



**OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

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BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION & LABOR

STATEMENT OF CECILY E. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY  
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE, ON THE OCF  
FY 23 PERFORMANCE REPORT AND THE FY 24 PERFORMANCE PLAN

FEBRUARY 7, 2024

GOOD AFTERNOON CHAIRPERSON ANITA BONDS, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION AND LABOR. I AM CECILY E. COLLIER-MONTGOMERY, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE. APPEARING WITH ME TODAY IS WILLIAM O. SANFORD, THE GENERAL COUNSEL FOR THE AGENCY. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY TODAY ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 PERFORMANCE REPORT AND THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 PERFORMANCE PLAN OF THE OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE.

THE OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE (OCF) ADMINISTERS AND ENFORCES THE D.C. CAMPAIGN FINANCE ACT, AS AMENDED, AND THE FAIR ELECTIONS AMENDMENT ACT OF 2018, WHICH GOVERN CAMPAIGN OPERATIONS, THE PUBLIC FINANCING OF CAMPAIGN OPERATIONS, AND THE CONSTITUENT SERVICES AND STATEHOOD FUND PROGRAMS. THE AGENCY IS ORGANIZED INTO FOUR (4) MAJOR DIVISIONS WHICH OPERATE UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR: THE PUBLIC INFORMATION AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION (“PIRM”); THE REPORTS ANALYSIS AND AUDIT DIVISION (“RAAD”); THE OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL (“OGC”); AND THE FAIR ELECTIONS PROGRAM DIVISION (FEP). THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE AGENCY TOTALED \$7,473,090.00 AND 38 CONTINUING FULL TIME EQUIVALENTS (FTES).

## FY23 PERFORMANCE REPORT

### THE 2022 ELECTION CYCLE

#### THE FAIR ELECTIONS PROGRAM

OF SIGNIFICANCE, THE NOVEMBER 8, 2022 GENERAL ELECTION CULMINATED IN THE LAST MAJOR EVENT OF THE 2022 ELECTION CYCLE. THE 2022 ELECTION CYCLE WAS THE SECOND ELECTION CYCLE DURING WHICH THE OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE ADMINISTERED THE FAIR ELECTIONS PROGRAM. THE 2022 ELECTION CYCLE CLOSED ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022.

OVERALL, FIFTY-TWO (52) CANDIDATES REGISTERED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FAIR ELECTIONS PROGRAM DURING THE 2022 ELECTION CYCLE. FORTY-TWO (42) CANDIDATES MET THE THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS FOR THE COVERED OFFICES SOUGHT, AND WERE CERTIFIED AS “PARTICIPATING CANDIDATES” IN THE PROGRAM IN THE NOVEMBER 8, 2022 GENERAL ELECTION (11), AND IN THE JUNE 21, 2022 PRIMARY ELECTION (31). ULTIMATELY, THIRTY-SEVEN OF THE FEP CERTIFIED CANDIDATES QUALIFIED FOR BALLOT ACCESS THROUGH THE NOMINATING PETITION PROCESS IN THE PRIMARY (27) AND GENERAL (10) ELECTIONS.

BY COMPARISON, TWENTY (20) CANDIDATES REGISTERED IN THE TRADITIONAL CAMPAIGN FINANCE PROGRAM AND QUALIFIED FOR BALLOT ACCESS IN THE PRIMARY (7) AND GENERAL (13) ELECTIONS. TEN (10) OF THE TRADITIONAL PROGRAM CANDIDATES WERE NOT REQUIRED TO FILE REPORTS OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES BECAUSE NINE (9) CLAIMED THE \$500 EXEMPTION AND ONE (1) WAS A WRITE-IN CANDIDATE.

DURING THIS SECOND CYCLE OF THE PROGRAM’S IMPLEMENTATION, TEN (10) OF THE FEP CANDIDATES WERE CERTIFIED BY THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS ON NOVEMBER 30, 2022, AS WINNERS IN TEN (10) OF THE THIRTEEN (13) SEATS FOR PUBLIC OFFICE ELECTED IN THE NOVEMBER 2022 GENERAL ELECTION. THE AGENCY AUTHORIZED THE DISBURSEMENT OF THE TOTAL SUM OF **\$12,358,606.95** FROM THE ELECTIONS FUND IN BASE AMOUNT (\$1,660,000.00) AND MATCHING

PAYMENTS (\$10,696,756.95), TO THE FORTY-TWO (42) CERTIFIED FEP CANDIDATES. TO DATE, THE TOTAL SUM OF **\$903,207.20** HAS BEEN REMITTED FOR DEPOSIT IN THE FAIR ELECTIONS FUND FROM THE CAMPAIGN OPERATIONS OF THE CANDIDATES CERTIFIED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FAIR ELECTIONS PROGRAM DURING THE 2022 ELECTION CYCLE.

