

**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
<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>						<p>approve the staff recommendation for requests 1-2 and 5-12.</p> <p>Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.</p>

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.	<p>Swanson moved to reduce to \$300.</p> <p>Vote on motion: Rashid and Swanson voted in the affirmative. Asp and Soule voted in the negative.</p> <p>Asp moved to waive.</p> <p>Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.</p>
<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>						

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.
<p>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.</p>						

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.
<p>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.</p>						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.
<p>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.</p>						Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.

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.
<p>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.</p>						<p>Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.</p>

9. Summit Mortgage Corporation						
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.
<p>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.</p>						

10. MN Tourism Growth Coalition						
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>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>						<p>Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.</p>

11. Gerdau Ameristeel US, Inc.						
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	Board Action
March 2025 LPR	3/17/25	3/21/25	\$100	No.	Waive.	Asp moved to
<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>						<p>approve the staff recommendation for requests 1-2 and 5-12.</p> <p>Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.</p>

12. Building Brighter Futures - 60075						
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	Board 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.
<p>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.</p>						Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.

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.		Rashid moved to reduce the total owed to \$250.
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>						Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.

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.
<p>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.</p>						<p>Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.</p>

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.
<p>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.</p>						<p>Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.</p>

16. Dog Lovers 4 Safe Trapping MN						
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	Board Action
March 2025 LPR	3/17/25	3/29/25	\$225	No.		Asp moved to waive.
<p>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.</p>						<p>Vote on motion: Unanimously approved.</p>

17. Before Racism						
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	Board 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						
Report(s)	Due	Filed	Amount	Prior Waivers	Recommended Action	Board 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						
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

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**Date:** May 7, 2025

**To:** Board Members

**From:** Jeff Sigurdson, Executive Director

**Telephone:** 651-539-1189

**Re:** Executive Director's Report – Board Operations

### **Board Staff**

Greta Johnson resigned from her staff position effective May 6, 2025. Ms. Johnson accepted a position with the Governor's office, and is the new Director of Boards and Commissions. The staff position held by Ms. Johnson has been posted to the State of Minnesota Careers website ([careers.mn.gov](https://careers.mn.gov)), and applications for the position of Management/Legal Analyst will be accepted through May 20, 2025.

### **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. The House has not held a confirmation hearing for Member Swanson, and the Senate has not taken up Member Swanson's appointment on the floor.

The regular session of the legislature must end on the first Monday following the third Saturday in May (May 19<sup>th</sup>). At this point it is looking unlikely that any further action on Board appointments will occur prior to the end of session. Member Swanson's confirmation will be before the legislature again next session, and Member Soule may continue to serve until July 1<sup>st</sup> of this year, pending reappointment or the appointment of a new Board member.

### **Legislative Action**

The elections and campaign finance omnibus bill is [SF 3045](#). The bill passed the Senate 35-29 (party line vote). The House amended SF 3045, and passed the bill 113-21. The amendments were not accepted by the Senate, and a conference committee has been appointed. The conferees for the Senate are Senators Xiong, Carlson, Maye Quade, Westlin, and Lang. The conferees for the House are Representatives Klevorn, Nash, Freiberg, and Altendorf.

The Senate version of the bill contains the Board recommendations on lobbying, the House version does not. The Senate and House versions of the bill both provide the Board with an operating budget of \$1,819,000 in fiscal year 2026, and \$1,846,000 in fiscal year 2027.



# MINNESOTA

## CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

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**Date:** May 7, 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. A25-0632

In September 2024 the Board received a complaint submitted by Troy Scheffler alleging that the Committee to Elect Josh Heintzeman violated the disclaimer requirement with respect to five campaign signs. Within a prima facie determination signed September 12, 2024, the Board's chair determined that the complaint stated a prima facie violation as to a single sign and dismissed the remaining allegations. The Board issued findings regarding the remaining allegation on April 8, 2025.

Mr. Scheffler filed a petition for a writ of certiorari with the Court of Appeals on April 18, 2025, seeking judicial review under Minnesota Statutes section 14.63. The Writ of Certiorari was issued on April 21, 2025. Within a court filing known as a statement of the case, Mr. Scheffler stated:

CFB erroneously dismissed 3 of 4 disclaimer counts ignoring statutory language of "prominent" and instead opining based upon "legible".

