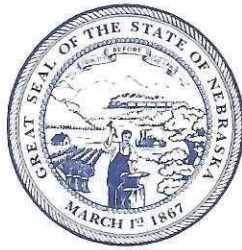


State of Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission

P.O. BOX 95086
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509
nadc.nebraska.gov



Centre Terrace, 1225 L St. #400
Phone (402) 471-2522
Fax (402) 471-6599

Synopsis Case #26-12

Action Taken on August 21, 2026

Respondent: Angel Murtaugh

The Respondent is Angel Murtaugh, who was the Adams County Assessor. The Executive Director, based upon information, directed that a Notice of Preliminary Investigation be filed in the case. The Notice alleged that the Respondent had utilized public resources in campaigning for her election as Assessor in 2026.

An investigation was conducted, which included a submission from the Respondent in which she said that she had only used public resources for one limited purpose after work hours. Several witness interviews were conducted suggesting that there had been usage of public resources during the course of the campaign.

The Respondent co-operated fully in the investigation.

After discussions with the Respondent, she entered into a Settlement Agreement. Under the terms of the Agreement, the Respondent denied that she had intended to violate the terms of the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act, but she admitted that there was sufficient evidence from which the Commission could find a violation of Section 49-14,101.02 of the Act: use of public resources for campaign purposes in 2026. She agreed to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$750, in four installments of \$187.50 each.

The Commission adopted the Settlement Agreement with six (6) Commissioners concurring, no Commissioners dissenting, and no Commissioners abstaining.

Violation: Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, the Commission found a violation of §49-14,101.02 of the NPADA in 2026, and the Commission assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$750.00.

Civil Penalty: \$750.00.

Attorney for the Commission: Neil B. Danberg

Synopsis Prepared by: Scott Danigole, Executive Director, NADC.

P.O. Box 95086, Lincoln, NE 68509 (402)-471-2522

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA ACCOUNTABILITY AND DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

ORDER

Executive Director v. Angel Murtaugh

Case #26-12

Now on this 21st day of August, 2026, this matter comes before the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission. Commissioners Christensen, Chung, Davis, Gloor, Spray and Sullivan are present with Commissioner Christensen presiding. The Respondents are not present. The Commission notes the submission of a proposed Settlement Agreement.

Whereupon, the Commission with six (6) Commissioners concurring, no Commissioners dissenting, and no Commissioners abstaining, finds that the attached Settlement Agreement should be and hereby is approved and incorporated into this Order. Pursuant to that Agreement, the Commission finds that the Respondent utilized public resources for campaign purposes in 2026 in violation of §49-14,101.02 of Nebraska Revised Statutes, as recited in the attached Settlement Agreement.

In accordance with the Settlement Agreement, the Commission imposes a civil penalty of \$750.00 upon the Respondent.

Issued this 21st day of August, 2026.

Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission



Scott Danigole
Executive Director

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of this Order was sent by certified U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested on this 21st day of August, 2026 to the following person and at the following address: Angel Murtaugh, 300 N. St. Joseph Ave., Hastings, NE 68901.



Scott Danigole Executive Director

SETTLEMENT MEMORANDUM

Case #26-12

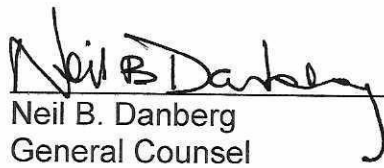
Executive Director v. Angel Murtaugh

- I. **Nature of the Case.** On April 10, 2026, the Executive Director, based upon information received from individuals in Adams County, initiated a Preliminary Investigation with respect to the Adams County Assessor. The information received by the NADC suggested that the Respondent, Angel Murtaugh, utilized public resources in support of her candidacy for Adams County Assessor. It should be noted that she was unsuccessful in the election for Adams County Assessor.
- II. **Notice of Preliminary Investigation.** A Notice of Preliminary Investigation was filed alleging that the Respondent had violated Section 49-14,101.02 by using public resources for campaign purposes.
- III. **Investigation.**
 - A. **Answer of Respondent.** The Respondent filed an Answer stating that she had used her work computer to assist in the design of campaign postcards. However, in all other respects, she denied use of public resources, including personnel, in her campaign. She specifically denied use of work time for campaign purposes.
 - B. **Interview with Office Personnel.** Several office personnel who had worked under the Respondent in the Assessor's Office were interviewed. The interviews suggested that there had been frequent use of office printers to print political material. Eight individuals within the office had been approached by the Respondent asking for their support in the Assessor election. Work phones were used for campaign purposes. A paper supporting her candidacy was printed on the office computer, and it was then placed on the counter where the general public came to transact business with the Assessor's office. This paper praised the work done by the Respondent to date, and it asked for the public's continued support for her and her office.
- IV. **Settlement Agreement.** After the investigation, we initiated discussions about resolving the case through a Settlement Agreement. After some negotiations, the Respondent, accepted the Commission's offer to settle the case. The Respondent denied that she had intended to violate the NPADA, but she admitted that there was sufficient evidence from which the NADC could find a

