

Minnesota

Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board Meeting

Monday, June 16, 2025

9:30 AM

Room 2000 (Skjegstad Conference Room)

Stassen Building

REGULAR SESSION AGENDA

1. Approval of minutes

A. May 14, 2025

2. Chair's report

A. Meeting schedule

3. Executive director's report

4. Review of 2025 Statutory Changes

5. Enforcement report

6. Order on IFP motion regarding Court of Appeals case no. A25-0853

7. Other business

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Immediately following regular session

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

.....
**Wednesday, May 14, 2025
1:30 P.M.**

**Room 2000 (Skjegstad Conference Room)
Stassen Building**

.....
REGULAR SESSION

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chair Rashid.

Members present: Asp, Flynn (remote, left prior to Enforcement Report), Rashid, Soule, Swanson

Others present: Engelhardt, Olson, staff; Nathan Hartshorn, counsel

MINUTES (April 8, 2025)

The following motion was made:

Member Asp's motion: To approve the April 8, 2025, minutes as drafted.

Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Ms. Engelhardt discussed scheduling conflicts regarding the Board's meeting room. Member Swanson said he will be unavailable on September 3. Chair Rashid said he is discussing filling the vice chair position with other Board members.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Engelhardt presented a memorandum from Mr. Sigurdson that is attached to these minutes. She explained that Greta Johnson resigned from her staff position effective May 6, and the Governor's Office is working on filling the vacant Board member position for a former Republican member of the legislature. Ms. Engelhardt said that Member Swanson's confirmation will be before the legislature again next session, and Member Soule may continue to serve until July 1st of this year. Chair Rashid thanked Ms. Johnson for her service to the Board.

ENFORCEMENT REPORT

A. Discussion Items

1. Balance adjustment request – Fulton (Doug) for Senate (18932)

The Fulton committee's reported 2023 ending cash balance was \$7,387.13, while the actual balance in its bank account was \$7,856.53, leaving a discrepancy of \$469.40. The candidate has spent a significant amount of time reviewing the financial records and working with Board staff; however, he has been unable to resolve the discrepancy that remains and is requesting an upward adjustment to the committee's 2023 ending cash balance in the amount of \$469.40. The committee has been registered with the Board since 2022, and once the balance adjustment is granted the committee plans on dispensing the remaining funds and terminating.

The following motion was made:

Member Soule's motion: To approve the balance adjustment request.

Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.

B. Waiver Requests

1. Lobbyist Dominic (Tony) Barranco - 5634						
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	Board Action
June 2024 LR	6/17/24	6/18/24	\$25	No.	Waive.	Asp moved to approve the staff recommendation for requests 1-2 and 5-12.
<p>Mr. Barranco registered as a lobbyist for a single principal in February 2024 due to an anticipated project that may have involved conversations with elected officials, but the project never materialized and Mr. Barranco did not engage in lobbying. Mr. Barranco received a reminder about the need to file the report, but was confused about whether it applied to him. After receiving a second reminder Mr. Barranco filed the report, which was one day late. He subsequently terminated his lobbyist registration retroactive to 5/31/24. Barranco submitted a request to waive the late fee in November 2024, but due to an oversight by Board staff the request was not included within the materials for the January 2025 Board meeting.</p>						Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.

2. Lobbyist David Hoch - 3945						
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	Board Action
2024 June LDR	6/17/24	6/23/24	\$75	\$275 LFF waived in Nov. 2017 due to difficulty filing via website.	Waive.	Asp moved to approve the staff recommendation for requests 1-2 and 5-12.
Hoch states he was going through health issues and was receiving treatment out of state at the time the report was due.						Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.

3. 4th Congressional District GPM - 20733						
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	Board Action
2024 pre-primary	7/29/24	8/22/24	\$900	\$950 LFF reduced to \$150 in Apr. 2022 after treasurer stepped down; \$250 LFF waived in Jan. 2015 due to CFR software issue; \$1,000 LFF waived in Sept. 2014 due to treasurer's health issues.	Waive.	Swanson moved to reduce to \$300. Vote on motion: Rashid and Swanson voted in the affirmative. Asp and Soule voted in the negative.
<p>Treasurer Darnella Wade requests a waiver, citing the recent loss of two close family members. Ms. Wade states that despite these hardships, they fulfilled their reporting duties as soon as circumstances allowed. She states the committee is actively seeking a qualified person to assume the treasurer's responsibilities to prevent similar issues in the future. Ms. Wade expresses concern that the \$900 penalty would severely hinder efforts to rebuild and restore functionality. They respectfully ask for leniency and appreciation for the opportunity to be heard. Ending cash balance as of 12/31/24: \$933.64</p>						<p>Asp moved to waive.</p> <p>Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.</p>

4. HealtheMed						
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	Board Action
March 2025 LPR	3/17/25	3/19/25	\$50	No.	Waive.	Asp abstained, and this request will be laid over to the next meeting.
VP Jim Jarvis explained there was a misunderstanding regarding who would file the principal report, as the registration provided incorrect contact information for the principal association. Once realized, the organization corrected their contact information and submitted the required report. They are now taking steps to ensure compliance and request a waiver of the \$50 penalty.						

5. KPMG LLP						
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	Board Action
March 2025 LPR	3/17/25	3/18/25	\$25	No.	Waive.	Asp moved to approve the staff recommendation for requests 1-2 and 5-12.
<p>Dave Rodriguez states that the delay resulted from a transition in personnel: the previously listed point of contact retired in the fall of 2024. Unfortunately, emails sent to the former contact's address were neither rejected nor forwarded, leaving the organization unaware of the filing requirement. The issue only came to the organization's attention on March 17, 2025, through a third-party notification. Upon learning of the requirement, the organization immediately contacted the Board to obtain updated login credentials and successfully submitted the report on March 18, 2025.</p>						<p>Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.</p>

6. Tata America International Corp.						
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	Board Action
March 2025 LPR	3/17/25	3/19/25	\$50	No.	Waive.	Asp moved to approve the staff recommendation for requests 1-2 and 5-12.
Government affairs director Chris Gilligan states that the individual previously responsible for overseeing Minnesota-related efforts resigned unexpectedly in late December 2024 due to personal and health reasons. As a result, emails from Board staff to that individual were not received by anyone currently with the company. Although a letter was mailed, it was sent to the organization’s New York headquarters, the address listed by the former contact, and was not forwarded internally for review until March 19, at which point the report filed the same day. Additionally, the organization ceased lobbying in Minnesota as of mid-2024 and no longer retains a Minnesota-based lobbyist. There are no current or planned lobbying activities in the state, and no filings are anticipated for calendar year 2025.						Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.

7. MN Assn of Exterior Specialists (now Contractors Association of MN)						
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	Board Action
March 2025 LPR	3/17/25	4/9/25	\$425	No.	Waive	Asp moved to approve the staff recommendation for requests 1-2 and 5-12. Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.
Tracy Dahlin states there was confusion stemming from a recent name change, however, there were lobbyist registered under both their old name (MN Assn of Exterior Specialists) and the new name (Contractors Association of MN) in 2024, so both entities needed to file. They were able to file MN Assn of Exterior Specialists report on time, but not Contractors Association of MN as there were issues involved with the registration. They have since resolved the issue and expect no further complications moving forward. Given the efforts made to comply and the transitional nature of the name change, a waiver of the late fee is respectfully requested.						

8. Land Stewardship Action Fund (LSA)						
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	Board Action
March 2025 LPR	3/17/25	4/7/25	\$375	No.	Waive	Asp moved to approve the staff recommendation for requests 1-2 and 5-12. Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.
Government relations director Laura Schreiber states the notices regarding the report were sent to a former employee who has not been with the organization since the fall of 2024. Due to this outdated contact information, current staff were unaware of the filing requirement until the issue was brought to their attention. Upon being notified, Schreiber promptly submitted the report, which states that that no money was spent on lobbying in 2024.						

9. Summit Mortgage Corporation	
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Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	Board Action
March 2025 LPR	3/17/25	4/22/25	\$650	No.	Waive	Asp moved to approve the staff recommendation for requests 1-2 and 5-12. Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.
Bill Schwietz states he retired from Summit Mortgage on September 30, 2024. On October 1, 2024, Schwietz filed lobbyist termination statements for both Summit Mortgage and another principal, indicating that no lobbying activities took place during the final reporting period. He believed that the termination filings fulfilled his obligations. He was unable to access his Summit Mortgage email after retirement and did not receive notifications about the principal report. The principal report was filed after Board staff contacted Schwietz by phone on April 22, 2025. Unlike the other principal that Schwietz was registered on behalf of, Schwietz was listed as the contact person for Summit Mortgage so Board notices were sent to him rather than another individual. Summit Mortgage no longer has any lobbyists registered with the Board.						

10. MN Tourism Growth Coalition						Board Action
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	<p>Asp moved to approve the staff recommendation for requests 1-2 and 5-12.</p> <p>Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.</p>
March 2025 LPR	3/17/25	3/18/25	\$25	No.	Waive.	
<p>Sarah Psick was the sole lobbyist for the Coalition until their representation ended on May 31, 2024. The Coalition itself was officially dissolved on July 31, 2024. Following the dissolution, the organization's website and email accounts were disabled. An association management company received a mailed notice about the requirement to file the report, which was forwarded via email to Psick on March 18, 2025, and the report was filed the same day.</p>						

11. Gerdau Ameristeel US, Inc.						Board Action
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	<p>Asp moved to approve the staff recommendation for requests 1-2 and 5-12.</p> <p>Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.</p>
March 2025 LPR	3/17/25	3/21/25	\$100	No.	Waive.	
<p>Plant manager Kevin Ruhnke explained that the delay in filing was caused by transitions and communication issues after the closure of a sister facility and the retirement of the previous filer. Prior to 2025, reports were managed at a different location by a former controller. With that location closed and no notifications received about the 2025 report, the current filer contacted Board staff on March 5; however the voicemail went into the state's quarantine and did not reach staff right way. A response arrived on March 13, just before the deadline, but a pre-scheduled vacation prevented Ruhnke from acting until March 21. Upon return, the report was promptly filed with the correct login. Ruhnke is committed to ensuring timely compliance in the future.</p>						

12. Building Brighter Futures - 60075						Board Action
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	

2025 1st quarter	4/14/25	4/18/25	\$200	No.	Waive.	Asp moved to approve the staff recommendation for requests 1-2 and 5-12. Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.
This is a ballot question committee focused on a school district bond referendum. Treasurer Juhl Erickson was not aware that committees focused on local elections, other than candidates, are now required to register and file reports with the Board rather than with a local filing officer. Erickson filed three campaign finance reports with the school district office believing that was the correct process, and was not informed by the school district of the change in state law. Board staff became aware of the committee, then emailed Erickson on April 7, 2025, and mailed and emailed a letter to Erickson on April 16, 2025. He needed assistance with using CFRO but was able to file the report two days after getting in contact with Board staff.						