...

Statute 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).

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 most of the allegations made in his complaint on the basis that all but one of the disclaimers in question were visible, legible, and substantially in the form required by Minnesota Statutes section 211B.04. Mr. Scheffler asserts that the statutory text “prominently include” means something more than visible and legible. 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 Court of Appeals less than a month ago in an unrelated matter.<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup>

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

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

<sup>2</sup> 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).

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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

Troy Kenneth Scheffler,  
Relator;

vs

Joshua Heintzeman,

Committee to Elect Josh Heintzeman,

and

Campaign Finance and  
Public Disclosure Board,  
Respondents.

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

(Minn. Stat. § 563.01 & Minn. R. App. P. 109)

CFB Case Filed: 09/04/2024

Final Order: 04/08/2025

Appellate Case No.:

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 a court 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 failure to execute the form or failure to 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.**

Dated: 04/18/2025

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

INVOICE DATE	INVOICE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	INVOICE AMOUNT
04/11/2025	11-Apr	MED PART B HS Service Date: HS Desc:	\$185.00

Vendor No.	Vendor Name	EFT No.	EFT Date	EFT Amount
	TROY K SCHEFFLER		04/11/2025	\$185.00

**Crow Wing County Community Services**

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

Vendor  
Number

EFT  
Date  
04/11/2025

EFT  
Number

\$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

Troy Kenneth Scheffler  
Relator,

---

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE OF  
RELATOR**

vs.

APPELLATE CASE #:

Joshua Heintzeman,

CFB Case Filed: 09/04/2024

Committee to Elect Josh Heintzeman,

Date of Decision: 04/08/2025

and

Campaign Finance and  
Public Disclosure Board,  
Respondents.

- 
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. Stat. 211B.04, subd.1 numerous times.

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:**

CFB erroneously dismissed 3 of 4 disclaimer counts ignoring statutory language of “prominent” and instead opining based upon “legible”. CFB found Heintzeman violative of one count claiming that disclaimer was not legible.



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

Statute 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).

6. **Related appeals:**

- a. List any prior or pending appeals arising from the same agency case as this appeal: None
- 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? Yes.
  - b. If yes, is it a full transcript of the hearing(s) before the administrative decision-maker, or a partial transcript? Full transcript
- c. Has the transcript been ordered from the court reporter? No.
- d. If a transcript is unavailable, is a statement of the proceedings under Minnesota Rules of Civil Appellate Procedure 110.03 necessary? No.
- 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

04/18/2025

troyscheffler@gmail.com  
763-225-7702

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

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
IN COURT OF APPEALS

---

Troy Kenneth Scheffler,  
Relator,

PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI

vs.

CFB CASE FILED (No case #): 09/04/2024  
DATE OF DECISION: 04/08/2025

Joshua Heintzeman,

Committee to Elect  
Josh Heintzeman,

and

Campaign Finance and  
Public Disclosure Board,  
Respondents.

---

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 Prima Facie Determination on 09/13/2024, The Board erroneously dismissed three (3) of four (4) counts regarding violation of Minn. Stat. § 211B.04. It's final order finding violation of one count was made on 04/08/2025.

"IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT OF TROY SCHEFFLER  
REGARDING THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT JOSH HEINTZEMAN"



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

04/18/2025

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
IN COURT OF APPEALS

---

Troy Kenneth Scheffler  
Relator,

**WRIT OF CERTIORARI**

vs.

APPELLATE CASE #:

Joshua Heintzeman

CFB CASE FILED: 09/04/2024

Committee to Elect  
Josh Heintzeman,

DATE OF DECISION: 04/08/2025

and

Campaign Finance and  
Public Disclosure Board,  
Respondents.

---

TO: Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board:

You are hereby ordered to return to the Court of Appeals and serve on all parties in accordance with rule 115.04, subdivision 3, within 30 days after service of the petition or 14 days after delivery of a transcript, whichever is later, an itemized statement of the record, exhibits, and proceedings in the above-entitled matter so that this court may review the decision issued on the date noted above.

