

Summary of Final Board Determination

Laurie Cumbo

Candidate, 2013, City Council District 35

Program participant: \$92,400 in public funds received

1. Failing to file daily pre-election disclosure statements

\$100

Aggregate contributions and loans from a single source in excess of \$1,000, and aggregate expenditures in excess of \$20,000, received or made within 14 days of an election, must be disclosed to the Board within 24 hours. See Admin. Code §§ 3-703(6), (12), 3-708(8); Board Rules 1-09, 3-02(e).

The Campaign failed to file the required daily disclosures to report expenditures to the Advance Group totaling \$39,055.70 during the two weeks preceding the primary election.

The Board assessed a penalty of \$100 for this violation.

2. Accepting an over-the-limit contribution

\$1,016

Campaigns are prohibited from accepting contributions in excess of the applicable contribution limit. See Admin. Code §§ 3-702(8), 3-703(1)(f), (11); Board Rules 1-04(c)(1), (h), 1-07(c). Creditors who extend credit beyond 90 days are considered to have made a contribution equal to the credit extended, unless the creditor continues to seek payment of the debt. Outstanding liabilities that are forgiven or settled for less than the amount owed are also considered contributions. See Board Rules 1-04(g)(4), (5).

The Campaign contracted to pay an employee at the rate of \$3,250 per month from May 1-September 20, 2013. However, the Campaign did not pay the employee for the month of July and paid him at a lower rate from September 1-20, resulting in an underpayment of \$3,416. This underpayment in considered an over-the-limit in-kind contribution from the employee.

The Board assessed a penalty of \$1,016 for this violation.

3. Accepting contributions from corporations, limited liability companies, or partnerships \$450

Campaigns may not accept, either directly or by transfer, a campaign contribution or loan, or guarantee or other security for such loan, from any corporation, limited liability company (LLC), or partnership. See N.Y.C. Charter \S 1052(a)(13); Admin. Code $\S\S$ 3-702(8), 3-703(1)(l); Board Rules 1-04(c)(1), (e), (g), 1-05. Creditors who extend credit beyond 90 days are considered to have made a contribution equal to the credit extended, unless the creditor continues to seek payment of the debt. Outstanding liabilities that are forgiven or settled for less than the amount owed are also considered contributions. See Board Rules 1-04(g)(4), (5).



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The Campaign accepted a \$100 contribution from Rodney Leon Architects, a limited liability company. The Campaign timely refunded the contribution. The Campaign also accepted a \$100 contribution from Bed Vyne Brew, a limited liability company.

The Board assessed a penalty of \$450 for these violations.

4. Failing to document transactions

\$200

Campaigns are required to document all financial transactions, including loans, in-kind contributions, and joint expenditures. See Admin. Code §§ 3-703(1)(d), (g), (11), (12), 3-715; Board Rules 1-09, 4-01(a), (c), (g), (k), 4-03. The Campaign reported, but failed to adequately document, in-kind contributions totaling \$2,250.

The Board assessed a penalty of \$200 for these violations.

5. Maintaining a petty cash fund greater than \$500

\$707

Campaigns are prohibited from maintaining more than \$500 in a petty cash fund. See Board Rule 4-01(e)(2). The Campaign made a cash withdrawal of \$7,577 in order to pay canvassers.

The Board assessed a penalty of \$707 for these violations.

6. Exceeding the expenditure limit

\$6,806

Candidates who participate in the Campaign Finance Program may not spend in excess of the expenditure limits. See Admin. Code §§ 3-703(1)(i), (11), 3-706, 3-711(2)(a); Board Rules 1-08(c), (d), (l), 7-05(b). The Campaign exceeded the primary election expenditure limit by \$4,537.77 (2.7%).

The Board assessed a penalty of \$6,806 for this violation.