Filed 4/1/2022 4:12:00 PM Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania 149 MD 2022

IN THE COMMONWEALTH COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

In Re Nomination Petition of	:	Election Matter
Paul PITONYAK	:	
As Republican Candidate for the PA General	:	
Assembly for the 2 nd Legislative District	:	

PETITION TO SET ASIDE NOMINATION PETITION

Petitioners Julie Vahey and Donna Turbaczewski, by and through counsel, respectfully avers as follows:

1. Petitioners are duly qualified electors registered as Republicans in the 2nd Legislative District

2. The Respondent is the above referenced Republican Candidate for the 2nd Legislative District.

3. On or before March 28, 2022, the Candidate filed a Candidate Affidavit and Nomination Petitions with the Department of State. A copy of the Candidate Affidavit is attached as Exhibit A.

4. Under Article II, Section 7 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, "No person hereafter convicted of embezzlement of public moneys, bribery, perjury or other infamous crime, shall be eligible to the General Assembly, or capable of holding any office of trust or profit in this Commonwealth."

5. A crime is infamous for purposes of Article II, Section 7, if its underlying facts establish a felony, a *crimen falsi* offense, or a like offense involving the charge of falsehood that affects the public administration of justice. *See* <u>Com. ex rel. Baldwin v. Richard</u>, 561 Pa. 489, 751 A.2d 647, 653 (2000). Thus, a candidate who has been convicted of either a felony or a *crimen falsi* crime is constitutionally ineligible to hold elected office in the Commonwealth, and an affidavit of a candidate who has been convicted of such crimes that indicates that that the candidate is eligible to hold the elected office sought is materially false and must be set aside.

6. On May 4, 2016, Pitonyak pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of violating 18 P.S. § 4906(b)(1), for filing a false report with law enforcement authorities—namely, that Pitonyak lied on a federal ATF form when attempting to purchase a gun, denying that he was the subject of a restraining order which prevented him from harassing, stalking, or threatening an intimate partner. *See* Docket CP-25-CR-3016-2015 and associated Police Criminal Complaint and Information, attached.

7. In his Candidate Affidavit, Pitonyak falsely asserts that he is eligible for this office.

8. Section 977 of the Election Code, 25 P.S. §2937, provides that a court shall set aside nomination petitions which are defective.

9. The Candidate Affidavit is false, and Pitonyak's name must be removed from the ballot.

10. Petitioners respectfully reserve the right to add such additional objections as are appropriate at the time of hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

Ham C. Bons By:

Adam C. Bonin, Esq. <u>adam@boninlaw.com</u> Attorney I.D. No. 80929 The Law Office of Adam C. Bonin 121 S. Broad Street, Suite 400 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107 Telephone: (267) 242-5014 Facsimile: (215) 827-5300 Attorney for Petitioners

Dated: April 1, 2022

Filed 4/1/2022 4:12:00 PM Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania 149 MD 2022

VERIFICATION

I, <u>Julie Vally</u>, hereby state that the facts above set forth are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

f une Signature 31 Date

VERIFICATION

I, Dona, Tur baczewhereby state that the facts above set forth are true and

correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

vick 30, 2022

Received 4/1/2022 4:12:21 PM Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF ERIE COUNTY Filed 4/172022 4:12:00 PM Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania 149 MD 2022