THE FAIR ELECTIONS PROGRAM HAS PROVIDED THE FINANCIAL IMPETUS FOR CANDIDATES TO COMPETE IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS FOR THE FIRST TIME WHO MAY NOT HAVE OTHERWISE CONSIDERED ELECTIVE OFFICE, WHILE ALSO AMPLIFYING THE VOICE OF THE SMALL DOLLAR INDIVIDUAL DISTRICT RESIDENT CONTRIBUTOR WHOSE CONTRIBUTION QUALIFIED FOR MATCH.

#### POST-ELECTION AUDITS 2022

THE REPORTS ANALYSIS AND AUDIT DIVISION INITIATED IN FEBRUARY 2023, FOUR (4) FULL FIELD AUDITS OF THE CAMPAIGN OPERATIONS OF THE NEWLY ELECTED PUBLIC OFFICIALS WHO REGISTERED IN THE TRADITIONAL CAMPAIGN FINANCE PROGRAM AS CANDIDATES AND WERE CERTIFIED AS WINNERS BY THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS ON NOVEMBER 30, 2022, IN THE NOVEMBER 8, 2022 GENERAL ELECTION, AND OF ONE (1) COMMITTEE WHICH WAS ALSO ACTIVE DURING THE 2022 ELECTION CYCLE. THE CANDIDATES WERE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT ALL CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL RECORDS TO THE AGENCY FROM THE DATE OF THE REGISTRATION OF THE PRINCIPAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE TO THE DATE OF THE ELECTION.

THE AGENCY COMPLETED THREE (3) OF THE AUDITS AND ISSUED FINAL AUDIT REPORTS FOR THE OYE FOR US REPRESENTATIVE PRINCIPAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE ON APRIL 4, 2023; THE ERIC GOULET FOR SBOE PRINCIPAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE ON MAY 26, 2023; AND THE MENDELSON FOR CHAIRMAN 2022 PRINCIPAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE ON AUGUST 17, 2023. ALL AUDITS WERE COMPLIANCE AUDITS, THE AGENCY HAVING DETERMINED THAT THE RESPECTIVE COMMITTEES WERE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE ACT. THE REMAINING ONE (1) FULL FIELD AUDIT IS ONGOING.

THE AUDITS ENSURE THAT THE PUBLIC RECORD PROVIDES A FULL AND ACCURATE PORTRAYAL OF CAMPAIGN OPERATIONS IN THE TRADITIONAL CAMPAIGN FINANCE PROGRAM.

THE FAIR ELECTIONS PROGRAM DIVISION INITIATED IN MARCH 2023, THE POST-ELECTION AUDITS OF THE CAMPAIGN OPERATIONS OF THE 42 CANDIDATES CERTIFIED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM DURING THE JUNE 2022 PRIMARY ELECTION, AND THE NOVEMBER 8, 2022 GENERAL ELECTION. TO DATE, THE FAIR ELECTIONS PROGRAM DIVISION HAS ISSUED TWENTY (20) PRELIMINARY STATEMENTS OF AUDIT FINDINGS, AND NINETEEN (19) FINAL AUDIT REPORTS FOR THE 2022 ELECTION CYCLE. THE AUDITS WILL ENSURE THE PROPER USE OF PUBLIC FUNDS RECEIVED BY CANDIDATES CERTIFIED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FAIR ELECTIONS PROGRAM DURING THE 2022 ELECTION CYCLE.

**ALL FINAL AUDIT REPORTS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE OCF WEBSITE, [WWW.OCF.DC.GOV](http://WWW.OCF.DC.GOV), FOR REVIEW BY THE PUBLIC.**

#### POST-ELECTION 2022 FAIR ELECTIONS PROGRAM REPORT

THE AGENCY PUBLISHED THE SECOND OCF FEP POST-ELECTION REPORT FOR THE 2022 ELECTION CYCLE, ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2023, AT THE OCF WEBSITE, PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF D.C. OFFICIAL CODE § 1-1163.32J (A). THE REPORT IS BASED ON INFORMATION REPORTED IN THE REPORTS OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES COVERING THE START OF THE CAMPAIGNS OF THE CANDIDATES REFERENCED THEREIN THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022.

