

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

**FINDINGS REGARDING
EDEN PRAIRIE INDEPENDENT REPUBLICAN PARTY**

Procedural Background

In response to an inquiry from the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board (“the Board”), John Holst, Eden Prairie Independent Republican Party, notified the Board that the Eden Prairie Independent Republican Party, an unregistered association, made a \$109.72 contribution to the 42nd Senate District RPM, a registered political party unit, without providing the required disclosure.

Minn. Stat. §10A.27, subd. 13 (b), prohibits an unregistered association from making a contribution in excess of \$100 to a registered political party unit, 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 May 25, 2005, Mr. Holst stated “\$109.72 was given to Senate District 42... We will not do this again.”

This matter was considered by the Board in executive session at its meeting on June 7, 2005. The Board’s decision was based on correspondence received from Mr. Holst and Board records.

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

EVIDENTIARY FINDINGS

1. There is evidence that the Eden Prairie Independent Republican Party inadvertently violated Minn. Stat. §10A.27, subd. 13 (b), when it made a contribution in excess of \$100 to a registered political party unit, the 42nd Senate District RPM, without providing the required disclosure.
2. There is no evidence that the contribution was returned.
3. 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 the Eden Prairie Independent Republican Party inadvertently violated Minn. Stat. §10A.27, subd. 13 (b) by making a contribution in excess of \$100 to a registered political party unit without providing the required disclosure.

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

ORDER

1. The Board imposes a civil penalty of \$9.72, one times the amount by which the prohibited contribution exceeded \$100, on the Eden Prairie Independent Republican Party for making a contribution in excess of \$100 without providing the required disclosure.
2. The Eden Prairie Independent Republican Party is directed to forward to the Board payment of the civil penalty of \$9.72 by check or money order payable to the State of Minnesota, within thirty days of the public posting of this order.
3. If the Eden Prairie Independent Republican Party 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 of the civil penalty imposed herein, this matter is concluded.

Dated: June 7, 2005



Terri Ashmore, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board