

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

**FINDINGS REGARDING
L & M HOLDING COMPANY**

Procedural Background

In response to an inquiry from the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board (“the Board”) Lynn Johnson, partner, L & M Holding Company notified the Board that L & M Holding company, an unregistered association, made \$250 contributions to two registered principal campaign committees without providing the required disclosure.

Minn. Stat. §10A.27, subd. 13 (b), prohibits an unregistered association from making a contribution to a registered principal campaign committee, unless, at the time the contribution is made, the unregistered association provides a disclosure statement that meets the reporting requirements of Minn. Stat. §10A.20.

On March 10, 2004, Mr. Johnson stated “L & M Holding Company, a partnership, was not aware of the Minnesota Statutes you referenced in your letter and inadvertently gave contributions to Bonita Wilhelm and Doug Lindgren.”

This matter was considered by the Board in executive session at its meeting on March 22, 2005. The Board’s decision was based on correspondence received from Lynn Johnson and Board records.

Based on the record before it, the Board issues the following:

EVIDENTIARY FINDINGS

1. There is evidence that L & M Holding Company inadvertently violated Minn. Stat. §10A.27, subd. 13 (b), when it made two contributions in excess of \$100 to two registered principal campaign committees, the Lindgren (Doug) Volunteer Committee and the Supporters of Bonnie Wilhelm Committee without providing the required disclosure.
2. There is no evidence that these contributions were returned within 60 days. Minn. Stat. §10A.27, subd. 13 (b), provides that an unregistered association that makes a contribution in excess of \$100 without the required disclosure is subject to civil penalty of up to \$1,000.

Based on the above Statement of the Evidence, the Board makes the following:

FINDINGS CONCERNING PROBABLE CAUSE

There is probable cause to believe that L & M Holding Company inadvertently violated Minn. Stat. §10A.27, subd. 13 (b) by making contributions in excess of \$100 to two registered principal campaign committees without providing the required disclosure.

Based on the above Findings, the Board issues the following:

ORDER

1. The Board imposes a civil penalty of \$600, two times the amount by which each contribution exceeded \$100, on L & M Holding Company for making contributions in excess of \$100 without providing the required disclosure.
2. L & M Holding Company is directed to forward to the Board payment of the civil penalty of \$600 by check or money order payable to the State of Minnesota, within thirty days of the public posting of this order.
3. If L & M Holding Company does not comply with the provisions of this order, the Board's Executive Director shall refer this matter to the appropriate County Attorney for civil enforcement pursuant to Minn. Stat. §10A.28, subd.4.
4. The Board investigation of this matter is hereby made a part of the public records of the Board pursuant to Minn. Stat. §10A.02, subd. 11, and upon payment by the civil penalty imposed herein, this matter is concluded.

Dated: March 22, 2005



Terri Ashmore, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board