THE REPORT IS PRESENTED IN FOUR PARTS. PART 1 IS AN OVERVIEW OF THE 2022 ELECTION CYCLE AND THE FAIR ELECTIONS PROGRAM. PART II IS THE OCF REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL TRENDS IN PUBLIC FINANCING PROGRAMS, AND INCLUDES LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS. PART III PRESENTS STATISTICAL DATA FROM THE 32022 ELECTION CYCLE. PART IV CONTAINS LISTS OF THE QUALIFIED SMALL DOLLAR CONTRIBUTORS AND EXPENDITURES FOR ALL CERTIFIED FEP

PARTICIPATING CANDIDATES. THE PUBLICATION OF THE POST-ELECTION REPORT PROVIDES DISTRICT RESIDENTS WITH INFORMATION PERTINENT TO THE CAMPAIGN OPERATIONS OF THOSE CANDIDATES WHO WERE CERTIFIED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FEP DURING THE 2022 PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTIONS, AND DEEMED ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE PUBLIC FUNDS.

**THE ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM (FISCAL YEAR 2023 HIGHLIGHTS)**

DURING FY 23, THERE WERE A TOTAL OF 1141 REQUIRED FILERS IN ALL OF THE OCF PROGRAMS: 983 TIMELY FILED; 91 LATE FILED; AND APPROXIMATELY 67 FILERS REMAIN DELINQUENT. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTUAL FILERS (1074) REPRESENTS 94% OF THE TOTAL REQUIRED FILERS (1190)?(1141) WHO COMPLIED WITH THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY- ONE (181) REPORTING ENTITIES WERE REFERRED TO THE GENERAL COUNSEL FOR THE FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS. THE OGC CONDUCTED SIXTY (60) INFORMAL HEARINGS AND ISSUED 115 ORDERS OF THE DIRECTOR. FINES IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$82,825.00 WERE IMPOSED IN SIXTY-EIGHT (68) CASES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE ACT. THE FINES WERE PAID IN FULL OR BY THE TERMS OF AN INSTALLMENT PLAN IN TWENTY (20) CASES, AND VACATED OR SETTLED FOR REDUCED AMOUNTS IN TEN (10) CASES. THE AGENCY COLLECTED FINES IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$13,095.39 IN FY23, AND \$4,350.00 IN FY24. THE AGENCY FILED TWENTY-SIX (26) PETITIONS BEFORE THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS DURING FY23 AND EIGHT (8) IN FY24, TO DATE, TO ENFORCE THE PAYMENT OF OUTSTANDING FINES IN THE TOTAL SUM OF \$32,425.00. THE PETITIONS ARE PENDING BEFORE THE BOARD, AND ADDITIONAL PETITIONS WILL BE FILED AS REQUIRED.

LAST, THE OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL HAS COMPLETED SIX (6) INVESTIGATIONS, TO DATE; ISSUED ONE (1) INTERPRETATIVE OPINION; AND EXPEDITED THE RESOLUTION OF AT LEAST TWENTY-SEVEN (27) REQUESTS FOR ADVICE ON ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE 2022 AND 2024 ELECTION CYCLES.

## **THE TRADITIONAL AUDIT PROGRAM (FISCAL YEAR 2023 HIGHLIGHTS)**

THE REPORTS ANALYSIS AND AUDIT DIVISION CONDUCTED 947 DESK REVIEWS IN FY23, AND 140 IN Q1 OF FY24, OF ALL FINANCIAL REPORTS FILED IN THE TRADITIONAL CAMPAIGN FINANCE PROGRAM; AND ISSUED 87 REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (THE “RFAI”) BASED ON THE DESK REVIEWS IN FY23 AND 22 IN Q1 OF FY24. THE AUDIT PROGRAM REFERRED SEVEN (7) MATTERS IN FY23 AND TWO (2) IN Q1 OF FY24, TO THE GENERAL COUNSEL FOR THE FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE AUDIT REQUEST, AND ASSISTED IN THE SUCCESSFUL TERMINATION IN FY 23, AND FY 24, TO DATE, OF 19 COMMITTEES, UPON THE APPROVAL OF THE RESPECTIVE COMMITTEE’S FINAL REPORT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

DURING FY 23, AND IN FY 24, TO DATE, THE AGENCY HAS ISSUED A TOTAL OF EIGHT (8) PERIODIC RANDOM AUDITS, ALL OF WHICH WERE COMPLIANCE AUDITS. THE PERIODIC AUDITS REQUIRED THE SUBMISSION OF ALL FINANCIAL RECORDS UNDERLYING THE TRANSACTIONS STATED DURING THE COVERAGE PERIOD OF THE AUDITED REPORT.

