## STATE OF MINNESOTA CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

# FINDINGS AND ORDER IN THE MATTER OF THE DEL RAY FLOM VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE

# Summary of the Facts

Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board ("Board") staff reviewed the 2006 Report of Receipts and Expenditures of the Del Ray Flom Volunteer Committee ("the Committee") and found that the Committee accepted aggregate contributions from political party units and terminating principal campaign committees in the amount of \$5,057.66. The total amount of these contributions exceeded by \$57.66 the applicable limit of \$5,000 for a state legislative candidate as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 2.

Board staff notified Barbara Bruno, treasurer, and Del Ray Flom, candidate, on July 23, 2007, of the apparent violation. Neither individual provided a response to the notification. On August 21, 2007, the Board offered Mr. Flom the opportunity to enter into a Conciliation Agreement to resolve the matter. The Board did not receive a response to the offer of a Conciliation Agreement from Mr. Flom.

Having failed to enter into a Conciliation Agreement with Del Ray Flom, the Board now issues these Findings as authorized by Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.28, subdivision 4.

Based on the above Summary of the Facts and Relevant Statutes, the Board makes the following:

## Findings Concerning Probable Cause

There is probable cause to believe that the Del Ray Flom Volunteer Committee accepted \$5,057.66 from political party units and terminating principal campaign committees. The Board finds that the Committee exceeded the applicable aggregate limit for such contributions by \$57.66.

#### Based on the above Findings, the Board issues the following:

#### Order

- 1. The Board imposes a civil penalty of \$57.66, which is one times the amount the Del Ray Flom Volunteer Committee exceeded the limit on contributions from political party units and terminating principal campaign committees. This civil penalty must be paid within 30 days of receipt of this order.
- 2. The Del Ray Flom Volunteer Committee is directed to return \$57.66 to one or more political party units that contributed to the committee in calendar year 2006. Copies of the check(s) and letter(s) used to return the excess amount must be forwarded to the Board within 30 days of receipt of this order
- If the Committee does not comply with the provisions of this order, the Board's Executive Director shall refer this matter to the Office of the Attorney General for civil enforcement pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.28.
- 4. The Board investigation of this matter is entered into the public record in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.02, subdivision 11, and upon payment by the Committee of the civil penalties imposed herein, the matter is concluded.

Dated: October 29, 2007

Talua Day

Felicia J. Boyd, Chair Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

# **Relevant Statutes**

### **10A.27 CONTRIBUTION LIMITS.**

Subdivision 1. **Contribution limits**. (a) Except as provided in subdivision 2, a candidate must not permit the candidate's principal campaign committee to accept aggregate contributions made or delivered by any individual, political committee, or political fund in excess of the following:

- (1) to candidates for governor and lieutenant governor running together, \$2,000 in an election year for the office sought and \$500 in other years;
- (2) to a candidate for attorney general, \$1,000 in an election year for the office sought and
  \$200 in other years;
- (3) to a candidate for the office of secretary of state or state auditor, \$500 in an election year for the office sought and \$100 in other years;
- (4) to a candidate for state senator, \$500 in an election year for the office sought and \$100 in other years; and
- (5) to a candidate for state representative, \$500 in an election year for the office sought and \$100 in the other year.
- (b) The following deliveries are not subject to the bundling limitation in this subdivision:
  - delivery of contributions collected by a member of the candidate's principal campaign committee, such as a block worker or a volunteer who hosts a fundraising event, to the committee's treasurer; and
  - (2) a delivery made by an individual on behalf of the individual's spouse.

(c) A lobbyist, political committee, political party unit, or political fund must not make a contribution a candidate is prohibited from accepting.

Subd. 2. **Political party and dissolving principal campaign committee limit**. A candidate must not permit the candidate's principal campaign committee to accept contributions from any political party units or dissolving principal campaign committees in aggregate in excess of ten times the amount that may be contributed to that candidate as set forth in subdivision 1.