DOCKET

Docket Number: CP-25-CR-0003016-2015 **CRIMINAL DOCKET**

Court Case

			Commonwealth of Penr	isyivailla	Page 1 of 5
			v. Paul A. Pitonya	k	-
			CASE INFORMATIO		
Judge Assigned: Garhart	. John		Date Filed	: 10/20/2015 Initiation Da	ate: 10/01/2015
OTN: T 709269-1	LOTN:			Docket No: MJ-06303-CR-0000278	
Initial Issuing Authority: S		ver		ng Authority: Susan D. Strohmeyer	
Arresting Agency: Millcre		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		<u>Dfficer:</u> Parmeter, David T.	
Complaint/Citation No.: 1			Incident N		
Case Local Number Type				l Number(s)	
			STATUS INFORMA	TION	
Case Status: Closed		Status Date	Processing Status	<u>Co</u>	mplaint Date: 10/01/2015
		05/04/2016	Sentenced/Penalty	Imposed	
		05/04/2016	Awaiting Sentencir		
		05/02/2016	Awaiting Guilty Ple	а	
		03/09/2016	Awaiting Trial		
		03/03/2016	Awaiting Guilty Ple	а	
		12/17/2015	Awaiting Trial		
		11/12/2015	Awaiting Formal Ar	-	
		10/20/2015	Awaiting Filing of I	nformation	
	0.1.1.1	<u>.</u>			
<u>Case Calendar</u> Event Type	<u>Schedule</u> Start Date	<u>Start</u> Time	<u>Room</u>	<u>Judge Name</u>	<u>Schedule</u> <u>Status</u>
Formal Arraignment	12/21/2015	1:15 pm	Courtroom H -	Julia Elaine Bagnoni	Scheduled
i officiary analysis official	12/2 1/2010	nio più	Room 229	Jana Llamo Daghom	Concurca
Post Arraignment Plea	12/30/2015	1:30 pm	Courtroom A - Room 206	Senior Judge Shad Connelly	Scheduled
Guilty Plea	03/07/2016	1:30 pm	Courtroom D - Room 214	Senior Judge John Garhart	Cancelled
Trial	03/14/2016	9:30 am	Court Admin Room 204	Julia Elaine Bagnoni	Moved
Guilty Plea	05/04/2016	8:45 am	Courtroom D - Room 214	Senior Judge John Garhart	Scheduled
Trial	05/09/2016	9:30 am	Court Admin Room 204	Julia Elaine Bagnoni	Cancelled
Collections Court	12/20/2016	1:00 pm	Courtroom D - Room 214		Cancelled
			DEFENDANT INFORMA		
Date Of Birth:	12/31/1989	Cit	y/State/Zip: Erie, PA 165	10	

CPCMS 9082

Printed: 03/29/2022

Recent entries made in the court filing offices may not be immediately reflected on these docket sheets . Neither the courts of the Unified Judicial System of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania nor the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts assume any liability for inaccurate or delayed data, errors or omissions on these reports. Docket Sheet information should not be used in place of a criminal history background check which can only be provided by the Pennsylvania State Police. Moreover an employer who does not comply with the provisions of the Criminal History Record Information Act may be subject to civil liability as set forth in 18 Pa.C.S. Section 9183.

DOCKET

	Court Case
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	
v.	Page 2 of 5
Paul A. Pitonyak	
CASE PARTICIPANTS	
Participant Type Name	
Defendant Pitonyak, Paul A.	
BAIL INFORMATION	
Pitonyak, Paul A.	Nebbia Status: None
Bail Action Date Bail Type Percentage Amount	
	ting Status Posting Date
	<u></u>
Set 10/01/2015 ROR \$0.00	
CHARGES	
Seq. Orig Seq. Grade Statute Statute Description C	ffense Dt. OTN
1 3 M3 18 § 4906 §§ B1 False Reports - Reported Offense Did Not 0 Occur	3/27/2015 T 709269-1
DISPOSITION SENTENCING/PENALTIES	
Disposition	
Case Event Disposition Date Final Dis	
Sequence/Description Offense Disposition Grad	
	Credit For Time Served Start Date
Sentence/Diversion Program Type Incarceration/Diversionary Period Sentence Conditions	Start Date
Waived for Court (Lower Court) Defendant Was Present	
Lower Court Disposition10/20/2015Not Final	I
Proceed to Court	
Information Filed 12/08/2015 Not Fina	I
Guilty Plea	
Guilty Plea 05/04/2016 Final Dis 1 / False Reports - Reported Offense Did Not Occur Guilty Plea M3	
	18 § 4906 §§ B1
Garhart, John 05/04/2016 Probation Min of 1.00 Years	05/04/2016
Min of 1.00 Years Max of 1.00 Years	03/04/2010
1 year	
No weapons for one year	

