STATE OF MINNESOTA CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

PRIMA FACIE
DETERMINATION

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT OF GREG LADEN REGARDING SHINE MAHI

On October 30, 2024, the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board received a complaint submitted by Greg Laden regarding Shine Mahi, a candidate for Plymouth City Council.

The complaint alleges that Ms. Mahi offered voters breakfast at a local restaurant, and offered "More freebies with your 'I voted' sticker!!" The complaint includes a copy of literature stating that the breakfast event would be held on Saturday, October 26, and that Ms. Mahi would be present. The literature includes what appears to be the website address for Ms. Mahi's campaign.¹ The complaint cites Minnesota Statutes section 211B.13, subdivision 1, which generally prohibits willfully promising or giving food or any "other thing of monetary value . . . in order to induce a voter . . . to vote in a particular way" in an election.

Determination

Minnesota Statutes section 10A.022, subdivision 3, authorizes the Board to investigate alleged or potential violations of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 10A, in addition to Minnesota Statutes sections 211B.04, 211B.12, and 211B.15. Because the Board does not have jurisdiction over the statutes that might give rise to the violation alleged in the complaint, the chair concludes that the complaint does not state a prima facie violation of Chapter 10A or of those sections of Chapter 211B under the Board's jurisdiction. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 10A.022, subdivision 3, this prima facie determination is made by the Board chair and not by any vote of the entire Board. The complaint is dismissed without prejudice.

David Asp, Chair

Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Date: November 1, 2024

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¹ www.letplymouthshine.com