13. Joe Widmer For Minnesota - 18805						
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	Board Action
2023 year-end	1/31/24	2/24/25	\$2,000	No.		<p>Rashid moved to reduce the total owed to \$250.</p> <p>Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.</p>
2024 year-end	1/31/25	2/24/25	\$110			
<p>Widmer states his campaign for House District 33B was launched quickly in response to the announcement of new redistricting lines in early 2022. The campaign was organized rapidly and he decided to serve as treasurer. Out of concern for submitting incorrect reports, he delayed reaching out for assistance, unintentionally compounding the problem. It was only through guidance from Board staff that Widmer gained clarity on how to properly resolve the matter and expresses gratitude for the support received. The 2023 and 2024 year-end reports were no-change statements. The Widmer committee used its remaining funds to pay \$640 to the Board in April 2025. Of that amount, \$375 covered the late fee for the 2022 year-end report, and \$265 was applied toward the \$375 late fee for the 2024 year-end report, leaving a balance owed of \$2,110 comprised mostly of the late fee and civil penalty for the 2023 year-end report. Widmer filed a termination report on 4/23/25. Cash balance as of 4/23/25: \$0.</p>						

14. Rider Academy						
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	Board Action
2024 LPR	3/17/25	4/1/25	\$275	No.		Asp moved to waive.
Jed Duncan states this was the business's first time working with a lobbyist, and they were unaware of the reporting requirement. Additionally, as a seasonal business that closes from October to April, they did not receive the mailed notice due to limited mail forwarding during their off-season. Upon receiving a phone call about the issue, they promptly responded and submitted the required form the following day.						Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.

15. Empower						
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	Board Action

March 2025 LPR	3/17/25	4/9/25	\$425	No.		Asp moved to waive.
Chief of Staff Roshn Marwah states this was the organization's first lobbying experience in Minnesota, and they were unaware of the filing requirement until after the deadline. Once informed, the report was submitted immediately. There were typos within the registration forms of the principal's contract lobbyists, which caused the principal to not receive any communications from the Board until April 11. Given the organization's inexperience, the incorrect contact details, and their prompt response, they respectfully request that the late fee be waived. Empower had three lobbyists registered on its behalf for approximately two months in 2024, and no longer has any lobbyists registered with the Board.						Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.

16. Dog Lovers 4 Safe Trapping MN						Board Action
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	
March 2025 LPR	3/17/25	3/29/25	\$225	No.		Asp moved to waive.
President John Reynolds states that the house he resided in was sold in 2024 and a period of extensive travel began across several states. During this time reliable access to mail was inconsistent. Dog Lovers 4 Safe Trapping MN has not engaged in lobbying since 2021 and its two lobbyists terminated their registrations on behalf of the organization as of May 31, 2024.						Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.

17. Before Racism						Board Action
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	
March 2025 LPR	3/17/25	4/18/25	\$600	No.		Swanson moved to waive.
Bill Svrluga states the oversight was due to inexperience with lobbying requirements and a misunderstanding of their obligations. In early 2024, they briefly engaged the Hylden Advocacy and Law firm for legislative support but ended those efforts in the first quarter, mistakenly believing no further reporting was necessary. Despite multiple mailed notices from Board staff, Svrluga was working remotely causing a significant delay in reading the notices. Upon returning in mid-April, Svrluga contacted Board staff for assistance and submitted the required report. Before Racism had three lobbyists registered on its behalf for two-three months in 2024, and no longer has any lobbyists registered with the Board.						Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.

18. Lobbyist Nichole Ramalingam - 2829						Board Action
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	
2024 LR	1/15/25	2/19/25	\$575	No.		Rashid moved to waive.
Ramalingam states that due to an administrative oversight, the paperwork to terminate her registration on behalf of RCI Inc. was not submitted at the end of 2024. No lobbying activities were conducted on behalf of the organization during the reporting period in question, and as such, there was no activity to report. In light of these circumstances—a clerical error and the absence of lobbying activity—Ramalingam respectfully asks the Board to consider waiving the late fee. Ramalingam has been a registered lobbyist since 2012.						Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.

19. Brady Fuglie - Clay SWCD NW/Area 1	
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Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	Board Action
Original EIS	3/6/25	3/31/25	\$30	No.	Do not waive.	No motion.
Fuglie states the delay was caused by technical issues with the online form, which he was unable to complete successfully. Fuglie states that upon receiving a paper form from Board staff, he promptly filled it out and returned it, demonstrating his intent to comply promptly despite the technical difficulties. However, Board staff sent him a paper form via e-mail on March 13 and March 19, which was during the grace period and prior to a late filing fee beginning to accrue. Board staff also worked with him to reset his online password.						

Payments

1. Return of excess carryforward

Alicia (Kozlowski) for Duluth - \$9,560.30

2. Civil penalty for exceeding the aggregate party unit and terminating principal campaign committee limit

Tom Dippel for House - \$125

3. Civil penalty for exceeding the aggregate special source limit

Steve Cwodzinski for State Senate - \$200
Clare Oumou Verbeten for Senate - \$75

4. Civil penalty for accepting contributions from lobbyists during the legislative session

Tim Walz for Governor - \$4,600

5. Civil penalty for exceeding the individual contribution limit

Tim Walz for Governor - \$8,076.02

6. Late filing fee for underlying source disclosure statements

Coalition of Minnesota Businesses - \$800
Coalition of Minnesota Businesses IEPC - \$800

7. Late filing fee for 2022 year-end report

Joe Widmer for Minnesota - \$375

8. Late filing fee for 2024 year-end report

Joe Widmer for Minnesota - \$265 (partial payment)

9. Late filing fee for 2024 pre-primary large contribution notice

Campaign for Thomas J Sexton - \$250

10. Late filing fee for 2024 pre-general large contribution notice

Hudson (Walter) for Minnesota - \$250

NRA Political Victory Fund - \$250

The People for Sencer-Mura (Samantha) - \$250

11. Late filing fee for 2024 pre-general report

DFL Disability Caucus - \$200

12. Late filing fee for 2018 January lobbyist report

Christian Franzen - \$75

13. Late filing fee for 2020 June lobbyist report

Anthony Cornish - \$125

Christian Franzen - \$50

Erin Hanafin Berg - \$100

14. Late filing fee for 2022 January lobbyist report

Dennis Egan - \$350 (\$175 x 2)

15. Late filing fee for 2024 June lobbyist report

Ben Golnik - \$750 (\$75 x 10)

Deborah Loon Stumbras - \$50

16. Late filing fee for 2025 January lobbyist report

Jeremy Duehr - \$50 (\$25 x 2)

Will Waggoner - \$50

Hanna Zinn - \$300 (\$150 x 2)

17. Late filing fee for 2019 lobbyist principal report

Rethos - \$25

18. Late filing fee for 2022 lobbyist principal report

Dominium Development & Acquisition LLC - \$150

19. Late filing fee for 2023 lobbyist principal report

SEIU Local 26 - \$50

20. Late filing fee for 2024 lobbyist principal report

American Institute of Architects-MN (AIA Minnesota) - \$375

American Legion Post 435 - \$175

Citizens Against Gambling Expansion (CAGE) - \$75

Conifer Holdings Inc. - \$475

Dominium Development & Acquisition LLC - \$125

Electronic Gaming Group of Minnesota - \$150

GAF Roofing - \$50

MN Timberwolves Basketball Ltd Partnership - \$175

New Horizon Academy - \$25

Pro-Choice Minnesota - \$25

Rethos - \$25

Reuter Walton - \$375

SEIU Local 26 - \$175

Smart Growth Minneapolis - \$50

ORDER ON IFP MOTION REGARDING COURT OF APPEALS CASE NO. A25-0632

Mr. Olson presented members with a memorandum and draft order that are attached to and made a part of these minutes. Mr. Olson explained the criteria a movant must satisfy to be granted IFP status, and both Mr. Olson and Mr. Hartshorn explained the effect of granting IFP status.

The following motion was made:

Member Rashid's motion: To approve the order granting IFP status.

Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.

PRIMA FACIE DETERMINATIONS

Ms. Engelhardt presented members with a memorandum that is attached to and made a part of these minutes. Ms. Engelhardt explained the dismissal of two separate complaints against Senator Nicole Mitchell and Heintzeman (Keri) for Senate.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Rashid recessed the regular session of the meeting and called to order the executive session. Upon adjournment of the executive session, Chair Rashid had nothing to report into regular session. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Rashid.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeff Sigurdson
Executive Director

Attachments:

Executive director's report

Draft IFP order memo and attachments

Prima facie determinations memo and attachments



MINNESOTA

CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

Board Meeting Dates for Calendar Year 2025

Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 9:30 AM, unless otherwise noted.

2025

Wednesday, July 2

Wednesday, August 6

Wednesday, September 3

Wednesday, October 1

Wednesday, November 5

Wednesday, December 3



MINNESOTA

CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

Date: June 9, 2025

To: Board Members

From: Jeff Sigurdson, Executive Director

Telephone: 651-539-1189

Re: Executive Director's Report – Board Operations

Board Appointments

As of the date of this memo, the Governor has not made appointments for the position currently held by Member Soule, or the vacancy for a former Republican member of the legislature. However, I have been told that applicants for the vacancies are under review, and that it is hoped that at least one new member will be appointed on June 20.

The June meeting will be Member Soule's last meeting as a Board member, as he cannot serve past July 1, 2025.

Legislative Action

By separate memo I have provided a review of the statutory changes to Chapter 10A found in 2025 Minnesota Laws, [Chapter 39](#), signed by Governor Walz on May 23, 2025. Chapter 39 also provides the Board's funding for fiscal year 2026 (\$1,819,000) and fiscal year 2027 (\$1,846,000). These amounts are consistent with the Governor's recommendation for the Board, and are sufficient to maintain staffing and operations for the agency. Additionally, the Board is provided \$760,000 to pay any plaintiff's fees and expenses that are granted for the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce v. Choi lawsuit.

