

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

Findings and Order in the Matter of the Larry Dandrea for School Board Committee

Summary of the Facts

Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 13(b), prohibits an association that is not registered with the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board (“the Board”) from making a contribution in excess of \$100 to a candidate, political party unit, or political committee that is registered with the Board unless, at the time the contribution was made, the unregistered association provides the recipient with disclosure of the unregistered association’s receipts and expenditures in the form specified by statute. An unregistered association that fails to provide the appropriate disclosure with the contribution is subject to a civil penalty of up to \$1,000.

In the year-end 2007 Report of Receipts and Expenditures filed with the Board the 67B House District Republican Party of Minnesota committee disclosed receipt of a contribution of \$448.70 from the Larry Dandrea for School Board Committee, an association not registered with the Board.

In a written response dated March 25, 2008, Greg Hammond, treasurer of the Larry Dandrea for School Board Committee states “This contribution was made as we formally closed Mr. Dandrea’s campaign. ...It was our understanding that ‘Larry Dandrea for School Board Committee’ was registered with the state Board as a result of registering and filing reports with Ramsey County, and therefore, the contribution of \$448.70 to HD 67B did not violate Minnesota Statutes. ...I am surprised to learn that registering and filing with Ramsey County does not equate to registering with the state Board.”

This matter was considered by the Board in executive session at its meeting on May 16, 2008. The Board’s decision was based upon correspondence from Mr. Hammond and Board records.

Based on the above Summary of the Facts and the Relevant Statute, the Board makes the following:

Findings Concerning Probable Cause

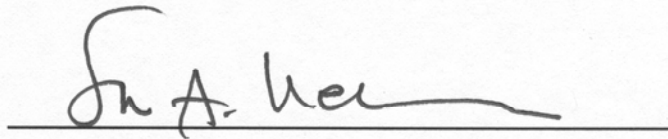
1. There is probable cause to believe that the Larry Dandrea for School Board Committee, an association that is not registered with the Board, made a contribution in excess of \$100 to the 67B House District Republican Party of Minnesota without providing the required disclosure resulting in a violation of Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 13(b).
2. There is no probable cause to believe that this violation was intentional or done with the intent to circumvent the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 10A.

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

ORDER

1. In lieu of imposing a civil penalty against the Larry Dandrea for School Board Committee, which no longer exists, the 67B House District Republican Party of Minnesota has been directed by separate order on this date to forward to the Board \$348.70, the amount of the contribution over \$100, by check or money order payable to the State of Minnesota.
2. The Board investigation of this matter is hereby made a part of the public records of the Board pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.02, subdivision 11, this matter is concluded.

Dated: May 16, 2008

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sven A. Wehrwein", is written over a solid horizontal line.

Sven A. Wehrwein, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Relevant Statute

Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 13. Unregistered association limit;

statement; penalty. (a) The treasurer of a political committee, political fund, principal campaign committee, or party unit must not accept a contribution of more than \$100 from an association not registered under this chapter unless the contribution is accompanied by a written statement that meets the disclosure and reporting period requirements imposed by section 10A.20. This statement must be certified as true and correct by an officer of the contributing association. The committee, fund, or party unit that accepts the contribution must include a copy of the statement with the report that discloses the contribution to the board. This subdivision does not apply when a national political party contributes money to its affiliate in this state.

(b) An unregistered association may provide the written statement required by this subdivision to no more than three committees, funds, or party units in a calendar year. Each statement must cover at least the 30 days immediately preceding and including the date on which the contribution was made. An unregistered association or an officer of it is subject to a civil penalty imposed by the board of up to \$1,000, if the association or its officer:

(1) fails to provide a written statement as required by this subdivision; or

(2) fails to register after giving the written statement required by this subdivision to more than three committees, funds, or party units in a calendar year.

(c) The treasurer of a political committee, political fund, principal campaign committee, or party unit who accepts a contribution in excess of \$100 from an unregistered association without the required written disclosure statement is subject to a civil penalty up to four times the amount in excess of \$100.