

1 **IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON**
2 **FOR THE COUNTY OF MULTNOMAH**
3

4 In the Matter of: Validation
5 Proceeding to Determine the
6 Legality of City of Portland Charter
7 Chapter 3, Article 3 and Portland
8 City Code Chapter 2.10 Regulating
9 Campaign Finance and Disclosure.

Civil No. 19CV06544

**DECLARATION OF
SHARON MEIERAN**

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12 I, Sharon Meieran, declare:

- 13 1. I am currently a Multnomah County Commissioner, having won election in
14 November 2016.
- 15 2. During the 2016 election cycle, my campaign raised \$348,181. Of that,
16 \$121,765 (35% of the total) consisted of contributions of \$500 or less.
- 17 3. My opponent in the general election, Eric Zimmerman, raised \$182,894 in the
18 2016 election cycle. Of that, \$55,813 (30.5% of the total) consisted of
19 contributions of \$500 or less.
- 20 4. I believe that I can run an effective campaign for Multnomah County
21 Commissioner under the contribution limits of Measure 26-184 (\$500 per
22 individual and political committee, plus amounts from Small Donor
23 Committees).
- 24 5. I was able to successfully communicate with Multnomah County voters by
25 attracting volunteers, knocking on doors, having house parties and rallies,
26 distributing lawn signs, using low-cost electronic media (including websites,
27 email, and social media) and by earning coverage in the local press by
28 offering substantive solutions to Multnomah County's problems.
- 29 6. I believe that limiting campaign contributions will elevate the voices of
30 individual voters, encourage broader participation in elections, and enhance
31 democracy. It will reduce the opportunities for corruption and the public
32 perception that officeholders are beholden to their large contributors.
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- 1 7. I believe that limiting campaign contributions in races for Multnomah County
2 office to \$500 from each individual and political committee will not render
3 political association ineffective in these campaigns. It will not drive the sound
4 of candidates' voices below the level of notice or render campaign
5 contributions pointless.
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- 7 8. If Measure 26-184 had been in effect during the 2016 election cycle, various
8 membership organizations that contributed larger amounts to my campaign
9 would have been able to create Small Donor Committees that could have
10 contributed amounts greater than \$500, as long as such committees did not
11 receive any contributions except from individuals in amounts of \$100 per
12 calendar year or less. So Measure 26-184 would not have limited my
13 campaign to raising only \$121,765 in donations of under \$500.
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16 **I hereby declare that the above statement is true to the best of my
17 knowledge and belief, and that I understand it is made for use as evidence in
18 court and subject to penalty for perjury.**
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21 Dated: May 7, 2019
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25 */s/ Sharon Meieran*
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27 _____
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29 Sharon Meieran
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32 Signed in Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon
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