Lobbyist Activity Report

The lobbyist activity report covering the period January 1 – May 31, 2025, is due on June 16. As of the date of this memo the Board has received 913 of 2,724 expected reports.

Compliance Training

During the first week of June Board staff hosted compliance trainings for candidate committees, and for party units and political committees and funds, via Webex. There were 29 participants that attended the training for candidate committees and 75 participants that attended the training for party units and political committees and funds. Of those who attended the second training, approximately 60% are affiliated with a party unit, approximately 30% are affiliated with a general purpose political committee or fund, and approximately 10% are affiliated with an independent expenditure or ballot question political committee or fund. Recordings of the trainings are available on the Board's website.



MINNESOTA

CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

Date: June 9, 2025

To: Board Members

From: Jeff Sigurdson, Executive Director

Subject: Review of changes to campaign finance and public disclosure laws.

The changes to statutory provisions administered by the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board are found in 2025 Minnesota Laws, [Chapter 39](#), signed by Governor Walz on May 23, 2025. The following is a review of the sections in Chapter 39, article 7, that are under the Board's jurisdiction.

Additionally, HF 9 the tax policy bill, continues to fund the political contribution refund (PCR) program. The bill will also phase out the use of paper PCR receipts, and requires the Board and the Department of Revenue to establish a system of electronic receipts for contributions made after December 31, 2026. Assuming that the bill is passed and signed by the Governor, I will provide a more detailed review of HF 9 at the next Board meeting.

Lobbying

Section 4 creates a definition for "expert witness" in Minnesota Statutes section 10A.01, subdivision 16c. An expert witness is an individual preparing or delivering testimony or a report that contains information, data, or professional opinions on which the individual has expertise. The expertise may be gained through formal education, professional or occupational training, or experience working in a field that is relevant to the testimony or report.

This section became effective on June 1, 2025.

Section 5 amends the definition of "lobbyist" found in Minnesota Statutes section 10A.01, subdivision 21, in three ways. First, the amendment eliminated the need for a nonelected local official or an employee of a political subdivision to register as a lobbyist if they spend more than 50 hours in a month communicating with public or local officials to influence an official action of another political subdivision (other than a metropolitan governmental unit). A nonelected local official or an employee of a political subdivision will still need to register as a lobbyist if they spend more than 50 hours in a month communicating with public or local officials to influence legislative or administrative action. The amendment also eliminates time spent urging others to communicate with public or local officials, time spent monitoring legislation or administrative action, and time spent compiling information related to legislative or administrative action, as activities that count towards the 50-hour threshold.

Second, the section provides a new exception from the definition of lobbyist for finance professionals when the professional works with a registered lobbyist to obtain conduit financing

through a political subdivision. To qualify for this exception the finance professional must be subject to Securities and Exchange Commission regulation.

Third, the section amends the exception to the definition of lobbyist for an expert witness (as defined in section 4). The amendment expands the exception to include expert witnesses who testify before public or local officials at a public meeting, or in writing if the testimony is made available to the general public. Prior to amendment the exception for an expert witness applied only to individuals who were paid for their testimony and who were requested to appear by the government body before which the witness appeared. The exception to register as a lobbyist for an expert witness does not apply to individuals who appear before the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

This section became effective on June 1, 2025.

Section 6 amends the definition of “local official” in Minnesota Statutes section 10A.01, subdivision 22. The definition still provides that an individual is a local official if they hold elective office in a political subdivision, or are appointed or employed by a political subdivision, and the individual has specified authority or responsibility related to major decisions regarding the expenditure or investment of public funds. The amended definition narrows the scope of individuals that will be defined as a local official. In order to be a local official an individual must have 1) the authority to make major financial decisions; 2) the responsibility to make recommendations to the chief executive or the governing body regarding major financial decisions; or 3) the authority to vote on major financial decisions as a member of the governing body.

This section became effective on June 1, 2025.

Section 8 updates the definition of “Official action of a political subdivision” found in Minnesota Statutes section 10A.01, subdivision 26b. The definition is modified to closely parallel the language used to define a non-elected local official (section 6). With the amendment it is an official action of a political subdivision if an action requires a vote by elected officials, or if the local official uses their authority to make a major financial decision, their responsibility to make a recommendation on a major financial decision, or their authority to vote on a major financial decision.

This section became effective on June 1, 2025.

Section 9 amends Minnesota Statutes section 10A.04, subdivision 4, to create a new reporting requirement for lobbyists. Lobbyists are now required to report each expert witness who testified at the request of the lobbyist or the lobbyist principal, and each finance professional who participated in a conduit financing request through a political subdivision. The report will include the name of the expert witness or financial professional, their employer, the government entity that received the communication, and the specific subject on which the expert witness or financial professional communicated.

This section is effective June 1, 2025.

Section 10 makes an exception to the prohibition on contingent fees for lobbyists found in Minnesota Statutes section 10A.06. The statute now provides that an attorney or financial professional's compensation may be dependent upon the outcome of a request for conduit financing through a political subdivision.

This section is effective June 1, 2025.

Section 11 creates Minnesota Statutes section 10A.066, which requires that the Board publish a handbook for lobbying on the Board's website. The handbook must clearly explain registration requirements, including registration requirements if a person is employed by a government entity. The handbook must also explain what is a lobbying activity, and the differences between lobbying the legislature, the executive branch, the Public Utilities Commission, and political subdivisions. In writing the handbook the Board must consult with registered lobbyists, individuals who are not full-time lobbyists, individuals from nonprofit organizations, and individuals who represent small organizations. The handbook must be published no later than January 15, 2026.

The section was effective the day after final enactment.

Section 15 creates Minnesota Statutes section 10A.52, which provides guidance on what is a major decision by a nonelected local official. The language is very similar to Minnesota Rules part 4511.1100, with the addition that language identifying a major decision of nonelected local officials reflects the language provided in section 6. The statute also specifies that the act of applying for a grant or responding to a request for proposals is not lobbying, and that communications of a purely administrative or technical nature regarding the submission of a grant application or in response to a request for proposals is not lobbying.

This section is effective June 1, 2025.

Campaign Finance

Section 7 adds a new noncampaign disbursement to the list provided in Minnesota Statutes section 10A.01, subdivision 26. The new noncampaign disbursement is for transition expenses and inaugural event expenses as provided in Minnesota Statutes section 10A.174 (which is created in section 13). Currently, transition expenses are noncampaign disbursements only when incurred by a winning candidate for governor, under Minnesota Rules part 4503.0900, subpart 1.

This section is effective January 1, 2026.

Section 13 creates Minnesota Statutes section 10A.174, which provides for inaugural event and transition expenses. The statute provides that "inaugural event expenses" means costs related to the individual's inauguration if the event occurs between the date of the general election at which an individual is elected to a statewide office, and January 31 of the year in which the officeholder takes office.

The term "transition expenses" means expenses incurred in preparation for assuming office for governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state auditor, or attorney general. The statute lists a number of permissible transition expenses including: office space and equipment, communications and technology, consulting services, travel costs, and compensation for staff. The noncampaign disbursement for transition expenses is not available after the officeholder takes office.

Generally, all contributions solicited or accepted, and expenditures made, by a candidate or their principal campaign committee for inaugural events and transition expenses must occur

through the candidate's principal campaign committee and are subject to the provisions of Chapter 10A. However, Chapter 39, article 7, sections 1 through 3, also create new provisions (outside of the Board's jurisdiction) that transfer money to Minnesota Management and Budget to pay certain transition expenses for newly-elected candidates for the offices of attorney general, secretary of state, and state auditor.

This section is effective January 1, 2026.

Section 14 creates a new reporting requirement for candidates in Minnesota Statutes section 10A.20. A candidate who does not sign the public subsidy agreement may contribute personal funds or make a loan to their campaign committee in any amount. Under this provision a candidate for constitutional or legislative office must report a personal contribution or personal loan to their campaign committee that in aggregate exceeds the personal contribution limit for candidates that do sign the public subsidy agreement. The contribution or loan must be reported to the Board by the next business day. A new report must be filed each time that the threshold is exceeded during the election cycle segment.

This section is effective January 1, 2026.

Section 22 The Board must amend Minnesota Rules part 4503.0900, to conform to the requirements of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.174 regarding transition expenses. The Board is authorized to use the good cause exemption for amending administrative rules provided in Chapter 14, which is an abbreviated and expedited process for changing an administrative rule to comply with a statutory change.

This section is effective January 1, 2026.

Economic Interest Statements

Section 12 amends Minnesota Statutes section 10A.09, so that a candidate for constitutional or legislative office, or for certain local offices in a metropolitan governmental unit, must file an economic interest statement within 14 days of the end of the filing period. Prior to this amendment, a candidate was required to file an economic interest statement within 14 days after they had filed for the office. This amendment will create a uniform due date for the statements of candidates with the same filing period, and will make it easier to track compliance with the requirement.

This section is effective January 1, 2026.



MINNESOTA

CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

Date: June 9, 2025

To: Board members
Counsel Hartshorn

From: Megan Engelhardt, Assistant Executive Director **Telephone:** 651-539-1182

Subject: Enforcement report for consideration at the June 16, 2025, Board meeting

A. Consent Items

1. Request to refer matter to the Office of the Attorney General—Lobbyist Principal African Community Economic Development

African Community Economic Development (#8398) was a lobbyist principal that had a lobbyist from March 18, 2024, to December 11, 2024. African Community Economic Development failed to file the Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal that was due March 17, 2025, for the 2024 calendar year. African Community Economic Development has incurred the maximum late filing fee of \$1,000 and the maximum civil penalty of \$1,000. Numerous notices were sent to African Community Economic Development regarding the deadline for the report and the late filing fee for not filing the report. Staff is asking the Board to refer the matter to the Attorney General's Office to seek an order compelling filing the report and payment of the balance owed.