CPCMS 9082

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DOCKET

Docket Number: CP-25-CR-0003016-2015
CRIMINAL DOCKET

Printed: 03/29/2022

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	PRC		CRIMINAL DOCKET Court Case
			Court Case
		Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	Dore 2 of 5
		V.	Page 3 of 5
		Paul A. Pitonyak	
	TH INFORMATION	ATTORNEY INFORI	
	rie County District Attorney's Office		h H. Clelland
	Prosecutor	Priv	
Supreme Court No		Supreme Court No:	058821
Phone Number(s):		<u>Rep. Status:</u>	Active
814-451-6349	9 (Phone)	<u>Phone Number(s):</u>	
<u>Address:</u>		814-459-7754	(Phone)
Erie County C		Address:	
140 West Six		333 State St	
Erie, PA 1650	01	Ste 203	
		Erie, PA 16507	
		Representing: Pitonya	k, Paul A.
		ENTRIES	5% I D
Sequence Number	CP Filed Date	Document Date	<u>Filed By</u>
1 Bail Set - Pitonyak	10/01/2015 x, Paul A.		Strohmeyer, Susan D.
1	10/20/2015		Clerk of Courts Office - Erie County
	eceived from Lower Court		
1	12/08/2015		Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Information Filed			
			– — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
Waiver of Arraignn			
1	03/08/2016		Porsch, Matthew Gerald
Motion for Continu	Jance 		
2	03/08/2016		Garhart, John
Order Granting Mo	otion for Continuance		
Commonwealth of Pe	ennsylvania		
03/08/2016	Interoffice		
Erie County Court Ac	dministration		
03/08/2016	Interoffice		
Porsch, Matthew Ger	rald		
03/08/2016	Attorney Box		
			— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
	ment of Understanding of Rights Priv	or to Guilty or No Contest Plea	Canar, John
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CPCMS 9082

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DOCKET

			Docket Number: CP-25-CR-0003016-2015 CRIMINAL DOCKET Court Case
		Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v.	Page 4 of 5
		Paul A. Pitonyak	
		ENTRIES	
<u>Sequence Number</u>	<u>CP Filed Date</u>	<u>Document Date</u>	<u>Filed By</u>
2 Defendant's Rights at Ser	05/04/2016 Itencing		Garhart, John
3 Guideline Sentence Form	 05/04/2016		Court of Common Pleas - Erie County
4 Guilty Plea	05/04/2016		Garhart, John
5 Order - Sentence/Penalty	05/04/2016 Imposed		Garhart, John
1 Penalty Assessed	 06/08/2016 		Court of Common Pleas - Erie County
1 Delinquency Notice Filed	09/23/2016 - 32 Days Overdue 		Court of Common Pleas - Erie County
1 Delinquency Notice Filed	10/24/2016 - 63 Days Overdue 		Court of Common Pleas - Erie County
1 Collections Court Schedul	11/23/2016 led 12/20/2016 1:00PM		Erie County Probation Department
2 Delinquency Notice Filed	11/23/2016 - 93 Days Overdue		Court of Common Pleas - Erie County
1 Collections Court Cancelle	12/20/2016 ed		Erie County Probation Department
1 Delinquency Notice Filed	01/23/2017 - 32 Days Overdue		Court of Common Pleas - Erie County
1 Delinquency Notice Filed	05/23/2017 - 31 Days Overdue		Court of Common Pleas - Erie County
1 Penalty Satisfied			Court of Common Pleas - Erie County

CPCMS 9082

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Printed: 03/29/2022

DOCKET

Docket Number: CP-25-CR-0003016-2015 **CRIMINAL DOCKET**

Court Case

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- AND		

		Commonwealth of Pennsy v.	Ivania	Page 5 of 5
		Paul A. Pitonyak		
		ENTRIES		
Sequence Number	CP Filed Date	Document Date	Filed By	
1	04/21/2021		Clelland, Keith H.	
(See 877-09) Entry of	Appearance			

-09) Entry of Appea

	CASE FINANCIA	L INFORMATION			
Last Payment Date: 06/08/2017			Total	of Last Payment: -\$19	95.50
Pitonyak, Paul A. Defendant	<u>Assessment</u>	Payments [<u>Adjustments</u>	<u>Non Monetary</u> <u>Payments</u>	<u>Total</u>
Costs/Fees					
ATJ	\$4.00	(\$4.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
CJES	\$2.25	(\$2.25)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Commonwealth Cost - HB627 (Act 167 of 1992)	\$10.15	(\$10.15)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Costs of Prosecution - CJEA	\$50.00	(\$50.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
County Court Cost (Act 204 of 1976)	\$33.00	(\$33.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Crime Victims Compensation (Act 96 of 1984)	\$35.00	(\$35.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Domestic Violence Compensation (Act 44 of 1988)	\$10.00	(\$10.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Firearm Education and Training Fund	\$5.00	(\$5.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
JCPS	\$21.25	(\$21.25)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Judicial Computer Project	\$8.00	(\$8.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
State Court Costs (Act 204 of 1976)	\$11.85	(\$11.85)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Victim Witness Service (Act 111 of 1998)	\$25.00	(\$25.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Automation Fee (Erie)	\$5.00	(\$5.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Clerk's Fee (Plea) (Erie)	\$110.00	(\$110.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
User Fee (Erie)	\$10.00	(\$10.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Restitution Fee (Erie)	\$25.00	(\$25.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Administrative Fee (Erie)	\$150.00	(\$150.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
OSP (Erie/State) (Act 35 of 1991)	\$240.00	(\$240.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
OSP (Erie/State) (Act 35 of 1991)	\$240.00	(\$240.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Costs/Fees Totals:	\$995.50	(\$995.50)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grand Totals:	\$995.50	(\$995.50)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