## **AGENCY SPECIAL PROJECTS, OUTREACH, AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

DURING FY 23, THE OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE INITIATED AND CONTINUED SEVERAL PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS WHICH WERE DESIGNED TO INCREASE THE PUBLIC’S UNDERSTANDING OF, AND COMPLIANCE WITH THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAWS, IMPROVE THE OVERALL OPERATIONS AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE AGENCY, AND AFFORD GREATER ACCESS TO FINANCIAL DATA.

FIRST, THE AGENCY ACHIEVED A 99% COMPLIANCE RATE WITH THE LEGISLATIVE MANDATE FOR REGISTRANTS TO FILE ALL FINANCIAL REPORTS ONLINE. 1064 OF THE 1074 TOTAL REPORTS RECEIVED DURING FISCAL YEAR 2023 WERE FILED ELECTRONICALLY AT THE OCF WEBSITE. UPON SUBMISSION, THE OCF E-FILEING AND DISCLOSURE SYSTEM GENERATES IMAGES OF THE REPORTS IN REAL TIME FOR VIEW BY THE PUBLIC AT THE WEBSITE.

SECOND, THE AGENCY DURING FY 23, AND FY 24, TO DATE, PUBLISHED THE FAIR ELECTIONS AND TRADITIONAL CAMPAIGN FINANCE BROCHURES, AND FACT SHEETS, IN MAY AND JUNE OF 2023, AT THE OCF WEBSITE, [WWW.OCF.DC.GOV](http://WWW.OCF.DC.GOV), FOR THE 2024 ELECTION CYCLE. THE OCF PRESENTED INFORMATION ON ITS PROGRAMS IN ITS CONTINUING EFFORTS TO REACH A WIDER AUDIENCE AT THE CONSTITUENT MEETINGS OF THE ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS (ANC) ANC 3B (2/9/23), ANC 3A (2/21/23), ANC 5A (2/22/23), ANC 5F (2/28/23), ANC 8E (5/1/23), ANC 6E (5/2/23), ANC 7D (5/9/23), AND ANC 3F (5/16/23; WAS AVAILABLE TO MEET WITH THE PUBLIC AT SIX (6) BRANCHES OF THE DC PUBLIC LIBRARY ON 4/19/23, 5/17/23, 6/21/23, 7/19/23, 8/16/23, AND 9/20/23; AND DURING THE MONTHS OF JULY, AUGUST, AND SEPTEMBER 2023, PARTICIPATED IN TWELVE (12) BEAT THE STREETS COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS ORGANIZED BY THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT IN WARDS 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, AND 8. THE AGENCY NOTIFIED THE ANCS BY EMAIL, BEGINNING IN DECEMBER 2022 THROUGH DECEMBER 2023, OF THE AVAILABILITY OF THE AGENCY TO PRESENT AT THEIR CONSTITUENT MEETINGS.

THIRD, THE AGENCY ACHIEVED A 100% COMPLIANCE RATE BY THE NEWLY REGISTERED COMMITTEE TREASURERS (27) AND CANDIDATES (26) DURING FY 23 AND FY 24, TO DATE, WITH THE LEGISLATIVE MANDATE TO COMPLETE THE OCF MANDATORY ENTRANCE CONFERENCE. THE OFFICE CONTINUES TO PROVIDE A TRAINING MODULE FROM POWERPOINT SLIDES TO ENABLE NEW CANDIDATES AND TREASURERS TO COMPLETE THE MANDATORY ENTRANCE CONFERENCE TRAINING ONLINE.