2. Request to refer matter to the Office of the Attorney General—Lobbyist Principal Ethiopian Community in Minnesota

Ethiopian Community in Minnesota (#7964) was a lobbyist principal that had a lobbyist from 2022 to April 17, 2024. Ethiopian Community in Minnesota failed to file the Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal that was due March 17, 2025, for the 2024 calendar year. Ethiopian Community in Minnesota has incurred the maximum late filing fee of \$1,000 and the maximum civil penalty of \$1,000. Numerous notices were sent to Ethiopian Community in Minnesota regarding the deadline for the report and the late filing fee for not filing the report. Staff is asking the Board to refer the matter to the Attorney General's Office to seek an order compelling filing the report and payment of the balance owed.

3. Request to refer matter to the Office of the Attorney General—Lobbyist Principal JADT Development Group, LLC

JADT Development Group, LLC (#8432) is a lobbyist principal that registered a lobbyist in March 1, 2024. JADT Development Group, LLC failed to file the Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal that was due March 17, 2025, for the 2024 calendar year. JADT Development Group, LLC has incurred the maximum

late filing fee of \$1,000 and the maximum civil penalty of \$1,000. Numerous notices were sent to JADT Development Group, LLC regarding the deadline for the report and the late filing fee for not filing the report. Staff is asking the Board to refer the matter to the Attorney General's Office to seek an order compelling filing the report and payment of the balance owed.

4. Request to refer matter to the Office of the Attorney General—Ka Joog Nonprofit Organization

Ka Joog Nonprofit Organization (#7003) was a lobbyist principal that had a lobbyist from 2019 to December 31, 2024. Ka Joog Nonprofit Organization failed to file the Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal that was due March 17, 2025, for the 2024 calendar year. Ka Joog Nonprofit Organization has incurred the maximum late filing fee of \$1,000 and the maximum civil penalty of \$1,000. Ka Joog Nonprofit Organization also owes a \$475 late filing fee for the 2019 Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal, a \$25 late filing fee for the 2021 Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal, and a \$125 late filing fee for the 2023 Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal. Numerous notices were sent to Ka Joog Nonprofit Organization regarding the deadline for the report and the late filing fee for not filing the report. Staff is asking the Board to refer the matter to the Attorney General's Office to seek an order compelling filing the report and payment of the balance owed.

5. Request to refer matter to the Office of the Attorney General—Lobbyist Principal Kyros

Kyros (#8023) was a lobbyist principal that had a lobbyist from 2022 to August 23, 2024. Kyros failed to file the Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal that was due March 17, 2025, for the 2024 calendar year. Kyros has incurred the maximum late filing fee of \$1,000 and the maximum civil penalty of \$1,000. Numerous notices were sent to Kyros regarding the deadline for the report and the late filing fee for not filing the report. Staff is asking the Board to refer the matter to the Attorney General's Office to seek an order compelling filing the report and payment of the balance owed.

6. Request to refer matter to the Office of the Attorney General—Lobbyist Principal MN Gun Rights

MN Gun Rights (#7335) is a lobbyist principal that has had a registered lobbyist since 2017. MN Gun Rights failed to file the Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal that was due March 17, 2025, for the 2024 calendar year. MN Gun Rights has incurred the maximum late filing fee of \$1,000 and the maximum civil penalty of \$1,000. MN Gun Rights also owes a \$125 late filing fee for the 2019 Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal. Numerous notices were sent to MN Gun Rights regarding the deadline for the report and the late filing fee for not filing the report. Staff is asking the Board to refer the matter to the Attorney General's Office to seek an order compelling filing the report and payment of the balance owed.

7. Request to refer matter to the Office of the Attorney General—Lobbyist Principal MN Right to Life

MN Right to Life (#7663) is a lobbyist principal that has had a registered lobbyist since 2020. MN Right to Life failed to file the Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal that was due March 17, 2025, for the 2024 calendar year. MN Right to Life has incurred the maximum late filing fee of \$1,000 and the maximum civil penalty of \$1,000. Numerous notices were sent to MN Right to Life regarding the deadline for the report and the late filing fee for not filing the report. Staff is asking the Board to refer the

matter to the Attorney General's Office to seek an order compelling filing the report and payment of the balance owed.

8. Request to refer matter to the Office of the Attorney General—Lobbyist Princial Newby Norris Co / DBA Cultivated CBD

Newby Norris Co / DBA Cultivated CBD (#8123) is a lobbyist principal that has had a registered a lobbyist since February 10, 2023. Newby Norris Co / DBA Cultivated CBD failed to file the Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal that was due March 15, 2024, for the 2023 calendar year and the Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal that was due March 17, 2025, for the 2024 calendar year. Newby Norris Co / DBA Cultivated CBD has incurred the maxium late filing fee of \$1,000 and the maximum civil penalty of \$1,000 for both 2023 and 2024. Numerous notices were sent to Newby Norris Co / DBA Cultivated CBD regarding the deadline for the report and the late filing fee for not filing the report. Staff is asking the Board to refer the matter to the Attorney General's Office to seek an order compelling filing the reports and payment of the balance owed.

9. Request to refer matters to the Office of the Attorney General—Lobbyist Princial Omar Jamal and lobbyist Omar Jamal (#5359

Omar Jamal (#8130) is a lobbyist principal that has had a registered a lobbyist since February 17, 2023. Omar Jamal failed to file the Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal that was due March 15, 2024, for the 2023 calendar year and the Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal that was due March 17, 2025, for the 2024 calendar year. Omar Jamal has incurred the maxium late filing fee of \$1,000 and the maximum civil penalty of \$1,000 for both 2023 and 2024. Numerous notices were sent to Omar Jamal regarding the deadline for the report and the late filing fee for not filing the report.

Also, Omar Jamal (#5359) is a lobbyist registered since February 17, 2023. Mr. Jamal did not file his lobbyist disbursement report due June 17, 2024, that covered the period from January 1, 2024, through May 31, 2024. Mr. Jamal has incurred the maximum late filing fee of \$1,000 and the maximum civil penalty of \$1,000. Mr. Jamal also owes a late filing fee of \$250 for his lobbyist activity report due January 15, 2025. Staff is asking the Board to refer the matters to the Attorney General's Office to seek an order compelling filing the reports and payment of the balance owed.

10. Request to refer matter to the Office of the Attorney General—Lobbyist Princial Protect Minnesota

Protect Minnesota (#7076) is a lobbyist principal that has had a registered a lobbyist since 2015. Protect Minnesota failed to file the Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal that was due March 17, 2025, for the 2024 calendar year. Protect Minnesota has incurred the maxium late filing fee of \$1,000 and the maximum civil penalty of \$1,000. Numerous notices were sent to Protect Minnesota regarding the deadline for the report and the late filing fee for not filing the report. Staff is asking the Board to refer the matter to the Attorney General's Office to seek an order compelling filing the report and payment of the balance owed.

11. Request to refer matter to the Office of the Attorney General—Lobbyist Princial Safety Triage and Mental Health Providers

Safety Triage and Mental Health Providers (#7282) is a lobbyist principal that has had a registered a lobbyist since 2017. Safety Triage and Mental Health Providers failed to file the Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal that was due March 17, 2025, for the 2024 calendar year. Safety Triage and Mental Health Providers has incurred the maximum late filing fee of \$1,000 and the maximum civil penalty of \$1,000. Safety Triage and Mental Health Providers also owes a \$50 late filing fee for the 2020 Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal, a \$25 late filing fee for the 2021 Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal, and a \$50 late filing fee for the 2022 Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal. Numerous notices were sent to Safety Triage and Mental Health Providers regarding the deadline for the report and the late filing fee for not filing the report. Staff is asking the Board to refer the matter to the Attorney General's Office to seek an order compelling filing the report and payment of the balance owed.

12. Request to refer matter to the Office of the Attorney General—Lobbyist Principal Tremco CPG (Construction Products Group)

Tremco CPG (Construction Products Group) (#8265) is a lobbyist principal that has had a registered a lobbyist since 2023. Tremco CPG (Construction Products Group) failed to file the Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal that was due March 17, 2025, for the 2024 calendar year. Tremco CPG (Construction Products Group) has incurred the maximum late filing fee of \$1,000 and the maximum civil penalty of \$1,000. Numerous notices were sent to Tremco CPG (Construction Products Group) regarding the deadline for the report and the late filing fee for not filing the report. Staff is asking the Board to refer the matter to the Attorney General's Office to seek an order compelling filing the report and payment of the balance owed.

13. Request to refer matter to the Office of the Attorney General—Lobbyist Principal Twin Cities Health Services

Twin Cities Health Services (#8191) was a lobbyist principal that had a lobbyist from April 17, 2023, to December 11, 2024. Twin Cities Health Services failed to file the Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal that was due March 15, 2024, for the 2023 calendar year and the Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal that was due March 17, 2025, for the 2024 calendar year. Twin Cities Health Services has incurred the maximum late filing fee of \$1,000 and the maximum civil penalty of \$1,000 for both 2023 and 2024 reports. Numerous notices were sent to Twin Cities Health Services regarding the deadline for the report and the late filing fee for not filing the report. Staff is asking the Board to refer the matter to the Attorney General's Office to seek an order compelling filing the reports and payment of the balance owed.

14. Request to refer matter to the Office of the Attorney General—Lobbyist Principal Twin Cities Therapy Services, Inc.

Twin Cities Therapy Services, Inc. (#8205) was a lobbyist principal that had a lobbyist from May 10, 2023, to May 31, 2024. Twin Cities Therapy Services, Inc. failed to file the Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal that was due March 17, 2025, for the 2024 calendar year. Twin Cities Therapy Services, Inc. has incurred the maximum late filing fee of \$1,000 and the maximum civil penalty of \$1,000. Twin Cities Therapy Services, Inc. also owes a \$1,000 late filing fee for the 2023 Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal. Numerous notices were sent to Twin Cities Therapy Services, Inc. regarding the deadline for the report and the late filing fee for not filing the report. Staff is asking the Board to refer the matter to

the Attorney General's Office to seek an order compelling filing the report and payment of the balance owed.

15. Request to refer matter to the Office of the Attorney General—Lobbyist Principal US Steel Corp

US Steel Corp (#955) is a lobbyist principal that has had a registered a lobbyist since 2007. US Steel Corp failed to file the Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal that was due March 17, 2025, for the 2024 calendar year. US Steel Corp has incurred the maximum late filing fee of \$1,000 and the maximum civil penalty of \$1,000. US Steel Corp also owes a \$1,000 late filing fee for the 2023 Annual Report of Lobbyist Principal. Numerous notices were sent to US Steel Corp regarding the deadline for the report and the late filing fee for not filing the report. Staff is asking the Board to refer the matter to the Attorney General's Office to seek an order compelling filing the report and payment of the balance owed.

