



## Can my new committee use my old bank account?

Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

When a candidate decides to run for a different office, the candidate must register a new committee for the new office. The candidate may terminate the old committee and transfer its funds to the new committee. Or the candidate may choose to keep both committees open.

### **Can the candidate use the same bank account for the new committee?**

Chapter 10A prohibits a committee from commingling (or mixing) its funds with the funds of any other committee. This prohibition applies even if the other committee is affiliated with the same person but for a different office.

If the candidate opens a committee for the new office and keeps the old committee for the former office open, the candidate cannot use the same bank account for the new committee because the funds of the old committee would commingle with the funds of the new committee.

If the candidate terminates the old committee before registering the new committee, or at about the same time, and transfers all of the old committee's funds to the new committee, the committee can re-use the old bank account for the new committee. In this situation, all of the old committee's money would be given to the new committee and would become the new committee's money on the date of transfer. Because the two committees would not both have money in the account at the same time, there would be no commingling of funds in this situation.

Although the Board may allow a new committee to re-use an old bank account in the situation described above, the bank may have other account rules that could prevent the two committees from using the same account.