

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Washington, DC

May 1, 2024 1 2 **MEMORANDUM** TO: The Commission 3 4 5 FROM: Lisa J. Stevenson 6 **Acting General Counsel** 7 8 Charles Kitcher Associate General Counsel for Enforcement 9 10 Deputy Associate General Counsel for Enforcement 11 Assistant General Counsel AR Aaron Rabinowitz BY: 12 13 Dominique Dillenseger $\mathcal{D}\mathcal{D}$ 14 Attorney 15 **SUBJECT:** MUR 7678 (Keisha Carter, et al.) 16 17 Recommendation to Accept the Signed Probable Cause Conciliation Agreement and Disposition of Remaining Allegations 18 19 20 On January 23, 2024, the Commission found probable cause to believe that Keisha Carter in her personal capacity knowingly and willfully violated 52 U.S.C. § 30102(h)(1) and 11 C.F.R. 21 § 103.3 by failing to deposit \$97,145 in campaign receipts in or make \$6,494 in campaign 22 disbursements from an account at a properly designated campaign depository, and knowingly and 23 24 willfully violated 52 U.S.C. § 30102(b)(3) and 11 C.F.R. § 102.15 by failing to keep \$97,145 in campaign funds segregated from the personal funds of any individual. The Commission 25 authorized the Office of General Counsel ("OGC") to engage in probable cause conciliation with 26 Carter and approved a conciliation agreement.² 27

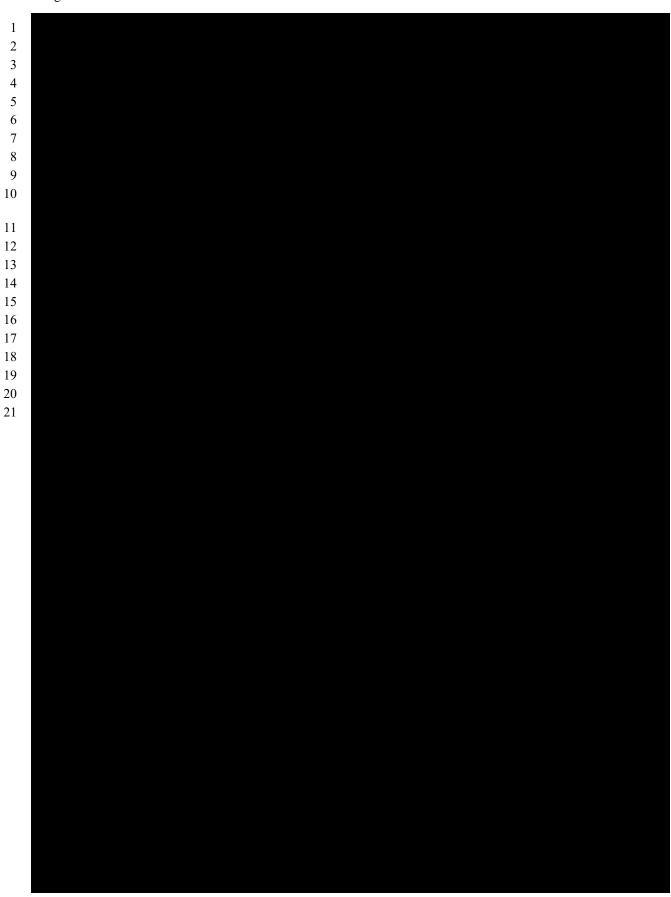
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Certification ("Cert.") ¶ 1 (Keisha Carter: Office of General Counsel's Notice to the Commission Following the Submission of Probable Cause Brief) (Jan. 23, 2024).

² Cert. ¶ 1 (Keisha Carter: Proposed Conciliation Agreement for Probable Cause Conciliation) (Jan. 23, 2024).

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The Commission previously found reason to believe that Carter knowingly and willfully violated 52 U.S.C. §§ 30102(c) and (h) and 30104(b) by failing to keep accurate records and file accurate reports of receipts and disbursements. The Commission also took no action at that time as to whether Carter knowingly and willfully violated 52 U.S.C. § 30114(b)(1) by converting Committee funds to personal use. As explained in the Second General Counsel's Report, the investigation did not develop evidence to establish the extent of Carter's misreporting or to substantiate the personal use allegations due to the lack of documentation related to the numerous deposits into and withdrawals from Carter's business account. In the Report, we stated that the Commission could seek to obtain additional documentation but that we were not recommending that the Commission further pursue the recordkeeping, misreporting, and personal use allegations given the limited available information and impending statute of limitations. Accordingly, for the same reasons mentioned in that report and in light of the allegations for which Carter has admitted liability, we recommend that the Commission take no further action as to the recordkeeping and reporting violations and dismiss the allegations of personal use by Carter. As

- ⁹ Cert. ¶ 2.a (June 27, 2022).
- *Id.* ¶ 2.b.

- Second Gen. Counsel's Report at 6-9.
- *Id.* at 8-9.

The Commission previously took no action at that time as to whether John Eaves for Congress and John H. Eaves in his official capacity as treasurer violated 52 U.S.C. §§ 30102(c) and (h) and 30104(b) by failing to keep accurate records and file accurate reports of receipts and disbursements. Cert. ¶ 2.b (June 22, 2022). As mentioned above, our investigation developed limited information that Carter, as the Committee's treasurer, failed to keep accurate records and file accurate reports. Therefore, for the same reasons we are not recommending pursuing potential allegations as to her, we do not recommend that the Commission pursue John Eaves for Congress. It is our understanding that no further votes are required by the Commission at this stage of the matter to close the file as to this Respondent.

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RECOMMENDATIONS:

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2	1.	Accept the attached conciliation agreement with Keisha Carter;
3 4 5	2.	Take no further action as to the allegations that Keisha Carter knowingly and willfully violated 52 U.S.C. §§ 30102(c) and (h) and 30104(b) by failing to keep accurate records and file accurate reports of receipts and disbursements;
6 7	3.	Dismiss the allegations that Keisha Carter converted campaign funds to personal use in violation of 52 U.S.C. § 30114(b)(1);
8	4.	Approve the appropriate letters; and
9	5.	Close the file.
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