B. Discussion Items

1. Balance adjustment request – Kari Dziedic for State Senate (#17310)

The Dziedic committee's reported 2024 ending cash balance was \$31,351.09, while the actual balance in its bank account was \$29,479.09, leaving a discrepancy of \$1,872. The candidate has passed away, and the treasurer has spent a significant amount of time reviewing the financial records and working with Board staff to resolve the issue. However, she has been unable to resolve the discrepancy that remains and is requesting an downward adjustment to the committee's 2025 beginning cash balance in the amount of \$1,872. The committee has been registered with the Board since 2011, and once the balance adjustment is granted the committee plans on terminating.

C. Waiver Requests

1. HealtheMed					
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action
March 2024 LPR	3/17/25	3/19/25	\$50	No.	Waive.
It was explained there was a misunderstanding regarding who would file the principal report, as the registration provided incorrect contact information for the principal association. Once realized, the organization corrected their contact information and submitted the required report. They are now taking steps to ensure compliance and request a waiver of the \$50 penalty.					

2. MN Alliance of YMCAs					
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action
March 2022 LPR	3/15/23	4/4/23	\$350	No.	Waive.
March 2021 LPR	3/15/22	3/16/22	\$25		
During these two periods, the MN Alliance of YMCAs were completing a merge with the WI Alliance of YMCAs and there were issues with missed communications and not fully understanding who should be filing the report. Also, the individual responsible for filing the 2021 and 2022 LPRs is no longer responsible for filing the reports. MN Alliance of YMCAs is requesting a waiver of both late filing fees.					

3. Lobbyist Kim Berns-Melhus (#4780)					
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action
January 2021 LR	1/15/21	1/19/21	\$25	No.	Waive.
June 2024 LR	6/17/24	6/18/24	\$25		
Ms. Berns Melhus explains that the lobbyist disbursement reports are filed by their Arlington, VA office. In 2021, Ms. Berns Melhus explains that she was not in the office frequently and that may have impacted the report being filed late. She states that she will work to ensure that reports are filed on time by the Arlington, VA office in the future. She is requesting that both late filing fees be waived.					

4. Lobbyist Michael Lewis (#4395)					
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action
June 2020 LR (2 reports)	6/15/20	6/16/20	\$50 (\$25 x 2)	No.	Waive.
These reports were filed late during the COVID pandemic and were late due to staff working from home. Also, Mr. Lewis is no longer a lobbyist. The principal is requesting that the two late filing fees be waived.					

5. Susan Emmert (#2434)					
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action
June 2024 LR	6/17/24	7/2/24	\$250	No.	Waive.
Ms. Emmert states that mail from the CFB was not delivered to her office at the hospital where she works in a consistent manner so she did not receive the written notice that the report was due, nor did she get the late filing fee letter in 2024. Their budget is also very limited, and also the budget for 2024 has closed, so it would cause hardship to pay this late filing fee. Ms. Emmert did update her registration to her actual hospital mailing address so that she will receive mail more consistently. She requests the \$250 late filing fee be waived.					

6. Thomas Streitz (#9500)					
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action
June 2024 LR (5 reports)	6/17/24	6/18/24	\$125 (\$25 x 5)	No.	Waive.
Mr. Streitz reports that he is new to lobbying and that he had been out of town when the lobbying deadline arrived and he promptly filed upon his return. He is requesting that the five late filing fees be waived.					

7. Chelsea Rivers					
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action
Original EIS	3/17/25	4/30/25	\$100	No.	Waive.
Ms. Rivers was appointed on January 1, 2025, and only attended one meeting before she resigned due to scheduling conflicts. She was unable to attend the meeting where filing this report was discussed, as she was unable to attend. She is requesting that the \$100 late filing fee be waived.					

8. Teach for America – Twin Cities					
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action
March 2024 LPR	3/17/25	5/9/25	\$975	No.	
March 2019 LPR	3/16/20	4/14/20	\$525		
Yakasah Wehyee is now the managing director for Teach for America – Twin Cities and reports that there were issues with her predecessor filing the reports. Teach for America – Twin Cities did not get the reminder letter for the 2024 lobbyist principal report due to the fact that it went to the person no longer employed by Teach for America – Twin Cities. Teach for America – Twin Cities is requesting a waiver of both late filing fees.					

9. RockStep Capital Real Estate Investments					
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action
March 2023 LPR	3/15/24	4/3/24	\$325	No.	
RockStep is no longer registered with the State of Minnesota for lobbying, and they are therefore requesting a waiver of the \$325 penalty.					

10. Clardy (Mary Francis) for House (#18815)					
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action
2024 Pre-general large contribution notice	10/30/24	3/31/2025	\$1,000	No.	Reduce to \$250.
The committee received \$1,200 from a party unit during the large contribution notice period, but failed to enter the contribution during the reporting period. It was discovered as part of the reconciliation process earlier this year. The treasurer filed an amended 2024 year-end report. The treasurer reports that she is new and this was a good-faith mistake. The committee's cash balance as of December 31, 2024, was \$4,569.					

C. Payments

1. Anonymous Funds

Becker-Finn (Jamie) for House - \$1,333.58
Kari Dziedzic for State Senate - \$3,093.14

2. Civil penalty for exceeding the individual contribution limit

Campaign Committee of Elliott Engen - \$325

3. Civil penalty for exceeding the aggregate special source limit

Tou Xiong for Senate - \$100

4. Civil penalty for lobbyist making contributions during the legislative session

Alison Brown - \$500
Terry Brumm - \$100

5. Civil penalty for disclaimer violation

Committee to Elect Josh Heintzeman - \$100

6. Late filing fee for underlying source disclosure statements

Conservation Minnesota - \$50
Consevation Minnesota Voter Center - \$50
Pro Jobs Majority - \$300
MN Chamber of Commerce - \$300
RSLC MN IE PAC - \$1,000

Republican State Leadership Committee - \$1,000
The Nature Conservancy - \$50

7. Late filing fee for 2022 year-end report

Neighbors for (Carlos) Mariani Committee - \$500

8. Late filing fee for 2023 year-end report

Joe Widmer for Minnesota - \$250

9. Late filing fee for 2024 April report

Minnesota Future PSC - \$200

10. Late filing fee for 2024 pre-general large contribution notice

Jim Nash for Minnesota - \$250

11. Late filing fee for 2024 September report

Minnesota Future PSC - \$100

12. Late filing fee for 2020 June lobbyist report

Kaley Taffe - \$200 (4 x \$50)

13. Late filing fee for 2021 January lobbyist report

Kaley Taffe - \$100 (4 x \$25)

14. Late filing fee for 2022 June lobbyist report

Don Chapdelaine - \$25
Kaley Taffe - \$125 (5 x \$25)

15. Late filing fee for 2023 June lobbyist report

Kayla Christensen - \$50 (2 x \$25)
Sheila Vanney - \$25

16. Late filing fee for 2024 January lobbyist report

Richard Larkin McLay - \$25

17. Late filing fee for 2024 June lobbyist report

Patrick Daly - \$75
Jin Lee Johnson Palen - \$25
Louis Smith - \$100 (2 x \$50)
Kaley Taffe - \$125 (5 x \$25)

18. Late filing fee for 2025 January lobbyist report

Jonathan Curry - \$50
William Dammann - \$75
Erin Rupp - \$25
Jason Tarasek - \$450 (3 x \$150)

19. Late filing fee for 2016 lobbyist principal report

MN Assn of Exterior Specialists - \$25

20. Late filing fee for 2019 lobbyist principal report

North Central States Reg Cncl of Carpenters - \$25
Park Dental - \$25

21. Late filing fee for 2020 lobbyist principal report

Minneapolis Auto Auction - \$50
Orchard Therapeutics - \$25

22. Late filing fee for 2022 lobbyist principal report

Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce - \$25
Foster Advocates - \$400

23. Late filing fee for 2023 lobbyist principal report

American Indian OIC - \$25
Essentia Health - \$50
Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness - \$100

24. Late filing fee for 2024 lobbyist principal report

CenturyLink - \$100
Coalition of Asian American Leaders - \$825
Integrated Recycling Technologies - \$25
Midwest Home health Care - \$275 (still owes \$100)
Tract - \$25
United Properties - \$350

Johnson, Greta (CFB)

From: Jim Jarvis <jjarvis@Healthemed.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 03, 2025 1:44 PM
To: Engelhardt, Megan (CFB)
Cc: Ron Mandelbaum
Subject: Waiver of Penalty Fee Request
Attachments: CFB Penalty Fee Letter.pdf

You don't often get email from jjarvis@healthemed.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Ms. Engelhardt:

I would like to request that the \$50 late filing fee for Reg. No. 7998 be waived. (Attached is a copy of your penalty letter.)

We recognize the need for timely filing of these statutory reports. Three individuals with our company each received letters from the CFB directing them to file lobbyist reports: Steve Pontius; Ashley Miller; and Ron Mandelbaum.

As compliance officer for HealtheMed, I confirmed that two of the three (Mr. Pontius and Ms. Miller) - who had previously filed reports of their lobbying activities in 2023 do so again for 2024. Those filings were made on time.

Mr. Mandelbaum, however, had not conducted lobbying activities on behalf of our company during 2024. Therefore, I sent an email to the CFB inquiring whether a mistake had been made in sending Mr. Mandelbaum a letter. Simultaneously, I assisted him in preparing and filing an online report, stating that he had not conducted lobbying activities during 2024.

Thereafter, I learned this was a mistake. Mr. Mandelbaum was to have filed a report that our company had paid fees to an independent consultant in 2024 (\$7,200). I had erroneously thought the consultant lobbyist we engaged was responsible for filing her report.

I further clarified this with a call to the CFB in follow-up to my email. Upon which I immediately changed the lead contact for our Principal Lobbying Report from Mr. Mandelbaum to myself, James Jarvis, and submitted the required report.

In the future, I will be receiving the Principal Lobbying Report letter. Please consider the foregoing and waive the \$50 penalty fee.

Best,

Jim Jarvis

VP, Legal & Compliance

HealtheMed, Inc.