You are further directed to retain the actual record, exhibits, and transcript of proceedings (if any) until requested by the Clerk of the Appellate Courts to deliver them in accordance with rule 115.04, subdivision 5.

Copies of this writ and accompanying petition shall be served forthwith either personally or by mail upon the respondent(s) or its attorney at:

Attorney for Respondents Joshua Heintzeman and Committee to Elect Josh Heintzeman, Rondell Reid LeBeau II (MN#347504) 525 Park St. Ste #255, St. Paul, MN 55103

Proof of service of the writ and of the itemized statement shall be filed with the clerk of the appellate courts.

DATED: April 21, 2025

Clerk of the Appellate Courts

By: Janet C.  
Assistant Clerk

**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 THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT  
JOSH HEINTZEMAN

The Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board issued its Findings, Conclusions, and Order in this matter on April 8, 2025. The complainant, Troy Scheffler, filed a petition for a writ of certiorari with the Court of Appeals on April 18, 2025, seeking judicial review under Minnesota Statutes section 14.63. On April 18, 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 April 11, 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.<sup>1</sup> 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 the Findings, Conclusions, and Order issued by the Board in this matter on April 8, 2025. The Statement of the Case asserts that the Board “dismissed 3 of 4 disclaimer counts ignoring statutory language of ‘prominent’ and instead opining based upon ‘legible’.” The Statement of the Case asserts that the respondent, the Committee to Elect Josh Heintzeman, violated Minnesota Statutes section 211B.04, subdivision 1, numerous times.

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<sup>1</sup> [cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/2025-medicare-parts-b-premiums-and-deductibles](https://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 September 4, 2024, 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. The Committee to Elect Josh Heintzeman is the principal campaign committee of Representative Heintzeman. The complaint alleged violations of the disclaimer requirement for campaign material under Minnesota Statutes section 211B.04, subdivision 1, and included exhibits consisting of photographs of five campaign signs.
2. On September 12, 2024, the Board's chair determined that the complaint stated a prima facie violation of the disclaimer requirement as to one of the five signs depicted in the complaint, and determined that the complaint did not state a prima facie violation of the disclaimer requirement as to the other four signs depicted in the complaint.
3. On January 13, 2025, the Board determined that there was probable cause to believe that the Heintzeman committee violated the disclaimer requirement with respect to one campaign sign.
4. On April 8, 2025, the Board determined that the Heintzeman committee violated the disclaimer requirement with respect to one campaign sign.
5. On April 18, 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 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: \_\_\_\_\_





# MINNESOTA

## CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

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**Date:** May 7, 2025

**To:** Board members

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

**Re:** Prima Facie Determinations

Complaints filed with the Board are subject to a prima facie determination which are made by the Board chair in consultation with staff. If the Board chair determines that the complaint states a violation of Chapter 10A or the provisions of Chapter 211B under the Board's jurisdiction, the complaint moves forward to a probable cause determination by the full Board.

If the determination finds that the complaint does not state a prima facie violation, the prima facie determination must dismiss the complaint without prejudice. When a complaint is dismissed, the complaint and the prima facie determination become public data. The following complaints were dismissed by Chair Rashid and the prima facie determinations are provided here as an informational item to Board members. No further Board action is required.

### **Senator Nicole Mitchell**

On April 17, 2025, the Board received a complaint submitted by Senator Steve Drazkowski regarding Senator Nicole Mitchell. The complaint alleged that Senator Mitchell violated Minnesota Statutes section 10A.07, which governs conflicts of interest. The complaint stated that on January 27, 2025, the Minnesota Senate considered a motion by Senator Jordan Rasmusson to expel Senator Mitchell from the Senate. The complaint says that the Senate President, Senator Bobby Joe Champion, ruled that the motion was out of order. The complaint states that Senator Rasmusson appealed the President's ruling and requested a roll-call vote, then the Senate upheld the ruling of the President by a vote of 33-33.

Senator Mitchell was a member of the Senate on January 27, 2025. The complaint asserted that Senator Mitchell cast a vote in the Senate regarding her expulsion, and alleged that her expulsion would have substantially affected her financial interests. However, the term "financial interest" is defined to be limited to "ownership or control in an asset that has the potential to produce a monetary return" and the word asset does not encompass a legislator's employment relationship with their house of the legislature. Therefore, the chair determined that the complaint did not state a prima facie violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.07.