violation as alleged. She agreed to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$750.00 in four installments.

- V. **Recommendation.** A copy of the proposed Settlement Agreement, signed by the Respondent, has been appended to this Memorandum as **Exhibit "A."** We recommend it's acceptance.

Respectfully submitted this 1st day of August, 2026.


Neil B. Danberg
General Counsel

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA ACCOUNTABILITY AND DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF:

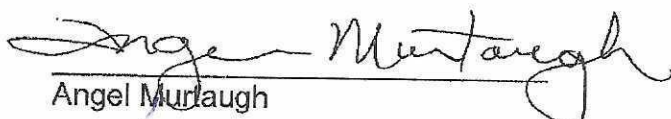
CASE No. 26-12

ANGEL MURTAUGH

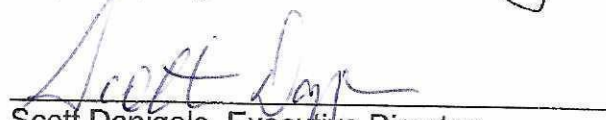
SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

- 1) Parties: The parties to this Settlement Agreement (hereinafter "Agreement") are the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission" and Angel Murtaugh, hereinafter referred to as the "Respondent."
- 2) Jurisdiction: The Respondent acknowledges that the Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to the terms of Nebraska Statutes 49-1401 et seq., known as the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act ("NPADA").
- 3) Intention: The parties hereby agree and intend that this Agreement shall constitute a waiver of any further proceedings in this matter, thereby resolving the matter without further delay and expense to the parties.
- 4) The Alleged Violation: In its Notice of Preliminary Investigation in this case, the Commission has alleged that the Respondent, as Adams County Assessor, during 2026, used or authorized the use of Adams County public resources for campaign purposes in violation of Section 49-14,101.02(2) of the Nebraska Statutes.
- 5) Stipulation: The Respondent and the Commission stipulate and agree that at the time of the alleged violations, the Respondent was the Adams County Assessor.
- 6) The Alleged Violations, Agreement: The Respondent states that it was not her intent to violate the Nebraska Statute as alleged, but she agrees and stipulates that there is sufficient evidence to support the Commission's findings of a violation of the Nebraska Statute as listed in the Notice of Preliminary Investigation, and as stated in Paragraph 4, above. The Respondent further agrees that she will not contest the Commission's Order in this case.
- 7) Civil Penalty and Agreement: The parties have agreed that, in view of the Respondent's willingness to resolve this matter and accept the finding of the Commission in this case, the Commission will impose a civil penalty in this matter in the amount of \$750.00. The parties have further agreed that the Respondent may pay her civil penalty over four months, on September 21st, October 21st, November 21st, and December 21st, with each payment being in the amount of \$187.50.

- 8) The Commission must approve this Agreement in order for it to be effective: The parties agree that for this Agreement to become effective, the Commission must approve it and enter an Order according to the terms of the Agreement.
- 9) Effective Date of Agreement: This Agreement shall not be binding upon the parties until the date it is approved by the Commission and the Commission issues an Order in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. The date of the Order shall be deemed its effective date. If this Agreement is not approved by the Commission, this Agreement shall be void and may not be used in this or any other proceeding. The parties acknowledge that this Agreement and any subsequent Order shall be announced at an open public meeting of the Commission. The parties further acknowledge that, upon adoption, this Agreement, the Order, and the Commission's file pertaining to this matter shall become open and public.
- 10) Right to Address the Commission: The Respondent has a right to address the Commission on the matter of the approval of this Settlement Agreement.
- 11) Advice of Counsel: The Respondent acknowledges that she has had an opportunity to seek the advice of an attorney concerning this Agreement.


Angel Murlaugh

7/28/26
Date


Scott Danigole, Executive Director
Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission

8-21-2026
Date