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In the matter of the
Chief Enforcement Counsel Complaint
Against
Striving for a Better New York
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WHEREAS, on or about October 18, 2021, the New York State Board of Elections Division of Election Law Enforcement (DELE) became aware of an article published in *Politico* regarding Filer Id – 186352 Striving for a Better New York. The article indicated that the committee was created, in part, to support Eric Adams' candidacy for Mayor of New York City. Further, it was claimed that Candidate Adams was soliciting contributions on behalf of the committee and that the committee's founder, Alfred L. Cockfield II, had a long history with Candidate Adams; and

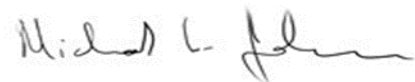
WHEREAS, although registered with the New York State Board of Elections (NYSBOE), Striving for a Better New York had not filed any pre-election campaign financial disclosure statements at the time of the *Politico* article. Nor had it filed a non-participation notice for the 2021 Elections. On October 19, 2021, the DELE emailed the treasurer, Carmen Sterling, regarding the committee's failure to report. Presumably, in response to this email, on October 22, 2021, Treasurer Sterling submitted a notice of non-participation to the NYSBOE for the 2021 General Election, and the DELE Chief Enforcement Counsel requested the case remain active to monitor for compliance; and

WHEREAS, effective January 31, 2019, NYS Election Law § 140-120 was amended, which, in part, required all political committees that received any contribution from a Limited Liability Company or Professional Limited Liability Company (LLC/PLLCs) to attribute the amount of the contribution to each owner. A review of Striving for a Better New York's 2022 January Periodic campaign financial disclosure statement revealed 39 contributions, totaling \$99,700, from various LLC/PLLCs that did not have the statutorily required attribution. After requesting the committee obtain the requisite information from the LLC/PLLC contributors to bring the report into compliance, Striving for a Better New York was unable to do so and refunded all contributions from LLC/PLLCs that were unattributed; and

WHEREAS, in consideration for settlement, Striving for a Better New York, and Treasurer Sterling and Mr. Cockfield II, as agents of Striving for a Better New York, were fined and ordered to pay \$1,000 on or about June 10, 2022; and

NOW, THEREFORE based on the foregoing, this matter is now closed.

NEW YORK STATE
BOARD OF ELECTIONS



By: Michael L. Johnson
Chief Enforcement Counsel