## **Heintzeman (Keri) for Senate**

On April 24, 2025, the Board received a complaint from Richard Carlbom regarding the Heintzeman for Senate committee. The complaint alleged that the Heintzeman committee violated the individual contribution limit under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 1. The complaint included a copy of the Heintzeman committee's pre-special election report of receipts and expenditures that was filed with the Board on April 22, 2025. The report shows that nine individuals contributed \$1,000 during the period of March 22 through March 24, 2025, and then contributed an additional \$1,000 during the period from March 26 through March 30, 2025. The individual contribution limit for a candidate for state senator is \$1,000.

Minnesota Statutes section 10A.01, subdivision 16, provides that the term "'election cycle' for a special election means the period from the date the special election writ is issued to 15 days after the special election is held." Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 16c, provides that "Contribution limits apply independently for election segments, nonelection segments, and special election cycles." As a result, a Senate District 6 special election candidate and their campaign committee may accept contributions totaling up to \$1,000 from an individual during the special election cycle, and may accept contributions totaling up to \$1,000 from the same individual during the 2025-2026 regular election segment.

With respect to each of the nine contributors identified in the complaint, the Heintzeman committee reportedly received their first \$1,000 contribution prior to March 25, the start of the special election cycle, and received their second \$1,000 contribution after March 25, 2025, the day the writ of special election was issued. According to the complaint and the Heintzeman committee's pre-special election report, those contributors each gave the maximum amount of \$1,000 during two separate election segments. Therefore, the chair determined that the complaint did not state a prima facie violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 1.

### **Attachments:**

Mitchell complaint

Mitchell prima facie determination

Heintzeman complaint

Heintzeman prima facie determination



# MINNESOTA

## CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

### Complaint for Violation of the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Act

All information on this form is confidential until a decision is issued by the Board.  
A photocopy of the entire complaint, however, will be sent to the respondent.

#### Information about complaint filer

Name of complaint filer	Senator Steve Drazkowski	
Address	95 University Ave. W.	Email address sen.steve.drazkowski@mnsenate.gov
City, state, and zip	Saint Paul, MN 55155	Telephone (Daytime) 651-564-0638

#### Identify person/entity you are complaining about

Name of person/entity being complained about	Senator Nicole Mitchell
Address	95 University Ave. W.
City, state, zip	Saint Paul, MN 55155
Title of respondent (If applicable)	State Senator
Board/Department/Agency/District # (If legislator)	District 47

Digitally signed by Steve Drazkowski  
Date: 2025.04.16 23:43:35 -04'00'

4/17/2025

Signature of person filing complaint

Date

Send completed form to:

Campaign Finance & Public Disclosure Board  
190 Centennial Office Building  
658 Cedar Street  
St. Paul, MN 55155

If you have questions call 651-539-1189, 800-657-3889, or for TTY/TDD communication contact us via the Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529. Board staff may be reached by email at [cf.board@state.mn.us](mailto:cf.board@state.mn.us).

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling 651-539-1180, 800-657-3889, or through the Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529.

Give the statutory cite to the section of Chapter 10A, Chapter 211B, or Minnesota Rules you believe has been violated:

10A.07

You will find links to the complete text of Chapter 10A, Chapter 211B, and Minnesota Rules chapters 4501 - 4525 on the Board's website at [cfb.mn.gov](http://cfb.mn.gov).

### Nature of complaint

Explain in detail why you believe the respondent has violated the campaign finance and public disclosure laws. Attach extra sheet(s) of paper if necessary. Attach any documents, photographs, or other evidence needed to support your allegations. Electronic files may be provided to the Board by email or via a file transfer service.

See attached pages

Minnesota Statutes section 10A.022 and Minnesota Rules Chapter 4525 describe the procedures required for investigating complaints. A full description of the complaint process is available on the Board's website. Briefly, the Board will notify you when it has received your complaint. The Board must send a copy of the complaint to the respondent. Complaints and investigations are confidential. Board members and staff cannot talk about an investigation except as required to carry out the investigation or to take action in the matter. After the Board issues a decision, the record of the investigation is public.