LAST, THE OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE CONDUCTED SITE VISITS TO 14 OF THE EARLY VOTING CENTERS AND TO 51 OF THE VOTE CENTERS OPEN DURING THE NOVEMBER 8, 2022 GENERAL ELECTION. THE SITE VISITS OFFERED THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE OCF TEAM TO BE IN THE COMMUNITY AND INTERACT WITH DISTRICT RESIDENTS AND PROVIDE COUNSEL AND GUIDANCE WHERE NECESSARY CONCERNING THE APPLICATION OF THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAWS. THE OCF TEAM OBSERVED IN GENERAL THAT CAMPAIGN DISCLAIMERS WERE PROPERLY PLACED

ON CAMPAIGN LITERATURE AND POSTERS, THAT ACTIVITY AT THE POLLS ADHERED TO THE ELECTIONEER MARKER RESTRICTIONS, AND THAT THERE WERE NO COMPLAINTS FROM THE PUBLIC CONCERNING CAMPAIGN RELATED ACTIVITIES.

### **FY24 PERFORMANCE PLAN**

DURING FY 24, THE OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE WILL FOCUS ON TASKS PRIMARILY ASSOCIATED WITH THE 2024 ELECTION CYCLE. THE PRIMARY ELECTION WILL BE CONDUCTED ON JUNE 4, 2024 DURING FISCAL YEAR 2024. THE COVERED OFFICES SCHEDULED FOR ELECTION DURING THE 2024 ELECTION CYCLE ARE THE OFFICES OF AT LARGE (2 SEATS) AND WARD (2, 4, 7, AND 8) MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, AND AT-LARGE (1 SEAT) AND WARD (2, 4, 7, AND 8) MEMBERS OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

THE AGENCY FORMULATED COST PROJECTIONS FOR THE COVERED OFFICES TO BE ELECTED DURING THE 2024 ELECTION CYCLE IN DECEMBER 2022 FOR INCLUSION IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR THE OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE. THE OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE ESTIMATED TOTAL COSTS OF \$9,806,869.00 WERE REQUIRED FOR THE ELECTIONS FUND TO FULLY SUPPORT ELECTION CYCLE 2024, AND INCLUDES \$1,230,000.00 FOR BASE AMOUNT PAYMENTS, AND \$8,578,869.00 FOR MATCHING PAYMENTS. THE PROJECTIONS ASSUME ALL 39 CANDIDATES ANTICIPATED TO SEEK CERTIFICATION IN THE PROGRAM WILL MEET THE MAXIMUM CAPS CALCULATED FOR THE MATCHING PAYMENTS, AND THAT ALL 39 CANDIDATES WILL BE ENTITLED TO THE PAYMENT OF THE BASE AMOUNT SPECIFIED FOR THE COVERED OFFICES TO BE ELECTED DURING THE 2024 ELECTION CYCLE.

THE 2024 ELECTION CYCLE WILL CROSS FISCAL YEARS 2023, 2024, AND 2025, AND TO ENSURE THE AVAILABILITY OF PUBLIC FUNDS DURING THIS TIMEFRAME, THE ALLOCATION OF THE SUM OF \$9,808,869.00 WAS RECOMMENDED BASED ON THE ACTIVITY ANTICIPATED IN EACH FISCAL YEAR, AS FOLLOWS: THE SUM OF \$1,667,508.00 (17%) IN FISCAL YEAR 2023; THE SUM OF \$7,160,474.00 (73%) IN FISCAL



YEAR 2024; AND THE SUM OF \$980,887.00 (10%) IN FISCAL YEAR 2025. THE SUM OF \$3,000,000.00 BASED ON THE COST PROJECTIONS FOR THE 2022 AND 2024 ELECTION CYCLES, WAS INCLUDED IN THE OCF APPROVED FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET. DURING FISCAL YEAR 2023, THE OCF AUTHORIZED THE DISBURSEMENT OF EXPENDITURES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$353,874.50 FOR THE 2022 ELECTION CYCLE, AND THE AMOUNT OF \$177,739.40 FOR THE 2024 ELECTION CYCLE TO THE TWO (2) CANDIDATES WHO WERE CERTIFIED BY THE AGENCY IN FY 23 TO PARTICIPATE IN THE JUNE 4, 2024 PRIMARY ELECTION. THE TOTAL SUM OF \$10,917,757.44 REMAINED IN THE ELECTIONS FUND AT THE END OF FISCAL YEAR 2023. THE REVISED CARRYOVER AMOUNT FROM FY23 FOR FY24, IS \$9,863,705.44 (\$175,703.42 – PROFESSIONAL SERVICES) (\$342,054.02 – CONTRACTUAL SERVICES), LESS THE FY23 SWEEP OF \$1,054,052.00.

