

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

**FINDINGS REGARDING
(THOMAS) NEUVILLE FOR SENATE VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE**

Procedural Background

In response to an inquiry from Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board staff, Thomas Neuville, candidate, (Thomas) Neuville for Senate Volunteer Committee, indicated that he violated Minn. Stat. §10A.25, subd. 3a, by making an independent expenditure while having a signed public subsidy agreement in effect.

By letter received April 28, 2005, Senator Neuville stated, "I did make independent expenditures on behalf of the Ray Cox for Representative campaign in the amount of \$526.50, as reflected in my report. I was not aware the law had been changed in 2002 to prohibit these expenditures."

Senator Neuville provided the Board with a copy of a personal check reimbursing the Committee for the independent expenditure.

The Board considered this matter in executive session at its meeting on June 7, 2005. The Board's decision was based on Senator Neuville's letter and Board records.

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

EVIDENTIARY FINDINGS

1. There is evidence the (Thomas) Neuville for Senate Volunteer Committee violated Minn. Stat. §10A.25, subd. 3a, when the Committee made an independent expenditure on October 19, 2004, in support of another principal campaign committee, while having a signed public subsidy agreement in effect.
2. Senator Neuville provided evidence that he personally reimbursed his principal campaign committee for the full amount of the independent expenditure.
3. Minn. Stat. §10A.25, provides no penalty for a violation of this statute.

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

FINDINGS CONCERNING PROBABLE CAUSE


1. There is probable cause to believe that the (Thomas) Neuville for Senate Volunteer Committee inadvertently violated Minn. Stat. §10A.25, subd. 3a, when the Committee made an independent expenditure on behalf of another principal campaign committee, while having a public subsidy agreement in effect.
2. There is probable cause to believe that the (Thomas) Neuville for Senate Volunteer Committee has been reimbursed by the candidate for the independent expenditure. There is no penalty provided for this violation.

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

ORDER

The Board's investigation of this matter is hereby made a part of the public records of the Board pursuant to Minn. Stat. §10A.02, subd. 11. Board staff is directed to forward copies of these Findings to Senator Neuville.

Dated: June 7, 2005



Terri Ashmore, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board