** - Indicates assessment is subrogated

CPCMS 9082

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COUNTY OF	ERIE		- -		Filed 4/1/202	2 4:12:00 P	M Comn	wealth (Court of Penns 149 MI	vvania
Magisterial Distr	rict Number: (06-3-03		A CONT					149 MI	2022
MDJ: Hon. SUS				DEFEND	ANT:		AME and /	ADDRES	S) :	
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ERIE, PA 165	09			First Name	C-M	iddlə Name	in of	ast Name	0114	Gen.
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	,			ERIE, PA	16510	IN	14	E.		
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2-Felony Ltd.			elony Per		lisdemeanor Surro	-	s 🛛 I	Distance:		
3-Felony Surro	unding States	-A 🖸	lisdemea		lisdemeanor No Ex					
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CR-278	-15 11			T709269-1	15-20942	ent number	510			
	ов 12/31/		РОВ			Add'l	ров /	1	Co-Defenda	
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	Hispanic			Non-Hispanic	_		Unl			<u>[]</u>
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			-		WHI (White)	XXX (Unk	/Bald)	GRN (Gr	een) 🗌 PNK	(Pink)
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EYE COLOR				BLU (Blue)	BRO (Brown)		GRN (Greer		GRY (Gray	11
		HAZ (MAR (Maroon)	PNK (Pink)		MUL (Multic	_	XXX (Unkr	
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DNA	🗆 YES 🛛	NO	DNALC		1 Maria 1				190	
FBI Number			57 NO		J Number					GHT In.
Defendant Finger		□ YES	NO 🛛					-	5	<u> 11</u>
ringerprint Class		<u> </u>	_	DEFENDANT VE						<u> </u>
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efendant Name	PAUL			Α.		PITO	NYAK		
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			POLICE CRIMINAL COMPLAINT
Docket Number:	Date Filed:	OTN/LiveScan Number	Complaint/Incident Number
CR-278-15	10/11/5	T709269-1	15-20942
	First:	Middle:	Last:
Defendant Name	PAUL	A.	PITONYAK

- 2. I ask that a warrant of arrest or a summons be issued and that the defendant be required to answer the charges I have made.
- 3. I verify that the facts set forth in this complaint are true and correct to the best of my knowledge or information and belief. This verification is made subject to the penalties of Section 4904 of the Crimes Code (18 Pa.C.S. § 4904) relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.
- 4. This complaint consists of the preceding page(s) numbered _____ through _____

(Date)

The acts committed by the accused, as listed and hereafter, were against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and were contrary to the Act(s) of the Assembly, or in violation of the statutes cited. (Before a warrant of arrest can be issued, an affidavit of probable cause must be completed, sworn to before the issuing authority, and attached.)

OCTOBER 1ST, 2015

(Signature of Affiant)

AND NOW, on this date

I certify that the complaint has been properly completed and verified.

COMMONIAL.

An affidavit of probable cause must be completed before a warrant can be issued.

(Magisterial District Court Number)

(Issuing Authority)

		A PO	OLICE CRIMINAL COMPLAI	NT
Docket Number:	Date Filed: 10/01/2015	OTN/LiveScan Number T709269-1	Complaint/Incident Number 15-20942	
Defendant Name:	First: PAUL	Middle: A.	Last: PITONYAK	

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AFFIDAVIT of PROBABLE CAUSE

On 9-2-15, MPD received notice from PSP Lt. Mark J. Shaver, Director, Firearms Division Bureau of Records and Identification, that defendant Paul A. Pitonyak attempted to purchase a firearm at Dick's Sporting Goods unlawfully. This occurred on 3-27-15 at 1737 hrs. Pitonyak produced his PA ID 29047308, and attempted to purchase a Mossberg 930 tactical 12 gauge shotgun, but was denied. According to Lt. Shaver's investigation, Pitonyak is the subject of a Protection from Abuse order which does not expire until 8-15-16. Pitonyak checked "No" on box 11h of the ATF Form 4473, asking if he was the subject of a restraining order which prevents him from harassing, stalking, or threatening an intimate partner, clearly making a false statement.