From: [Chris Stenberg](#)
To: [Engelhardt, Megan \(CFB\)](#)
Subject: Reg#2462 MN Alliance of YMCAs Lobbyist Principle Reports 22/23
Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 12:30:45 PM

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Hi Megan,

Thanks for your support on the phone a few minutes ago.

I am requesting a waiver on the late fees for the reports that were due on 3/15/2022 and 3/15/2023. As our MN Alliance of YMCAs worked through a merge with the WI Alliance of YMCAs, we had a number of transitions in both personnel and fiscal agencies.

I am certainly not placing any blame on the Campaign Finance Committee. This was really of matter of missed communications and us not knowing who was responsible for completion through our transitions.

Going forward please continue to use my name and contact information, and I will ensure timely submission.

Thank you for the consideration. If you have any further questions, please let me know.

Best,

Chris Stenberg
(He, Him, His)
Director of Alliance Services | Minnesota
UPPER MIDWEST ALLIANCE OF YMCA's
Minnesota | Wisconsin | U.P. Michigan

5319 Banks Ave Superior WI, 54880
Cell 218.591.2617
Website: www.uppermidwestymcas.org
Email: cstenberg@uppermidwestymcas.org

The Y.™ For a better us.



May 19, 2025

Minnesota Campaign Finance Board
Attn: Megan Engelhardt, Ass't Executive Director
Suite 1900 Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street
St. Paul MN 55155

Sent Via Email

RE: Lobbyist Disbursement late fees for 2021 and 2024

Dear Ms. Engelhardt,

I am writing seeking a waiver from the filing fee for the Lobbyist Disbursement Reports (Reg. 4780) assessed on March 3, 2021 and June 17, 2024 for a total of \$50 noted in the letter sent to our office on May 6, 2025.

The Conservation Fund is a non-profit conservation organization based out of Arlington VA. I serve as the State Director for the Conservation Fund here in Minnesota and file timely lobbyist disbursement reports for our lobbying work here in Minnesota. In regard to the late filing for the March 3, 2021 period - after 2020 and in response to the Covid Epidemic, our office in Shoreview was only occupied very infrequently. In addition, lobbyist reports are filed out of our central office in Arlington VA. Due to the fact that I wasn't in the office on a regular basis in 2021, the lobbyist report did not get filed in time.

Regarding the fee of \$25 for the 6/17/2024 report, again our lobbyist reports are filed out of our Arlington VA office. Due to the fact that our office oversees the ongoing operations of all 50 states, not all reports are filed on a timely basis. Going forward I will make a concerted effort to make sure our reports are filed on a timely basis but ask that these two late fees be waived for both 2021 and 2024.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kim M. Berns Melhus
Minnesota State Director
The Conservation Fund

From: [Anissa Rogness](#)
To: [Engelhardt, Megan \(CFB\)](#)
Subject: late filing fine appeal
Date: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 3:15:39 PM
Attachments: [MN Camp Fin Board 2020 fine notice.pdf](#)

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Hello Megan,

We received the attached notice of a \$50 fine that was assessed to MN Public Radio. This was due to a late Lobbying Disbursement Report, which was due on June 15, 2020.

I would like to appeal this fine. This filing was not received on time due to the COVID pandemic. The pandemic required that we close our office, and all our employees were sent home to work. Consequently, it was difficult to keep up with paperwork and timely filings. In addition, Michael Lewis, to whom this letter was addressed, is no longer with our organization.

Thank you,
Anissa

Anissa Rogness

Director of Public Affairs & Government Relations
American Public Media Group
651-290-1261 (office) / 202-680-4320 (cell)
arogness@americanpublicmedia.org



From: [Emmert, Susie J](#)
To: [Engelhardt, Megan \(CFB\)](#)
Subject: waiver request for late fee
Date: Tuesday, May 13, 2025 1:40:13 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[SCAN-13052025-124819.pdf](#)

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This email was sent securely from Hennepin Healthcare.

Good afternoon, Ms. Engelhart,

I am writing to respectfully request a waiver of the \$250 late fee related to a late payment to the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board accrued due to the late filing of the Lobbyist Disbursement Report that was due on June 17, 2024. My registration number is 2434.

I have found receipt of mail from the MN Campaign Finance board has been inconsistent within the hospital system where I work. I have not received all filing notices via paper mail, and in fact received the attached notice via our patient billing department by scan, and did not receive a paper copy in the mail. I am certain I did not receive a paper notice in November 2024 as the letter describes, or I would have addressed the issue at that time. In my recollection, this is the only item of mail I get that is of any consequence – the rest of my mail tends to be advertisements for conferences, if any mail at all.

My department budget is extremely small and limited, we account in advance known spending in the area of associations/memberships, and the expense would have been accrued in 2024, and that budget has been closed since January. Paying for this late fee in this budget will create additional administrative burden and inconvenience for our accounts payable office due to the time that has passed, and the lack of available funding.

I think the way to correct the inconsistent receipt of mail would be to change my mailing address to more y reflect the specific building I am in, instead of the general address of the hospital.

900 South 8th Street, S.107
Minneapolis, MN 55415.

My apologies for this inconvenience, I would be greatly appreciative if this fee could be waived for 2024, and the address adjusted to avoid future delays. Thank you for understanding and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Susie Emmert, MSW LGSW

Senior Director, Advocacy and Public Policy

Hennepin Healthcare System

susie.emmert@hcmcd.org

Cell: 651.278.5422

She/Her/Hers

701 Park Avenue, S6.107 | Minneapolis, MN 55415

www.hennepinhealthcare.org | @HennepinHC

Scheduling:

Pakou.Vang@hcmcd.org



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Thomas Streitz (9500)

From: [thomas streitz](#)
To: [Engelhardt, Megan \(CFB\)](#)
Cc: [thomas streitz](#)
Subject: Late Fee Waiver Request
Date: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:23:46 AM

You don't often get email from streitzfour@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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To: MN State Campaign Finance Board
From: Thomas Streitz Reg. No: 9500

Dear Board Members, I respectfully request a waiver from the proposed penalty of \$125.00 for my filing report last year **one** day late. Last year was my first full year lobbying and I was out of town when the deadline occurred. When I saw the deadline had passed when I returned I promptly filed.

Thank you for your consideration,
Thomas Streitz

Chelsea Rivers

05/23/2025

Minnesota Campaign Financial Public Disclosure Board
c/o Direct Care and Treatment

To whom it may concern,

I am writing a request to have the late filing charges for the “conflict of interest” statement that was requested to be completed by active board members as I had resigned from my board seat on 2/14/2025 due to potential employment issues with scheduling and concern brought directly to me via a phone conversation with General Counsel, Dale Klitzke on 2/14/2025.

After my resignation was sent to Ryan Fralich on 2/14/2025, I unfortunately did not receive follow up discussing the continued need or reasoning behind why board members received these letters in the mail and how to proceed as there was a planned discussion with plan to submit at the next board meeting on 2/20/2025 (this guidance was provided via email on 1/30/2025), which I did not attend as I had resigned prior to this meeting date.

At this time, I am not aware of what the late filing charges are but am kindly requesting they be considered for dismissal.

Warm regards,

Chelsea Rivers

From: [Wehyee, Yakasah](#)
To: [Engelhardt, Megan \(CFB\)](#)
Cc: [Lor, Ploua \(CFB\)](#); [Nation, Mikisha](#); [Courtney Jasper](#); [Amy Walstien](#)
Subject: Requesting Exception for Late Filing Fee_Teach for America Twin Cities
Date: Monday, June 02, 2025 4:29:23 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-A black ba.png](#)

This message may be from an external email source.

Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

Dear Megan,

I hope your week is off to a great start. I'm writing to request your consideration to wave my organization (Teach For America)' late filing fee for the Lobbyist Principal Report which was due on 03/17/2025 and 03/16/202.

I'm new to my role as Managing Director of Alumni and External Affairs at Teach for America. My organization contracted our lobby services last year and I received a notification dated April 1 of "failure to file report of receipts and expenditures" from your office.

The letter states that the report was due March 17, and that the "report information" was mailed to us on February 28, 2025. However, I the original letter was actually routed to a former employee that is no longer with our organization and was therefore never received by us.

I therefore got in contact with Ms. Ploua Lor at your office to obtain the letter, allowing me to file the report on May 9th.

Given that the late filing was induced by communication and access errors that were produced by the transition of my predecessor, I am hubbly asking that you and the Board consider and approve our request to wave the late filing fee for our reports.

Please let me know if you have any questions or require any additional information from.

Kind regards,

Yakasah Wehyee | MA, PhD
Managing Director, Alumni & External Affairs
Teach For America - Twin Cities
2429 Nicollet Ave,
Minneapolis, MN 55404
612.802.2239 (cell)



One day, all children in this nation will have the opportunity to attain an excellent education.

[Support Our Efforts](#)

RockStep Capital Real Estate Investments

From: [Jessica Carreon](#)
To: [Engelhardt, Megan \(CFB\)](#)
Subject: Reg. No 7240 - RockStep Capital Real Estate Investments
Date: Thursday, June 05, 2025 2:25:07 PM

You don't often get email from jcarreon@rockstep.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

Dear Ms. Engelhardt,

Thank you for your letter dated May 16, 2025, regarding the late filing fee associated with the Lobbyist Principal Report due March 15, 2024.

We would like to inform the Board that RockStep Capital Real Estate Investments no longer retains or engages the services of a lobbyist in the State of Minnesota. Furthermore, we have completed all necessary steps to formally terminate our status as a reporting entity for lobbyist activity.

Given that we are no longer required to file these reports and have taken the appropriate steps to update our records with the Board, we respectfully request a waiver of the \$325 late filing fee due to good cause and the discontinued nature of our lobbying activities.

Please let us know if any further documentation or confirmation is needed to support our waiver request. We sincerely appreciate your consideration and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Jessica Carreon

Office Manager

Direct: 713.425.2538

Mobile: 832.573.2645

jcarreon@rockstep.com

rockstep.com

[1445 North Loop West Suite 625, Houston, TX 77008](#)

RockStep
CAPITAL

RockStep #23: Be A Careful Steward Of Our Assets.

Protect the investor. Learn to ask yourself, "Would I spend this if it were my own money? Do we really need this? Is there a more cost-efficient way to accomplish the job?"