The law requires a complaint to go through two stages before the Board can begin an investigation: a prima facie determination and a probable cause decision. If the complaint does not pass one of the stages, it must be dismissed. The Board chair or their designee has 10 business days after receiving your complaint to determine whether the complaint alleges a prima facie violation. If the complaint alleges a prima facie violation, the Board has 60 days to decide whether probable cause exists to believe a violation that warrants a formal investigation has occurred. Both you and the respondent have the right to be heard on the issue of probable cause before the Board makes this decision. The Board will notify you if the complaint moves to the probable cause stage.

If the Board determines that probable cause does not exist, the Board will dismiss the complaint. If the Board determines that probable cause exists, the Board may start an investigation. In some cases the Board will issue findings, conclusions, and an order as its decision. In other cases the Board will instead enter into a conciliation agreement with the respondent. The Board's final decision will be posted on the Board's website.

On January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025, the Minnesota Senate considered a motion from Senator Jordan Rasmusson to expel Senator Nicole Mitchell. The presiding officer, Senator Bobby Joe Champion, ruled the motion out of order. Senator Rasmusson then appealed the President's ruling and requested a roll-call vote. The motion failed 33-33. Senator Mitchell cast the tie-breaking vote to uphold the ruling of the President, a vote which dismissed the threat to her elected position and every benefit that it brings by preventing the full body from considering her continued membership in the legislature.

In voting to support that ruling, she was voting in her own personal, financial interest, which was to remain a member of the Senate, and therefore continue to receive salary and benefits all senators receive. She did not recuse herself under Senate Rule 56.4, which states, "Members of the Senate must disclose potential conflicts of interest in the discharge of senatorial duties as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.07."

The Minnesota Senate is governed not only by statute but also by its own rules, which are enforced through the body's Subcommittee on Ethical Conduct. On March 13, 2025, the Senate Subcommittee on Ethical Conduct convened and discussed the conflict-of-interest charge against Senator Mitchell. The committee was unable to reach a majority conclusion as to whether Senator Mitchell's vote represented a violation of Senate Rules.

While the Senate has jurisdiction over its own rules, Minnesota Statute 10A.07 stands independent of the Senate Rules, and is firmly within the jurisdiction of the Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board to enforce. The Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board is charged with overseeing financial disclosures for state officials as well as campaign finance documents for candidates across the state and has authority under Minnesota Statute 10A.022 to enforce violations of Minnesota Statute Chapter 10A.

In compliance with Minnesota statutes, Senator Mitchell has filed a Statement of Economic Interest Statement outlining her sources of income. Senator Mitchell reports her only sources of income as of January 22, 2025, as the "MN State Senate" and the "National Guard." She lists no business ownership, independent contracting income, real property, honoraria, government agency interests, or pari-mutuel horse racing interests. She reports one security, a technology startup called "Chat Lingual." Given this report, it seems likely that her Senate income, along with benefits, is a substantial part of her income and thus a significant financial interest. Being expelled from the Senate would dramatically impact her financial situation.

Senator Mitchell did not recuse herself from this vote and failed to disclose the conflict of interest in the prescribed manner. I am requesting the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board review the vote pursuant to its authority under Minnesota Statute

Chapter 10A.022 and determine whether Senator Mitchell's vote on her own disciplinary proceedings was consistent with conflict of interest laws found in 10A.07.

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

**PRIMA FACIE  
DETERMINATION**

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT OF SENATOR STEVE DRAZKOWSKI REGARDING SENATOR NICOLE MITCHELL

On April 17, 2025, the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board received a complaint submitted by Senator Steve Drazkowski regarding Senator Nicole Mitchell. The complaint alleges that Senator Mitchell violated Minnesota Statutes section 10A.07, which governs conflicts of interest.

The complaint states that on January 27, 2025, the Minnesota Senate considered a motion by Senator Jordan Rasmusson to expel Senator Mitchell from the Senate. The complaint says that the Senate President, Senator Bobby Joe Champion, ruled that the motion was out of order. The complaint states that Senator Rasmusson appealed the President's ruling and requested a roll-call vote, then the Senate upheld the ruling of the President by a vote of 33-33.<sup>1</sup> The complaint asserts that:

Senator Mitchell cast the tie-breaking vote to uphold the ruling of the President, a vote which dismissed the threat to her elected position and every benefit that it brings by preventing the full body from considering her continued membership in the legislature.

