

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

**FINDINGS REGARDING
PEOPLE IN CONSTRUCTION POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE**

Procedural Background

In response to an inquiry from the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board (“the Board”), Tara Mattessich, counsel, People in Construction Political Action Committee (#30268), notified the Board that People in Construction Political Action Committee accepted \$14,158 in in-kind contributions from 32 unregistered associations

Minn. Stat. §10A.27, subd. 13 (a), prohibits a registered political committee from accepting a contribution from an unregistered association unless, at the time the contribution is made, the unregistered association provides the recipient with the disclosure required by Minn. Stat. §10A.20.

On November 15, 2004, People in Construction Political Action Committee, notified the Board that it had returned \$13,558 to the 32 unregistered associations.

In her October 11, 2004, letter Ms. Mattessich stated, “now that the organization is fully aware...we will ensure that in the future that the PICPAC accepts contributions only from registered organizations in the appropriate manner.”

This matter was considered by the Board in executive sessions in its meetings on November 17, 2004, and December 17, 2004. The Board’s decision was based upon correspondence from Ms. Mattessich and Board records.

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

EVIDENTIARY FINDINGS

1. There is evidence that People in Construction Political Action Committee inadvertently violated Minn. Stat. §10A.27, subd. 13, when it accepted 32 contributions in excess of \$100 without the required disclosure.
2. There is evidence that these contributions were not returned within 60 days. Minn. Stat. §10A.27, subd. 13 (c), provides that a registered political committee that accepts a contribution in excess of \$100 without the required disclosure is subject to civil penalty of up to four times the amount by which the contribution exceeded \$100.

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

FINDINGS CONCERNING PROBABLE CAUSE

There is probable cause to believe that People in Construction Political Action Committee inadvertently violated Minn. Stat. §10A.27, subd. 13, by accepting 32 contributions in excess of \$100 from 32 unregistered associations that did not provide the required disclosure.

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

ORDER

1. The Board imposes a civil penalty of \$10,358, one times the amount by which each of the 32 contributions exceeded \$100, on People in Construction Political Action Committee for acceptance of 32 contributions in excess of \$100 from unregistered associations that failed to provide the disclosure required by Minn. Stat. §10A.20.
2. People in Construction Political Action Committee is directed to forward to the Board payment of the civil penalty of \$10,358, by check or money order payable to the State of Minnesota, within thirty days of receipt of this order.
3. If People in Construction Political Action Committee 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: December 17, 2004

Wil Fluegel, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board