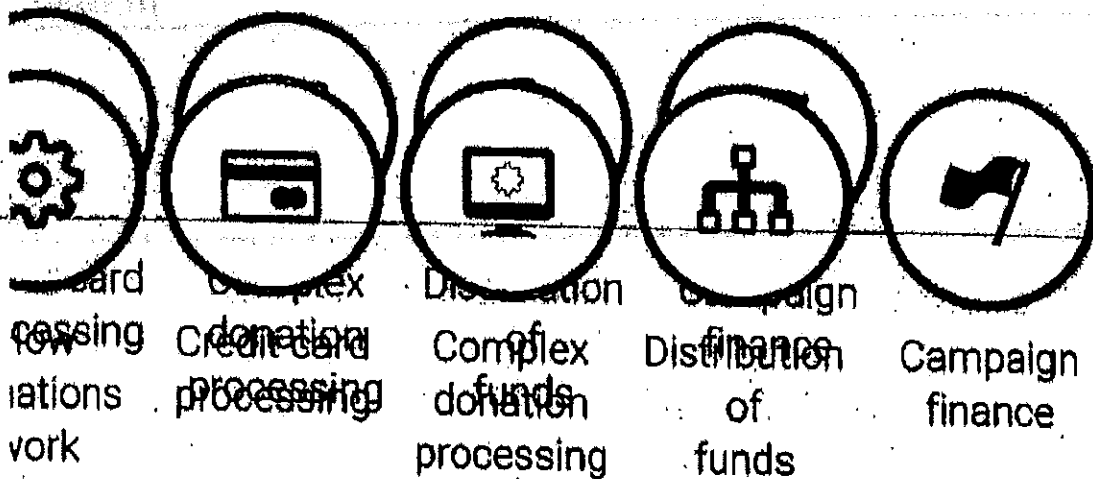
• Post card that
went into mailbox
4 days before
election (primary)

	Date	Vendor	Address	Description	Amount
①	06/12/2018	Earl Stringfellow	540 Armory Road Chester, SC 29706-6830	Campaign Contract Services	\$500.00
	06/12/2018	Gladden Williams	4705 Cardinal Grove Blvd Raleigh, NC 27616	Contract Services	\$550.00
	06/12/2018	Gladden Williams	4705 Cardinal Grove Blvd Raleigh, NC 27616	Office Max and Other Printing	\$200.00
	06/12/2018	Sam Broome	Russell Street Winnsboro, SC 29180	Poles and supplies to post signs	\$112.00
④	06/12/2018	Mary McDaniel	2247 Kennedy Road Winnsboro, SC 29180	Followup Phone Calls	\$100.00
⑤	06/12/2018	Annie E. McDaniel	2247 Kennedy Road Winnsboro, SC 29180	Mileage - Chester, Fairfield and Richland	\$228.25
	06/11/2018	Capitol Consulting Strategies	1111 Belleview Street, Suite 107 Columbia, SC 2920 Columbia, SC 29201	Campaign Contract Services	\$150.00
⑦	06/06/2018	Columbia Printing and Graphics	1204 Sumter Street Columbia, SC 29201	Printing Postcard for Mailing	\$444.96
⑧	06/05/2018	Campaign Research Strategies	1528 Blanding Street Columbia, SC 29201	Mailing and Contract Services	\$1,100.00
⑥	06/05/2018	Circle K	2220 Broad River Road Columbia, SC 29210	Mileage	\$25.00
	06/04/2018	Velvetex	1144 Shop Road Columbia, SC 29202	Signs and Step Stakes	\$469.80
②	06/02/2018	Earl Stringfellow	540 Armory Road Chester, SC 29706-6830	Campaign Contract Services	\$1,000.00
	06/02/2018	USPS	Two Notch Road Columbia, SC 29223	stamps for church mailings	\$50.00
	06/02/2018	Hobby Lobby	Walmart Columbia, SC 29210	supplies for mailing and magnets	\$19.00
	06/01/2018	Columbia Printing and Graphics	1204 Sumter Street Columbia, SC 29201	Campaign Postcard Printing	\$586.44
	05/29/2018	Velvetex	1144 Shop Road Columbia, SC 29202	Signs and Lapels	\$567.00
	05/25/2018	Office Depot	Dutch Square Columbia, SC 29210	Campaign Copies and Flyers	\$112.86

