

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD**

**PRIMA FACIE
DETERMINATION**

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT OF NICHOLE DAWSON REGARDING SHARON KNIP

On November 25, 2024, the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board received a complaint submitted by Nichole Dawson regarding Sharon Knip, a school board candidate in Independent School District 728.

The complainant alleges that Ms. Knip failed to file a campaign finance report within 14 days of exceeding the \$750 reporting threshold as required by Minnesota Statutes section 211A.02. The complaint also alleges that Ms. Knip “did not report three contributions made herself . . . within the 14 day period.”

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. The Board does not have investigative authority with respect to alleged violations of Minnesota Statutes chapter 211A by candidates for local office, such as school board candidates. Because the Board does not have jurisdiction over the statutes that might give rise to the violations 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: December 10, 2024