

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

**Findings and Order In The Matter Of a Contribution Made By
The (Kurt) Perkins for the People Committee
To a Candidate Seeking Local Office**

Summary of the Facts

Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 9, clause (d), prohibits contributions from a principal campaign committee to a candidate for a local political subdivision office (an office other than state legislature, judicial, or constitutional). There is no specified civil penalty for a principal campaign committee that violates this statute, but the amount of a prohibited contribution must be returned to the principal campaign committee.

The Board also notes that pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 211A.13, a candidate for local office is prohibited from accepting a contribution from a principal campaign committee.

The 2010 year-end Report of Receipts and Expenditures filed by the (Kurt) Perkins for the People Committee (“the Committee”) reported a contribution of \$257.62 to the Citizens for Autumn Lehrke, a candidate for county commissioner, a local political subdivision office.

By letter dated March 24, 2011, Board staff notified Anitta Perkins, Committee treasurer, of the potential violation. In a response dated April 11, 2001, Ms. Perkins stated that she was not aware that a candidate for county commissioner was ineligible to receive a contribution from a principal campaign committee.

The Committee terminated on January 28, 2011, and the campaign bank account has been closed. When the principal campaign committee that makes a prohibited contribution has terminated the amount of the prohibited contribution must be forwarded to the Board for deposit in the state general fund.

The matter was considered by the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board (the Board) in executive session on June 30, 2011. The Board’s decision was based on the response from Ms. Perkins and Board records.

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

Findings Concerning Probable Cause

1. There is probable cause to believe that the (Kurt) Perkins for the People Committee contributed \$257.62 to a candidate seeking a local political subdivision office in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 9, clause (d).

2. There is no probable cause to believe that this violation was done with the intent to violate the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 10A.

Based on the above Finding, the Board issues the following:

ORDER

1. Kurt Perkins is ordered to recover the contribution from the Citizens for Autumn Lehrke Committee and forward to the Board a check or money order for \$257.62 payable to the State of Minnesota for deposit in the general fund of the state to remedy the violation. The amount of the contribution must be forwarded to the Board within 30 days of receipt of this order.
2. If Kurt Perkins does comply with the provision 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.
3. The record in this matter and all correspondence is hereby entered into the public record in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.02, subdivision 11, this matter is closed.

Dated: June 30, 2011

/s/ John Scanlon

John Scanlon, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Relevant Statute

Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 9, clause (d) ...A candidate or the treasurer of a candidate's principal campaign committee must not make a contribution from the principal campaign committee to a candidate for political subdivision office in any state.