3	05/25/2018	Earl Stringfellow	540 Armory Road Chester, SC 29706-6890	Campaign Contract Services	\$1,500.00
	05/11/2018	The Call Center	740 South Edisto Ave Columbia, SC 29205	Campaign Election Phone Banking	\$1,300.00
	05/11/2018	Capitol Consulting Strategies	1111 Bellevue Street, Suite 107 Columbia, SC 2920 Columbia, SC 29201	Campaign Contract Services	\$250.00
	05/09/2018	UZ Marketing Materials	5900 Bingle Rd Houston, TX 77092	Signs and Stakes	\$356.00
	04/11/2018	SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office	1000 Assembly Street Room 421 Columbia, SC 29201	SC Houes District 41 Map - Loan	\$25.00
Total					\$9,836.31

Who is
"Democracy Engine"?

How it works.



How Donations Work.

Democracy Engine's functionality is based on a sophisticated understanding of the array of regulations that govern nonprofits, charitable giving, and campaign finance to make sure that contributions are collected and disbursed in accordance with all legal requirements. Our tools are built around flexibility, and are designed to work smoothly at the highest and lowest levels of government, especially for donations to recipients with whom you have no relationship or who might not yet exist (potential candidates for office).

“Flexible. Simple. Smart.
Secure. Donation
processing the way it
should be.”

Credit Card and E-Check Processing.

Democracy Engine works with American Express, Discover, and several Visa/Mastercard member banks to ensure the most stable and secure end-to-end process available. We also work with Amalgamated Bank to quickly process e-checks.

Complex Donation Processing.

Giving away money has never been simpler and more complex. Democracy Engine makes it easy to give to any organization or candidate, or multiple organizations or candidates at once.

The Democracy Engine is a non-profit organization that provides a platform for citizens to fund and support political candidates. We are currently accepting donations from individuals and organizations. All contributions are used to support the campaign of the candidate of your choice. We are committed to transparency and accountability in our operations. We will provide you with a receipt for your donation and will ensure that your funds are used for the intended purpose. We are currently accepting donations for the upcoming election. We are committed to providing a secure and easy-to-use platform for our donors. We are currently accepting donations for the upcoming election. We are committed to providing a secure and easy-to-use platform for our donors.

Distribution of funds.

We know it is important for you to know your money is getting where you want it to go (even if you don't know how to get it there yourself). Democracy Engine distributes funds via check and ACH (direct deposit). All campaigns and political committees receive funds weekly (or more often if the law requires it). Charities and Nonprofits receive funds weekly via direct deposit or monthly via check. And if you need your donation to get there more quickly, we will work with you to get your donation where you want it when you want it there.

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Campaign finance.

We know that this is a major concern of donors. First, we work with our partners to ensure that you don't give more than legally allowed. Second, Democracy Engine was built with campaign finance in mind. Each transaction we process captures all information required (such as employer and occupation and even employers address) by regulators and each distribution we make (direct deposit or check) has an associated data file available for download and easy upload to whatever compliance software your intended recipient might use. You'll never receive another one of those annoying "we need to collect this data to accept your donation" letters ever again.

Let's get started

State Ethics Commission—Recommendation to House Legislative Ethics Committee
In the Matter of Annie E. McDaniel

COMPLAINANT INFORMATION

Name	Mary Gail Douglas
Address	56 Kabbad Rd. Winnsboro, SC 29180
Telephone Number	803-718-7222
Email	None

RESPONDENT INFORMATION

Name	Annie E. McDaniel
Address	2247 Kennedy Rd. Winnsboro, SC 29180
Telephone Number	803-960-5782
Email	None
Attorney Information	None
Confidentiality Waived	No

COMPLAINT INFORMATION

Complaint No.	C2019-013
Complaint Received	August 23, 2018
Facts Sufficient Determination	August 23, 2018
Facts Sufficient Determination Made By	State Ethics Commission

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

The State Ethics Commission recommends the House Legislative Ethics Committee find probable cause is present and charge Respondent with four (4) counts of violation of § 8-13-1308(F)(2) for failing to disclose campaign contributions; thirteen (13) counts of violation of § 8-13-1312 for failing to pay campaign expenditures from a campaign account; and three (3) counts of violation of § 8-13-1308(F)(4) for failing to disclose campaign expenditures.