May 7, 2025

Minnesota Campaign Finance Board
Suite 190 Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 5515-1603

Attention: Ms. Megan Englehardt
Assistant Executive Director

Reference: 24-hour Notice Reg No. 18815 – Late Fee Waiver Request

I respectfully request a waiver of the late reporting fee for a deposit exceeding \$500.00. Our campaign has maintained a strong compliance record in prior reporting periods, and I remain committed to upholding that standard moving forward.

This year, I took on the role of campaign treasurer for the first time. I am also building a stronger understanding of all filing requirements to avoid future mistakes. The non-filing resulted from an unintended error by omission, which I sincerely regret. The deposit in question was not identified until after the close of the program year during a routine reconciliation. I immediately contacted our compliance officer for guidance and took prompt steps to file the appropriate amended year-end report to correct the error. Because the program year had ended, I mistakenly believed that the amended year-end report I submitted fulfilled all outstanding requirements. I did not realize that additional reporting was still required for the late-discovered deposit.

This was a good-faith mistake due to inexperience, not an attempt to avoid reporting requirements. Since identifying the issue, I have taken proactive steps to strengthen our internal compliance practices, including better tracking of deadlines and additional training on reporting requirements.

In light of our campaign's prior compliance history, the unintentional nature of this first-year error, the immediate corrective steps taken, and my demonstrated commitment to compliance, I respectfully ask the Board to consider waiving the associated late fee.

Thank you for your assistance.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cynthia R. Davis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cynthia R. Davis
Treasurer, Rep. Clardy



MINNESOTA

CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

Date: June 9, 2025

To: Board members
Nathan Hartshorn, counsel

From: Andrew Olson, Legal/Management Analyst

Telephone: 651-539-1190

Re: Motion to Proceed In Forma Pauperis - Court of Appeals Case No. A25-0853

In February 2025 the Board received a complaint submitted by Troy Scheffler alleging multiple violations by Representative Joshua Heintzeman and his principal campaign committee, the Committee to Elect Josh Heintzeman. The violations alleged included a violation of the disclaimer requirement under Minnesota Statutes section 211B.04, regarding a single campaign sign, and violations of Minnesota Statutes section 211B.12 regarding legal expenses incurred by the Heintzeman committee. Within a prima facie determination signed February 21, 2025, the Board's chair determined that the complaint did not state a prima facie violation of Minnesota Statutes section 211B.04, and did state prima facie violations of Minnesota Statutes section 211B.12 and Minnesota Rules 4503.0900, subpart 3. On April 8, 2025, the Board determined there was not probable cause to believe the Heintzeman committee violated Minnesota Statutes section 211B.12, and ordered a staff review regarding the Heintzeman committee's failure to include information required by Minnesota Rules 4503.0900, subpart 3, with respect to five specific noncampaign disbursements for legal expenses. The Heintzeman committee filed an amended report on May 5, 2025, to address those issues, and the Board's executive director closed the staff review on May 9, 2025.

Mr. Scheffler filed a petition for a writ of certiorari with the Court of Appeals on May 23, 2025, seeking judicial review under Minnesota Statutes section 14.63. The Writ of Certiorari was issued on May 27, 2025. Within a court filing known as a statement of the case, Mr. Scheffler stated that he is challenging determinations made with respect to Minnesota Statutes sections 211B.04 and 211B.12, and Minnesota Rules 4503.0900, subpart 3.

Mr. Scheffler also served the Board with the attached motion and affidavit seeking to proceed *in forma pauperis* (IFP) in the Court of Appeals. IFP status affords a litigant the ability to proceed "without payment of fees, costs, and security for costs" they would otherwise be required to pay. Under Minnesota Rules of Civil Appellate Procedure, Rule 109.02, a motion to proceed IFP in the Court of Appeals must be filed with the trial court, and the trial court must rule on the motion. When the decision being appealed was issued by a state agency, the state agency acts as a trial court would and is responsible for ruling on the IFP motion.

IFP status is granted, under Minnesota Statutes section 563.01, subdivision 3, when an "appeal is not of a frivolous nature" and the appeal is brought by an individual who files an affidavit

stating they are entitled to redress and are “financially unable to pay the fees, costs and security for costs.” Under paragraph (b) of that subdivision, an individual is presumed to qualify if they are “receiving public assistance described in section 550.37, subdivision 14,” and that statute includes “payment of Medicare part B premiums” within its description of forms of public assistance.

Mr. Scheffler’s core argument appears to be that the Board’s chair erred in dismissing the alleged disclaimer violation, that the Board erred in dismissing the alleged violation regarding permissible uses of campaign funds, and that the Board’s executive director erred in closing the staff review following receipt of an amended 2024 year-end report from the Heintzeman committee. Mr. Scheffler appears to argue that the disclaimer in question was not sufficiently prominent, that campaign funds cannot be used to pay for legal expenses related to a defamation lawsuit against a legislator, and that the Heintzeman committee’s amended 2024 year-end report is inaccurate regarding the committee’s legal expenses. Notably, the Heintzeman committee filed a second amended 2024 year-end report on May 22, 2025, to address one error within the first amended report. Board staff does not believe that Mr. Scheffler’s appeal is frivolous.

Mr. Scheffler’s affidavit includes evidence that he receives public assistance in the form of payment of Medicare Part B premiums. Therefore, he is presumed to qualify for IFP status if the appeal is not of a frivolous nature. Mr. Scheffler was granted IFP status by the Board with respect to a separate appeal involving the Heintzeman committee in May, and by the Court of Appeals in an unrelated matter in April¹. Also, Mr. Scheffler was granted IFP status by the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) in November 2024 and January 2023 in two separate matters that were appealed to the Court of Appeals.²

The attached draft order would grant Mr. Scheffler’s motion for IFP status. Also attached are Mr. Scheffler’s statement of the case and petition for a writ of certiorari, and the Writ of Certiorari issued by the Court of Appeals.

Attachments:

IFP motion and affidavit
Scheffler statement of the case
Scheffler petition for a writ of certiorari
Writ of Certiorari
Draft IFP order

¹ Scheffler v. Costco Wholesale Corp., No. A24-0564 (Minn. Ct. App. Apr. 15, 2025).

² Scheffler v. Heintzeman, No. A24-1719 (Minn. Ct. App. Nov. 25, 2024); In re the Matter of Troy Kenneth Scheffler (Rosemary Franzen), No. A22-1797 (Minn. Ct. App. Jan. 9, 2023).

STATE OF MINNESOTA
CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

In the Matter of the Complaint of
Troy Scheffler Regarding the
Committee to Elect Josh Heintzeman

**Motion and Affidavit for Proceeding
In Forma Pauperis in the Court of
Appeals**

CFB CASE FILED: 02/11/2025
DATE OF DECISION: 05/09/2025

State of Minnesota)
) SS
County of Crow Wing)

1. I believe that I have valid reasons for pursuing this Court of Appeals action and I move for an order granting me the following relief: Waiving appellate court filing fees and cost bond.
2. I am a party in this action and in good faith I request an Order to proceed In Forma Pauperis. I have attached a copy of my statement of the case or petition being filed in the appellate court, showing the proposed issues on appeal.
3. I am receiving public assistance under one or more of the following programs: Medicare Part B reimbursement, see MN Stat. 256B .057 subd.4. (Attached)

By signing this Affidavit, I am certifying that these statements are true under penalty of perjury. I understand that if I provide false information on the form it may lead to criminal charges. I understand that if I provide information or requested records may result in denial of my motion to proceed In Forma Pauperis. I am authorizing that the facts contained in this Affidavit may be verified by any means required.

05/23/2025


Troy Scheffler
26359 Shandy Trl.
Merrifield, MN 56465
763-225-7702
troyscheffler@gmail.com

INVOICE DATE	INVOICE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	INVOICE AMOUNT
05/01/2025	9-May	MED PART B HS Service Date: HS Desc:	\$185.00

Vendor No.	Vendor Name	EFT No.	EFT Date	EFT Amount
[REDACTED]	TROY K SCHEFFLER	[REDACTED]	05/09/2025	\$185.00



Crow Wing County Community Services

PO Box 686
Brainerd, MN 56401
PH. (218) 824-1047

Vendor
Number

[REDACTED]

EFT
Date

05/09/2025

EFT
Number

[REDACTED]

\$185.00

Pay One Hundred Eighty-five Dollars and 00 Cents

To the
Order Of TROY K SCHEFFLER
26359 SHANDY TRAIL
MERRIFIELD, MN 56465

**EFT FILE COPY
NON-NEGOTIABLE**

STATE OF MINNESOTA
IN COURT OF APPEALS

FILED

May 23, 2025

OFFICE OF
APPELLATE COURTS

In the Matter of the Complaint of
Troy Scheffler Regarding the
Committee to Elect Josh Heintzeman

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE OF
RELATOR**

CFB CASE FILED: 02/11/2025
DATE OF DECISION: **05/09/2025**

1. **Agency where case originated:** Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board.

Name of presiding judge or hearing officer: Chair, Faris Rashid

2. **Jurisdictional statement for a certiorari appeal:** MN Stat: 14.63, 14.64

Authority fixing time limit and date of event triggering appeal time; mailing of final order: MN Stat. 14.63, 14.64

3. **Type of litigation and any statutes at issue:**

Respondent violated Campaign Law Minn. Rules 4503.0900, subpart 3, Minn. Stat. 211B.12, and 211B.04.

4. **Brief description of issues that were raised before the administrative or agency decision maker, and how the administrative or agency decision maker decided those issues:**

Numerous campaign violations were made and some were dismissed as the Office of Administrative Hearings held jurisdiction. At the Prima Facie Stage, the issue in appeal is the dismissal of 211B.04. At the Probable Cause stage, the issue in appeal is 211B.12. Finally, in final memorandum “dismissing” the matter, the issue in appeal is the Board dismissing Minn. R. 4503.0900 based upon a clearly fraudulent financial disclosure that was even more fraudulent than the one is was amended from.

5. **Short description of issues you are raising in this appeal:**

211B.04 clearly states “prominent”; not “legible” for displaying a campaign disclaimer. Relator pled adequate requisite facts to sustain the violations. See: A22-1797 *In re the Matter of Troy Kenneth Scheffler (Rosemary Franzen)*, (2023).

