



Summary of Final Board Determination

James Van Bramer
Candidate, 2013, City Council District 26
Program participant: \$0 in public funds received

1. Accepting over-the-limit contributions \$2,575

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). Under the Act, candidates for City Council may receive contributions from an individual totaling up to \$2,750. 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), 3-719(2); Board Rules 1-04(c)(1), (h). Campaigns are required to “promptly return the excess portion . . . by bank check or certified check.” Board Rule 1-04(c)(1). The Campaign Finance Handbook reiterates this requirement.

The Campaign accepted two over-the-limit contributions from individuals. It refunded the overage for one promptly, but refunded the other one late. The Campaign also accepted over-the-limit contributions from nine individuals who had business dealings with the city and failed to refund the overages by the deadline.

The Board assessed a penalty of \$2,575 for these violations.

2. Accepting three contributions from corporations \$350

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 § 1052(a)(13); Admin. Code §§ 3-702(8), 3-703(1)(1), 3-719(2)(b); Board Rules 1-04(c)(1), (e), (g), 1-05. The Campaign accepted three contributions from corporations totaling \$1,100.

The Board assessed a penalty of \$350 for these violations.