

ETHICAL PRACTICES BOARD . 625 North Robert Street . St. Paul, MN 55101-2520

Issued to:  
Eric Sandrock  
8696 Hillside Trail  
Cottage Grove, MN 55016

RE: Legal Defense Fund

ADVISORY OPINION #101

SUMMARY

101. Contributions to and payments from a legal defense fund established by a candidate are not subject to the registration and reporting requirements of Minn. Stat. Ch. 10A.

FACTS

You were a candidate for the office of state representative in the 1988 election. Your registered principal campaign committee continues to file periodic reports with the Board under Minn. Stat. Ch. 10A.

You owe a personal debt for legal services incurred in the successful defense of a charge brought against you under Minn. Stat. Ch. 211B in connection with your campaign for state representative in the 1988 election. You would like to use a legal defense fund separate from your principal campaign committee to help you pay this personal obligation.

You ask the Board to answer these questions:

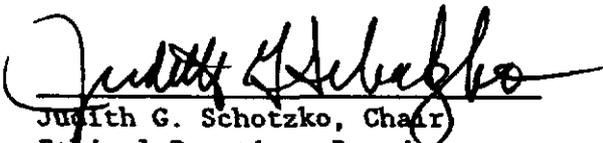
1. May a legal defense fund be established separately from your principal campaign committee?
2. If a legal defense fund may be established separately from your principal campaign committee, what are the reporting obligations, if any, of such a legal defense fund?

OPINION

A candidate's payments for legal services are not campaign expenditures of that candidate. Minn. Stat. § 10A.02, subd. 10c (a) (1988)

Contributions to a legal defense fund established by a candidate are not contributions subject to the registration and reporting requirements of Minn. Stat. Ch. 10A.

Issued: 7-27-89

  
Judith G. Schotzko, Chair  
Ethical Practices Board