I, <u>CPL. DAVID T. PARMETER</u> , BEING DULY SWORN ACCORDING TO FACTS SET FORTH IN THE FOREGOING AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AN KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION AND BELIEF.	
	(Signature of Affiant)
Sworn to me and subscribed before me this day of	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Date	, Magisterial District Judge
My commission expires first Monday of January,	
	SEAL

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA v.)))	Received 4/1/2022 4:12:21 PM Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS FOR ERIEO 20412:07 PRESING AN Court of Pennsylvania CRIMINAL DIVISION 149 MD 2022
PAUL A. PITONYAK))	NO. 3016 of 2015 T 709269-1

INFORMATION

The District Attorney of Erie County by this Information charges that on or about MARCH 27, 2015 in the said County of Erie and State of Pennsylvania, the said PAUL A. PITONYAK, with the intent to mislead a public servant in the performance of their official functions, did make any written false statement which he did not believe to be true, to-wit: the said PAUL A. PITONYAK did give a false written statement to TOM SWIGART of DICKS SPORTING GOODS LO *C*. ATED at 2088 INTERCHANGE ROAD, MILLCREEK TOWNSHIP, Erie County, Pennsylvania; thereby the said PAUL A. PITONYAK did commit the crime of UNSWORN FALSIFICATION TO AUTHORITIES, a Misdemeanor of the Second Degree.

All of which is against the Act of Assembly and the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

- (XX) Notice is hereby given, per Pa.R.Crim.P. 582 (B)(1), that this Information will be tried with any and all other Informations for this defendant.
- (XX) Notice is hereby given, per Pa.R.Crim.P. 582 (B)(1), that your case will be tried together with all codefendant(s) since you are alleged to have participated in the same act or transaction.

18 P.S. 4904(A)(1)

Citation of Statute & Section

for ornev Commonwealth

ERIE COL CLERK OF ERIE, PA	2015 DEC -8	CLERK OF RI
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URTS 501	50 : l	0RDS

No. 3016 OF 2015

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

v.

PAUL A. PITONYAK

INFORMATION

4906 (6)(1) COUNT ONE: 18 P.S. 4904(A)(1) UNSWORN FÁLSIFICATIONS TO AUTHORITIES MISDEMEANOR OF THE SECOND DEGREE

Third M6 5/4/16

PLEA or TRIAL: 2016 AND NOW, THIS 4' DAY OF $M_{4,1} = 2015$, I STATE THAT I AM THE DEFENDANT IN THIS MATTER AND THAT I HAVE BEEN ARRAIGNED ON THIS CHARGE(S); I AGREE -2015, I STATE THAT I AM THE DEFENDANT IN MY RIGHTS HAVE BEEN EXPLAINED TO ME AND I HAVE VOLUNTARILY CHOSEN TO PLEAD: GUIL DO CONTEST / NOP GUILTY Attorney for Defendant Defendant

ARD:

AND NOW, THIS DAY OF _____, 2015, I STATE THAT I AM THE DEFENDANT IN THIS MATTER AND THAT I UNDERSTAND THE CHARGE(S) AGAINST ME; THE PROVISIONS OF THE ARD PROGRAM HAVE BEEN EXPLAINED TO ME AND I AM WAIVING MY RIGHT TO A SPEEDY TRIAL UNDER RULE 600; I AGREE TO ARD PLACEMENT AND I HEREBY PLEAD GUILTY TO ALL SUMMARY OFFENSES IF APPLICABLE.

Defendant

Attorney for Defendant

PWOV:

AND NOW, THIS DAY OF _____, 2015, I STATE THAT I AM THE DEFENDANT IN THIS MATTER AND THAT I UNDERSTAND THE CHARGES(S) AGAINST ME; THE PROVISIONS OF THE PWOV PROGRAM HAVE BEEN EXPLAINED TO ME AND I AM FOREVER WAIVING MY RIGHT TO A JURY TRIAL BY PLEADING NO CONTEST AND REQUESTING PWOV PLACEMENT; I UNDERSTAND THE POSSIBLE MAXIMUM SENTENCE(S) INVOLVED; I AGREE TO PWOV PLACEMENT AND I HEREBY PLEAD NO CONTEST TO THIS CHARGE(S).

Defendant

Attorney for Defendant