



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE MATTER OF

Women Healing Women, Inc.

Respondent.

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Case Number: ENCH-190274

ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST

Pursuant to the authority of the Georgia Charitable Solicitations Act of 1988, as amended, O.C.G.A. § 43-17-1, *et seq.* (“Act”), and 590-9-1, *et seq.* of the Rules and Regulations of the State of Georgia (“Rules”), the Secretary of State of Georgia (“Secretary”) has caused an investigation to be made into the acts and practices of **Women Healing Women, Inc. (“Respondent”)**. As a result of the investigation, the Secretary makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

I. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is a domestic non-profit corporation formed for the purpose of providing support services to women and girls who are survivors of sexual assault and to increase awareness about sexual violence via education and outreach. Currently, Respondent is registered with the Corporations Division of the Secretary as a domestic nonprofit corporation and has a principal office address of 4151 Memorial Drive, Suite 115-D Decatur, Georgia 30032.

2. The Internal Revenue Service revoked Respondent’s registration as a 501(c) (3) organization on August 8, 2016 for failing to file a Form 990-series return or notice for three (3) consecutive years.

3. Respondent’s Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”) and registered agent is Imani Evans with a listed address of 474 Wrens Nest Court, Stone Mountain, Georgia 30087.

4. Respondent is not registered with the Secretary as a charitable organization pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 43-17-5 and has not claimed to be exempt from such registration pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 43-17-9.

5. On September 25, 2018, the Secretary received a complaint that Respondent both solicited and received charitable donations without being registered with the Secretary as a charitable organization.

6. On October 9, 2018, the Securities and Charities Division of the Office of Georgia Secretary of State (“Division”) sent a letter to the Respondent addressed to Imani Evans. The letter requested that the Respondent either begin the registration process to register as a charitable organization or state the basis upon which Respondent was exempt from such registering. Respondent failed to respond to the Division’s letter by the deadline stated therein.

7. To date, the Division has not received a response to its October 9, 2018 letter from Respondent, any of its members, associates, or control persons

II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

8. Paragraphs 1 through 7 are incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.

9. The Secretary has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to the Act. *See* O.C.G.A. § 43-17-16, Rule 590-9-1-.05, and O.C.G.A. § 50-13-1 *et seq.*

10. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 43-17-13(a)(1)(A)(i), the Secretary may issue a cease and desist order against any person that has engaged in, is engaging in, or is about to engage in any act, practice, or transaction which is prohibited by the [Act] or by any rule, regulation, or order of the Secretary.

11. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 43-17-5(a), “[i]t shall be unlawful for any person: (1) [w]herever located to solicit or accept charitable contributions from any person located in this state; (2) [w]hile in this state to solicit or accept charitable contributions from any person, wherever located; or (3) [w]herever located to solicit or accept charitable contributions from any person, wherever located, on behalf of a charitable organization located in this state, unless the charitable organization on whose behalf such contributions are being solicited or accepted is subject to an effective registration statement under this chapter or exempt from registration pursuant to Code Section 43-17-9.”

12. Respondent’s solicitation and acceptance of charitable contributions, while operating in Georgia, without registering with the Secretary is a violation of O.C.G.A. § 43-17-5. As a result of this violation, Respondent is subject to penalty under O.C.G.A. § 43-17-13.


III. ORDER

WHEREFORE, by the authority vested in me as the Secretary of State for the State of Georgia, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

1. **Women Healing Women, Inc. CEASE AND DESIST** from all violations of the Georgia Charitable Solicitations Act of 1988, as amended.

The entry of this Order is deemed to be in the public interest, and shall not be deemed to constitute findings or conclusions relating to other persons unrelated to Respondent and shall not be deemed to be a waiver or estoppel on the part of the Secretary from proceeding in individual actions against any person who may have violated the Act or any transactions not specifically referred to herein or not known to the Secretary at the time this Order was issued.

SO ORDERED this 6th day of May, 2019.

By: 

Noula Zaharis
Director, Securities & Charities Division
The Office of the Secretary of State