



What is a designated lobbyist

Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

In the list of associations that a lobbyist represents, you will see a column labeled “Designated.” The “designated lobbyist” is the one individual who reports disbursements made by the represented association itself rather than by any of the association’s lobbyists.

Minnesota statutes require that money lobbyists themselves spend in representing a client be reported. That money may be reported by the lobbyist who spends it, or the lobbyist may authorize another lobbyist representing the same client to report the money on his or her behalf. On the association grid, the “Disbursements” column indicates whether the lobbyist’s disbursements for a particular client are reported by some other lobbyist.

Sometimes money for lobbying is spent by represented association itself rather than by its lobbyists. Statutes require that the association pick one of its lobbyists to report this money because organizations don’t report their spending other than once a year in a lump sum. The lobbyist that an association designates to report its lobbying spending is its “designated lobbyist.” Every organization that has registered lobbyists must have one designated lobbyist.