THE OCF APPROVED FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET INCLUDED THE SUM OF \$3,000,000.00 FOR THE ELECTIONS FUND. THE REVISED BUDGET FOR THE FAIR ELECTIONS FUND IN FISCAL YEAR 2024 IS \$12,863,705.44, AND INCLUDES THE CARRYOVER AMOUNT OF \$9,863,705.44. THE CURRENT BALANCE, LESS EXPENDITURES TO DATE IN FY24 OF \$781,756.00, IS \$12,081,949.44. THE REVISED BUDGET IS MORE THAN ADEQUATE TO COVER THE COSTS PROJECTED FOR THE FAIR ELECTIONS PROGRAM OF \$7,160,474.00 DURING FISCAL YEAR 2024. AS OF THIS DATE IN FISCAL YEAR 2024, TWENTY-ONE (21) CANDIDATES HAVE REGISTERED IN THE PROGRAM SEEKING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE JUNE 4, 2024 PRIMARY ELECTION, AND THE NOVEMBER 5, 2024 GENERAL ELECTION. THE OCF HAS CURRENTLY CERTIFIED NINE (9) PARTICIPATING CANDIDATES IN THE FAIR ELECTIONS PROGRAM.

THE AGENCY WILL ALSO ORGANIZE, PUBLICIZE, AND CONDUCT DEBATES IN ANY CITY-WIDE CONTESTS SCHEDULED FOR ELECTION IN THE JUNE 4, 2024 , PRIMARY ELECTION AND THE NOVEMBER 5, 2024, GENERAL ELECTION WHERE THE ELECTIONS INVOLVE MORE THAN ONE (1) PARTICIPATING CANDIDATE IN THE FAIR ELECTIONS PROGRAM, OR ANY CANDIDATE WHO HAS QUALIFIED FOR BALLOT ACCESS IN THE TRADITIONAL CAMPAIGN FINANCE PROGRAM, AND CONSENTS TO

PARTICIPATE IN A DEBATE. THE DEBATES WILL PROVIDE VOTERS WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR DIRECTLY FROM CANDIDATES ON THE ISSUES THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO DISTRICT RESIDENTS. THE OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE WILL DEVELOP AND EMPLOY PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS, RADIO COMMERCIALS, ADS ON BUS EXTERIORS, LIVE BOARDS AND MOBIL ADS AT WMATA STATIONS, WEB AND PRINT ADS, SHORT MESSAGE SERVICE (SMS) TEXT MESSAGES TO REGISTERED VOTERS, AND SOCIAL MEDIA ADS ON FACEBOOK, TO INCREASE THE SCOPE OF ITS OUTREACH TO THE PUBLIC, AND TO EDUCATE THE RESIDENTS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ABOUT THE FAIR ELECTIONS PROGRAM, AND ANY SCHEDULED CANDIDATE DEBATES.

FURTHER, THE OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL WILL ORGANIZE SITE VISITS TO THE EARLY VOTING CENTERS AND TO THE ELECTION PRECINCTS OPERATED BY THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS IN EACH OF THE EIGHT (8) WARDS DURING THE JUNE 4, 2024 PRIMARY ELECTION TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE WHERE NECESSARY CONCERNING THE APPLICATION OF THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAWS.

IN ADDITION TO THE TASKS RELATED TO THE 2024 ELECTION CYCLE, D.C. OFFICIAL CODE, § 1-1163.04 (7) (2001 EDITION, AS AMENDED), REQUIRES THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE TO PUBLISH ON DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>, AND EVERY OTHER ODD NUMBERED YEAR, A BIENNIAL REPORT, SUMMARIZING, FOR THE PRIOR TWO YEAR PERIOD, THE RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES OF CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE (EXCEPT CANDIDATES FOR ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION MEMBER), AND OF POLITICAL COMMITTEES, INCLUDING PRINCIPAL CAMPAIGN, EXPLORATORY, INAUGURAL, TRANSITION, AND LEGAL DEFENSE COMMITTEES; POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEES; AND INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE COMMITTEES.

