



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM

February 24, 2023

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3 **TO:** The Commission
4
5 **FROM:** Lisa J. Stevenson
6 Acting General Counsel
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8 Charles Kitcher
9 Associate General Counsel for Enforcement
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11 Jin Lee
12 Deputy Associate General Counsel for Enforcement
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14 **BY:** Mark D. Shonkwiler *MS*
15 Assistant General Counsel
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17 Kimberly D. Hart *KDH*
18 Attorney
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20 **SUBJECT:** MUR 8092 (Provenance *et al.*)
21 Recommendation to Accept Signed Conciliation Agreements
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23 On November 15, 2022, the Commission found reason to believe that Aspen Lodging
24 Group, LLC d/b/a Provenance Hotels (“Provenance”) violated 52 U.S.C. §§ 30122;
25 30116(a)(1)(A), (a)(1)(C); and 11 C.F.R. § 110.4(b)(1)(i), provisions of the Federal Campaign
26 Election Act of 1971, as amended (the “Act”) by making excessive contributions in the name of
27 another.¹ The Commission also found reason to believe that former Provenance President
28 Bashar Wali (“Wali”) violated 52 U.S.C. § 30122 and 11 C.F.R. § 110.4(b)(1)(ii) by knowingly
29 permitting his name to be used for the making of contributions in the name of another.² The
30 Commission authorized the Office of General Counsel to engage in pre-probable cause
31 conciliation with Provenance and Wali and approved separate conciliation agreements.³

¹ Certification, MUR 8092 (formerly Pre-MUR 640) (Nov. 17, 2022).

² *Id.*

³ *Id.*, ¶¶ 7-8; Provenance RTB Notif. Letter at 1-2 (Nov. 28, 2022) (explaining the calculation of the civil penalty); Wali RTB Notif. Letter at 1-2 (Nov. 28, 2022) (explaining the calculation of the civil penalty).

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We recommend that the Commission accept the two attached signed conciliation agreements and close the file in this matter.

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Pre-Probable Cause Conciliation Memo
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Conclusion

We believe both settlements represent an acceptable resolution of the matter. Therefore, we recommend that the Commission accept the signed conciliation agreements with the parties and close the file.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Accept the attached signed conciliation agreements;
2. Approve the appropriate letters; and
3. Close the file.