



## FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

### MEMORANDUM

1 **MEMORANDUM**  
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 3 **TO:** The Commission  
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 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 **BY:** Mark D. Shonkwiler *MS*  
 12 Assistant General Counsel  
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 14 Kimberly D. Hart *KDH*  
 15 Attorney  
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 17 **SUBJECT:** MUR 8092 (Provenance *et al.*)  
 18 Recommendation to Accept Signed Conciliation Agreement  
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20 On November 15, 2022, the Commission found reason to believe that Aspen Lodging  
 21 Group, LLC d/b/a Provenance Hotels (“Provenance”) violated 52 U.S.C. §§ 30122;  
 22 30116(a)(1)(A), (a)(1)(C); and 11 C.F.R. § 110.4(b)(1)(i), provisions of the Federal Campaign  
 23 Election Act of 1971, as amended (the “Act”) by making excessive contributions in the name of  
 24 another.<sup>1</sup> The Commission also found reason to believe that former Provenance President  
 25 Bashar Wali (“Wali”) violated 52 U.S.C. § 30122 and 11 C.F.R. § 110.4(b)(1)(ii) by knowingly  
 26 permitting his name to be used for the making of contributions in the name of another.<sup>2</sup> The  
 27 Commission authorized the Office of General Counsel to engage in pre-probable cause  
 28 conciliation with Provenance and Wali and approved separate Conciliation Agreements.<sup>3</sup>

29 On February 24, 2023, OGC circulated revised Conciliation Agreements, signed by  
 30 counsel for Provenance and Wali, that would settle the violations in this matter

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<sup>1</sup> Certification (“Cert”) ¶ 2, MUR 8092 (formerly Pre-MUR 640) (Nov. 17, 2022).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.* ¶ 3.

<sup>3</sup> *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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14 **Conclusion**

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We believe the settlement represent an acceptable resolution of the matter.  
Therefore, we recommend that the Commission accept the signed conciliation agreement with  
Provenance and close the file as to both Provenance and Wali.

23 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 24           1.     Accept the attached signed conciliation agreement;  
25           2.     Approve the appropriate letters; and  
26           3.     Close the file.

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