ON JANUARY 5, 2024, THE AGENCY PRESENTED THE DECEMBER 31, 2023, BIENNIAL REPORT OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES, AT THE OCF WEBSITE, [WWW.OCF.DC.GOV](http://WWW.OCF.DC.GOV). THE BIENNIAL REPORT COVERS THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES OF CANDIDATES AND POLITICAL COMMITTEES IN THE

TRADITIONAL CAMPAIGN FINANCE PROGRAM FOR THE PRIOR TWO (2) YEAR PERIOD FROM JANUARY 2022 THROUGH DECEMBER 2023.

THE AGENCY WILL ALSO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR THE REORGANIZATION OF THE TRADITIONAL AUDIT DIVISION AND THE FAIR ELECTIONS PROGRAM TO ESTABLISH THE AUDIT PROGRAMS OF THE AGENCY INTO ONE COHESIVE BODY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ENTIRE AUDIT OPERATIONS OF THE AGENCY, AND TO BETTER UTILIZE AGENCY RESOURCES.

LAST, THE OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE, BASED ON THE OCF RECENT REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL TRENDS AND BEST PRACTICES OF THE PUBLIC FINANCING PROGRAMS OF OTHER JURISDICTIONS AND THE EXPERIENCE OF THE AGENCY ADMINISTERING THE FAIR ELECTIONS PROGRAM THROUGH TWO (2) ELECTION CYCLES, WILL PROPOSE LEGISLATIVE ENACTMENTS, INCLUDING TO AMEND THE FAIR ELECTIONS ACT TO CLARIFY THE ABILITY OF FEP PARTICIPATING CANDIDATES TO CONTINUE TO COLLECT CONTRIBUTIONS WHICH WILL NOT BE MATCHED FOR A SPECIFIED PERIOD POST-ELECTION FOR THE PAYMENT OF DEBT; TO PRESCRIBE THE TIMEFRAME FOR THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF PAYMENTS FROM THE ELECTIONS FUND, TO BEGIN NO EARLIER THAN THE JULY 31<sup>ST</sup> REPORTING DATE OF THE CALENDAR YEAR IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE CALENDAR YEAR IN WHICH THE PRIMARY ELECTION IS HELD; TO LIMIT THE OPPORTUNITY TO VALIDATE A PREVIOUSLY REJECTED SMALL CONTRIBUTION FOR MATCH TO WITHIN TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS OF NOTICE OF THE REJECTION; TO AUTHORIZE THE IMPOSITION OF FINES AUTOMATICALLY FOR THE FAILURE TO FILE, LATE FILE, OR THE INCOMPLETE FILING OF ANY REPORT, STATEMENT OR OTHER DOCUMENT REQUIRED BY THE FAIR ELECTIONS ACT OR THE OCF REGULATIONS, WITH APPEAL RIGHTS; TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS SIMILAR TO THE STATUTES AND LAWS OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, PORTLAND, OREGON, AND HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND, WHICH AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATORS OF THE PUBLIC FINANCING PROGRAMS TO REDUCE THE PAYABLE AMOUNT WHERE THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT RISK THAT THE ELECTIONS FUND IS INSUFFICIENT AND TO INCREASE THE

CONTRIBUTOR AMOUNT IN PROPORTION TO THE REDUCED RATE OF TOTAL CITY MATCHING FUNDS; TO REQUIRE THAT OUTSTANDING FINES MUST BE PAID IN FULL AT REGISTRATION, AND WHERE FINES ARE IMPOSED AFTER CERTIFICATION, TO SUSPEND PARTICIPATION IN THE FAIR ELECTIONS PROGRAM UNTIL THE FINE IS PAID IN FULL; AND TO REQUIRE THE COMPLETION OF POST-ELECTION AUDITS FOR WINNING CANDIDATES WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF THE CERTIFICATION OF THE GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS BY THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS.

IT IS MY INTENT DURING FY 24, THROUGH THE EXECUTION OF OUR IDENTIFIED PROJECTS, AND THE CONTINUOUS MONITORING OF OUR GOALS, TO MAXIMIZE THE ABILITY OF THE OFFICE TO MEET ITS STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITIES, AND INCREASE, AS WELL AS IMPROVE OUR PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY, TO PROMOTE A BETTER-INFORMED PUBLIC, WHO IS MORE CAPABLE OF COMPLYING WITH THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAWS.

THIS CONCLUDES MY TESTIMONY.