



Summary of Final Board Determination

Sara Gonzalez

Candidate, 2013, City Council District 38

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

1. Failing to report transactions \$79

Campaigns are required to properly report all financial transactions to the Board. *See* Admin. Code §§ 3-703(1)(d), (g), (6), (11), (12); Board Rules 1-09, 3-03(c), (d), (e), 4-01.

The Campaign failed to report disbursements totaling \$3,872.21 that appear on its bank statements. In addition, the Campaign failed to report expenditures associated with a cell phone plan. These expenditures constitute an unreported in-kind contribution.

The Board assessed a penalty of \$79 for these violations.

2. Accepting over-the-limit contributions \$125

Campaigns are prohibited from accepting contributions in excess of the applicable contribution limit. *See* Admin. Code §§ 3-702(8), 3-703(1)(f), (11), 3-719(2); Board Rules 1-04(c)(1), (h), 1-07(c). In addition, campaigns may not accept contributions in excess of the “doing business” contribution limits from individuals or entities that have business dealings with the City: \$250 for candidates for City Council. *See* Admin. Code §§ 3-702(8), (18), (20), 3-703 (1-a), (1-b); Board Rules 1-04(c)(1), (h).

The Campaign accepted contributions from the Uniformed Sanitationmen’s Association, Local 831 in excess of the contribution limit by \$1,500. It promptly refunded the overage.

The Board assessed a penalty of \$125 for these violations.

3. Accepting contributions from unregistered political committees \$375

Campaigns may not accept a contribution from a political committee unless the political committee is registered with the CFB or registers with the CFB within 10 days of receipt of the contribution. *See* Admin. Code §§ 3-702(11), 3-703(1)(k), 3-707; Board Rules 1-04(c)(1), (d), (g), 1-05.

The Campaign accepted a \$2,750 contribution from an unregistered political committee, Friends of Mark Weprin, and timely refunded the contribution. In addition, the Campaign accepted in-kind contributions from two unregistered political committees, NYS Democratic Club and the Uniformed Sanitationmen’s Association, Local 831, in relation to an event held for the Campaign.

The Board assessed a penalty of \$375 for these violations.



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4. Failing to document a transaction \$100

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 was featured on 5/6 of a joint postcard with another campaign, but only paid 50% of the cost. The Campaign failed to document the remaining cost as an in-kind contribution from the other campaign.

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

5. Failing to demonstrate that spending was in furtherance of the Campaign \$127

Campaigns are required to demonstrate that all spending was in furtherance of the campaign. See Admin. Code §§ 3-702(21)(a), (b); 3-703(1)(d), (g), (6), (11); Board Rules 1-03(a), 4-01(e).

The Campaign failed to demonstrate that expenditures totaling \$510 were in furtherance of the Campaign. The Campaign paid \$510 to a consultant, but did not submit documentation to confirm the work performed, hours worked, or how payments were calculated.

The Board assessed a penalty of \$127 for this violation.