

NEW YORK STATE COMMISSION ON ETHICS
AND LOBBYING IN GOVERNMENT

In the Matter of

Collective Public Affairs Consulting Inc.,

Respondent.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

COELIG Case No. 24-125

1. This settlement agreement is entered into by and between the New York State Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government (the “Commission”) and Collective Public Affairs Consulting Inc. (“CPAC”), formerly Bowen Public Affairs Consulting Inc. (“BPA”), (the “Respondent”).

2. The Commission is the New York State agency responsible for administering and enforcing Article 1-A of the New York State Legislative Law (the “Lobbying Act”).

3. This agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Commission and the Respondent. There are no promises, agreements, or conditions, express or implied, other than those set forth in this document. No modification, deletion, or addition to this agreement will be valid or binding on either party unless put into writing and signed by all parties.

4. This agreement shall become effective upon execution by the Commission, or its designee, and it is understood that this agreement is not confidential and will be made public in accordance with the provisions set forth in Executive Law §§ 94(10)(p)(ii), (11)(b), (12)(a)(iii), and (13)(b), and 19 NYCRR Part 941.16.

5. The Respondent has agreed to resolve this matter in a manner that avoids additional administrative and/or adjudicatory proceedings. As such, the Respondent stipulates to the following facts and conduct:

- a. BPA/CPAC was engaged by multiple clients to lobby on their behalf during the 2021-2024 biennial registration period (the “Relevant Period”).
- b. During the Relevant Period, the Respondent failed to timely file 50 lobbying filings, including statements of registration, registration amendments and lobbyist bi-monthly reports, within the time required by law.
- c. Pursuant to the Lobbying Act §§ 1-e and 1-h, the Commission is authorized to impose a fee not to exceed twenty-five dollars per day for each day that a statement of registration, registration amendment, bimonthly report, is late. The schedule for late fees imposed by the Commission pursuant to the Lobbying Act is set forth in 19 N.Y.C.R.R. Part 943.10(g) and 943.11(d).

d. The Respondent was assessed \$18,740 in late fees for the 50 late filings.

6. Respondent agrees, pursuant to Lobbying Act § 1-o, to pay the Commission the amount of \$7,500 in settlement of the above-described violations with the following conditions for payment:


- a. \$900 to be paid within 30 business days from the execution of this agreement.
- b. \$550 on the first day of each month, beginning December 1, 2024, until the total amount has been paid, no later than December 1, 2025.

7. If the Respondent fails to timely perform any conditions set forth above, Respondent shall be in breach of this agreement. Upon a breach of this agreement, the Commission can either: (i) issue a Notice of Substantial Investigation and Hearing and proceed with an enforcement action; or (ii) deem the Respondent in breach of this agreement and pursue, in court, any other remedy to which the Commission is entitled at law.

8. Respondent agrees not to take any action or to make, permit to be made, authorize, or agree to any public statement denying, directly or indirectly, any finding in this agreement or creating the impression that this agreement is without factual basis.

9. By signing below, Respondent acknowledges reading this agreement in its entirety and understanding all terms and conditions of this agreement, and having done so, knowingly, voluntarily, and freely enters into this agreement. Respondent was not represented by counsel.

ACCEPTED AND AGREED TO BY:




Kathryn Tiskus
Collective Public Affairs Consulting Inc.
Respondent

10/31/24

Date

NEW YORK STATE COMMISSION ON ETHICS
AND LOBBYING IN GOVERNMENT



Sanford N. Berland
Executive Director

October 31, 2024

Date