

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD**

**Findings in the Matter of the 67B House District Republican Party of Minnesota
Committee**

Summary of the Facts

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 10A.27, subdivision 13 (a), candidates, political party units, and political committees registered with the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board (the Board) may not accept a contribution in excess of \$100 from an association that is not registered with the Board unless the contribution is accompanied by financial disclosure of the donating association's receipts and expenditures in the form specified by statute.

In response to an inquiry from the Board regarding a contribution disclosed on the 2007 year-end Report of Receipts and Expenditures, Todd Lamphere, deputy treasurer, 67B House District Republican Party of Minnesota Committee confirmed that the committee accepted a \$448.70 contribution from the Larry Dandrea for School Board Committee, an association not registered with the Board. The required disclosure was not provided with the contribution.

In a letter dated March 18, 2008, Mr. Lamphere stated, "We wish to fully comply with the appropriate statutes and were unaware of any possible violation."

This matter was considered by the Board in executive session on May 16, 2008. The Board's decision was based upon correspondence from Mr. Lamphere and Board records.

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

Finding Concerning Probable Cause

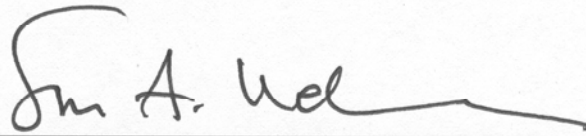
1. There is probable cause to believe that the 67B House District Republican Party of Minnesota Committee violated Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 13(a), when it accepted a contribution in excess of \$100 from the Larry Dandrea for School Board Committee, an association not registered with the Board, without receiving the required disclosure.
2. There is probable cause to believe that the contribution was not returned within 60 days as permitted in Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.15, subdivision 3.
3. There is no probable cause to believe that this violation was intentional or done with the intent to circumvent the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 10A.

Based on the above Finding Concerning Probable Cause, the Board issues the following:

ORDER

1. The Board imposes a civil penalty of \$348.70, one times the amount the contribution exceeded \$100, against the 67B House District Republican Party of Minnesota Committee for acceptance of a contribution in excess of \$100 from an unregistered association without the disclosure required by Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 13(a).
2. The 67B House District Republican Party of Minnesota Committee is also directed to forward to the Board for deposit into the state general fund \$348.70. This action is in lieu of returning the prohibited contribution to the Larry Dandrea for School Board Committee, which no longer exists.
3. The 67B House District Republican Party of Minnesota Committee is directed to forward to the Board payment of \$697.40 by check or money order payable to the State of Minnesota, within 30 days of receipt of this order
4. If the 67B House District Republican Party of Minnesota Committee does not comply with the provisions of this order, the Board's Executive Director may request that the Attorney General bring an action on behalf of the Board for the remedies available under Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.34.
5. The Board investigation of this matter is entered into the public record in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.02, subdivision 11. The matter is concluded.

Dated: May 16, 2008



Sven A. Wehrwein, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Relevant Statutes

10A.27, subdivision 13. Unregistered association limit; statement; penalty. (a) The treasurer of a political committee, political fund, principal campaign committee, or party unit must not accept a contribution of more than \$100 from an association not registered under this chapter unless the contribution is accompanied by a written statement that meets the disclosure and reporting period requirements imposed by section 10A.20. This statement must be certified as true and correct by an officer of the contributing association. The committee, fund, or party unit that accepts the contribution must include a copy of the statement with the report that discloses the contribution to the board. This subdivision does not apply when a national political party contributes money to its affiliate in this state.

(b) An unregistered association may provide the written statement required by this subdivision to no more than three committees, funds, or party units in a calendar year. Each statement must cover at least the 30 days immediately preceding and including the date on which the contribution was made. An unregistered association or an officer of it is subject to a civil penalty imposed by the board of up to \$1,000, if the association or its officer:

(1) fails to provide a written statement as required by this subdivision; or

(2) fails to register after giving the written statement required by this subdivision to more than three committees, funds, or party units in a calendar year.

(c) The treasurer of a political committee, political fund, principal campaign committee, or party unit who accepts a contribution in excess of \$100 from an unregistered association without the required written disclosure statement is subject to a civil penalty up to four times the amount in excess of \$100.