211B.12 does not cover “Defamation Suits” that are not directly related to the Respondent being a State Representative and is part of the fraud in the Minn. R. 4503.0900.

That in his amended financial disclosure, Heintzeman amended “campaign expenses” that literally are patently false simply based upon public record such as filing fees and filings themselves. For example, in an effort to cover up a campaign fund money laundering scheme between Heintzeman and his attorney Reid LeBeau, Heintzeman originally claimed a general in-kind donation from the HRCC for \$6,000 on 12/31/2024 for “legal expenses” made to LeBeau. When Relator began showing the pattern of fraud, including that the HRCC never showed such a donation, Heintzeman as Chair of the HRCC, cooked the HRCC’s books by amending a former general payment made to LeBeau MONTHS before 12/31/2024 and subsequently changed his own financials to reflect the same. The problem is that the date they chose to claim and the case they claimed it was made for, never even existed at the time.

Lastly, the Board despite sanctioning the deficient original reporting by having Heintzeman amend the financials, they erroneously reflect the matter as “dismissed”; which of course is in error along with the “dismissal” itself being based upon clear fraud, which Relator appeals.

6. Related appeals:

- a. List any prior or pending appeals arising from the same agency case as this appeal: A25-0632 (211B.04)
- b. List any pending appeals arising from different agency cases that raise similar issues to this appeal: None known.

7. Contents of record:

- a. Is a transcript necessary to review the issues on appeal? No.
- b. If yes, is it a full transcript of the hearing(s) before the administrative decision-maker, or a partial transcript? N/A
- c. Has the transcript been ordered from the court reporter? N/A.
- d. If a transcript is unavailable, is a statement of the proceedings under Minnesota Rules of Civil Appellate Procedure 110.03 necessary? N/A.

e. In lieu of the record as defined in Minnesota Rules of Civil Appellate Procedure 110.01, have the parties agreed to prepare a statement of the record pursuant to Minnesota Rules of Civil Appellate Procedure 110.04? No.

8. **Oral argument:**

a. If you have an attorney, is oral argument requested? No.

b. N/A

9. **Type of Brief to be filed:**

Informal Brief under Rule 128.01, subd. 1.

10. **Names, addresses, and telephone numbers of relator and respondents:**

Relator:



Troy Kenneth Scheffler
26359 Shandy Trl, Merrifield, MN 56465
troyscheffler@gmail.com
763-225-7702

05/23/2025

Respondent's Attorney:

Rondell Reid LeBeau II (MN#347504)
525 Park St. Ste #255, St. Paul, MN 55103
rlebeau@chalmersadams.com
651-397-0089

FILED

May 23, 2025

STATE OF MINNESOTA
IN COURT OF APPEALS

In the Matter of the Complaint of
Troy Scheffler Regarding the
Committee to Elect Josh Heintzeman

**PETITION FOR WRIT OF
CERTIORARI**

OFFICE OF
APPELLATE COURTS

APPELLATE CASE #:
CFB CASE FILED: 02/11/2025
DATE OF DECISION: **05/09/2025**

TO: The Court of Appeals of the State of Minnesota:

Troy Scheffler hereby petitions the Court of Appeals for a Writ of Certiorari pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 14.63, § 14.64 to review a decision of the Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board issued on the date noted above, upon the grounds that:

In its closing of the case by memorandum on 05/09/2025, following prior allowance to "correct" falsehoods in the Complaint (Minn. R. 4503.0900) made by Relator, Respondent Heintzeman filed a patently false "amended" financial disclosure which the Board "dismissed" Relator's Complaint upon.

The Board was well aware the amended filing was false and once again perjurious in a continued effort to cover up a clear and well documented campaign fund fraud and money laundering scheme and erroneously "dismissed" the complaint regardless; status of "dismissal" is also erroneous as the Board did in fact find Probable Cause and subsequently sanctioned/penalized Heintzeman by ordering an amended financial report which was filed with material changes.

The Board also erred in dismissing a disclaimer violation under Minn Stat. 211B.04 by claiming the disclaimer was "legible", rather than "prominent" and erred in finding a defamation lawsuit justified dismissal of 211B.12.


Troy Kenneth Scheffler
26359 Shandy Trl
Merrifield, MN 56465
763-225-7702
troyscheffler@gmail.com

05/23/2025

STATE OF MINNESOTA
IN COURT OF APPEALS



In the Matter of the Complaint of Troy Scheffler Regarding Representative Joshua Heintzeman and the Committee to Elect Josh Heintzeman.

ORDER
A25-0853

BASED ON THE FILE, RECORD, AND PROCEEDINGS, AND BECAUSE:

1. This certiorari appeal was filed on May 23, 2025.
2. On May 27, 2026, relator Troy Kenneth Scheffler filed a motion requesting leave to file an informal brief pursuant to Minn. R. Civ. App. P. 128.01, subd. 1.
3. Because Scheffler is self-represented, we will accept an informal brief and addendum from Scheffler.
4. An informal brief shall contain a concise statement of the party's arguments on appeal, together with the addendum required by Minn. R. Civ. App. P. 130.01. Minn. R. Civ. App. P. 128.01, subd. 1. The informal brief shall have a cover and any paper copy may be bound by stapling. *Id.*
5. The addendum filed with Scheffler's brief must include a copy of the decisions being appealed. *See* Minn. R. Civ. App. P. 130.02(a) (governing appealing party's addendum).

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Relator Troy Kenneth Scheffler's motion for leave to file an informal brief is granted.

2. Scheffler shall serve and file a brief and addendum within 30 days after service of the itemized list of the contents of the record. *See* Minn. R. Civ. App. P. 115.04, subd. 4. The addendum filed with Scheffler's brief must include a copy of the decisions being appealed.

Dated: May 29, 2025

BY THE COURT

Jennifer L. Frisch
Chief Judge

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

**ORDER ON MOTION TO
PROCEED IN FORMA PAUPERIS**

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT OF TROY SCHEFFLER REGARDING REPRESENTATIVE JOSHUA HEINTZEMAN AND THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT JOSH HEINTZEMAN

The Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board ordered a staff review regarding this matter on April 8, 2025, and the staff review was closed on May 9, 2025. The complainant, Troy Scheffler, filed a petition for a writ of certiorari with the Court of Appeals on May 23, 2025, seeking judicial review under Minnesota Statutes section 14.63. On May 23, 2025, Mr. Scheffler mailed his Motion and Affidavit for Proceeding In Forma Pauperis in the Court of Appeals to the Board by certified mail, along with his Statement of the Case.

The affidavit states that Mr. Scheffler is receiving public assistance, consisting of “Medicare Part B reimbursement”. The affidavit includes a document indicating that Mr. Scheffler received a \$185 reimbursement on May 9, 2025, from Crow Wing County Community Services, related to Medicare Part B. In 2025 the standard monthly premium for Medicare Part B insurance is \$185.¹ Minnesota Statutes section 563.01, subdivision 3, paragraph (b), provides that if an “appeal is not of a frivolous nature,” an individual seeking to proceed *in forma pauperis* is generally presumed to qualify if they receive “public assistance described in section 550.37, subdivision 14. . . .” Minnesota Statutes section 550.37, subdivision 14, provides that “government assistance based on need includes but is not limited to . . . payment of Medicare part B premiums. . . .”

The Statement of the Case indicates that Mr. Scheffler is appealing determinations made regarding alleged violations of Minnesota Statutes sections 211B.04 and 211B.12 and Minnesota Rules 4503.0900, subpart 3. The Statement of the Case asserts that the complainant “pled adequate requisite facts to sustain” a violation of Minnesota Statutes section 211B.04 and that the standard for a disclaimer violation is whether the disclaimer was prominent, rather than legible. The Statement of the Case asserts that paying legal expenses related to a defamation lawsuit against a legislator is not a proper use of campaign funds under Minnesota Statutes section 211B.12. The Statement of the Case also asserts that the Heintzeman committee failed to accurately amend its 2024 year-end report of receipts and expenditures with respect to certain legal expenses that were identified by the Board as lacking the information required by Minnesota Rules 4503.0900, subpart 3.

¹ cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/2025-medicare-parts-b-premiums-and-deductibles

Based on the above background and the record in this matter, the Board makes the following:

Findings of Fact

1. On February 11, 2025, the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board received a complaint filed by Troy Scheffler regarding Representative Joshua Heintzeman, a candidate for Minnesota House of Representatives District 6B, and his principal campaign committee, the Committee to Elect Josh Heintzeman. The complaint alleged multiple violations including a violation of the disclaimer requirement under Minnesota Statutes section 211B.04, regarding a single campaign sign, and violations of Minnesota Statutes section 211B.12 regarding legal expenses incurred by the Heintzeman committee.
2. On February 21, 2025, the Board's chair determined that the complaint did not state a prima facie violation of Minnesota Statutes section 211B.04, and did state prima facie violations of Minnesota Statutes section 211B.12 and Minnesota Rules 4503.0900, subpart 3.
3. On April 8, 2025, the Board determined that there was not probable cause to believe that the Heintzeman committee violated Minnesota Statutes section 211B.12. The Board determined that there was probable cause to believe that the Heintzeman committee violated Minnesota Rules 4503.0900, subpart 3, and ordered a type of informal investigation known as a staff review.
4. On May 5, 2025, the Heintzeman committee filed an amended 2024 year-end report of receipts and expenditures to address issues raised within the Board's probable cause determination.
5. On May 9, 2025, the Board's executive director closed the staff review and determined that the amended report remedied any violation of Minnesota Rules 4503.0900, subpart 3.
6. On May 23, 2025, Mr. Scheffler filed his Motion and Affidavit for Proceeding In Forma Pauperis in the Court of Appeals, along with his Statement of the Case. The affidavit indicates that Mr. Scheffler receives public assistance in the form of payment of Medicare Part B premiums. The Statement of the Case describes the appeal as challenging the dismissal of certain violations alleged in Mr. Scheffler's complaint regarding the Heintzeman committee.

Based on the above findings of fact, the Board makes the following:

Conclusions of Law

1. Based on the Statement of the Case, the issues raised in this appeal are not frivolous.
2. Mr. Scheffler meets the criteria for proceeding *in forma pauperis*.

Based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, the Board issues the following:

Order

1. The Motion to Proceed In Forma Pauperis is granted.

Faris Rashid, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Date: _____