In voting to support that ruling, she was voting in her own personal, financial interest, which was to remain a member of the Senate, and therefore continue to receive salary and benefits all senators receive. She did not recuse herself under Senate Rule 56.4, which states, "Members of the Senate must disclose potential conflicts of interest in the discharge of senatorial duties as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.07."

The complaint refers to a statement of economic interest that Senator Mitchell filed with the Board,<sup>2</sup> and asserts that:

Given this report, it seems likely that her Senate income, along with benefits, is a substantial part of her income and thus a significant financial interest. Being expelled from the Senate would dramatically impact her financial situation.

Senator Mitchell did not recuse herself from this vote and failed to disclose the conflict of interest in the prescribed manner.

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<sup>1</sup> The January 27, 2025, Journal of the Senate is available at [senate.mn/journals//2025-2026/2025012700.pdf](https://senate.mn/journals//2025-2026/2025012700.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> Information from Senator Mitchell's most recent statement of economic interest is available at [cfb.mn.gov/reports-and-data/officials-financial-disclosure/official/14749](https://cfb.mn.gov/reports-and-data/officials-financial-disclosure/official/14749).

Board records reflect that Senator Mitchell has not filed a statement with the Board describing a potential conflict of interest involving the vote described in the complaint, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 10A.07, subdivision 2, paragraph (d).

## Determination

The term “public official” is defined by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.01, subdivision 35, to include a member of the legislature. Minnesota Statutes section 10A.07, subdivision 1, provides as follows:

(a) A public official or a local official elected to or appointed by a metropolitan governmental unit who in the discharge of official duties would be required to take an action or make a decision that would substantially affect the official's financial interests or those of an associated business, unless the effect on the official is no greater than on other members of the official's business classification, profession, or occupation, must take the following actions:

(1) prepare a written statement describing the matter requiring action or decision and the nature of the potential conflict of interest;

(2) deliver copies of the statement to the official's immediate superior, if any; and

(3) if a member of the legislature or of the governing body of a metropolitan governmental unit, deliver a copy of the statement to the presiding officer of the body of service.

If a potential conflict of interest presents itself and there is insufficient time to comply with clauses (1) to (3), the public or local official must orally inform the superior or the official body of service or committee of the body of the potential conflict.

(b) For purposes of this section, “financial interest” means any ownership or control in an asset that has the potential to produce a monetary return.

The definition of the term “financial interest” was added to Minnesota Statutes section 10A.07 in 2018.<sup>3</sup> Prior to that definition being codified in statute, the term “financial interest” was defined by Minnesota Rules 4515.0100, subpart 5, to mean “any ownership or control in an asset which has the potential to produce a monetary return.”<sup>4</sup> The word asset is used elsewhere within Minnesota Statutes Chapter 10A to refer to securities owned by a trust, Minn. Stat. § 10A.01, subd. 35a; to “liquid assets” held by an entity filing a campaign finance report, Minn. Stat. § 10A.20, subd. 3 (b); to credit balances, prepaid postage, and “physical assets” held by an entity that files campaign finance reports, Minn. Stat. § 10A.243, subd. 2; and to money and other contributions received by a political fund, Minn. Stat. § 10A.245, subd. 2. Black’s Law

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<sup>3</sup> 2018 Minn. Laws ch. 119, § 11.

<sup>4</sup> See Minn. R. 4515.0100, subp. 5 (2002).



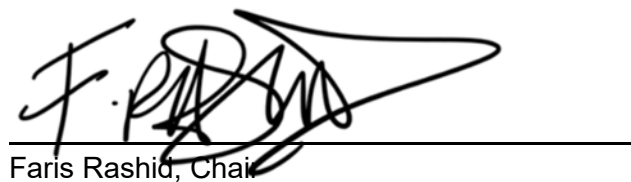
Dictionary defines the word asset to mean “An item that is owned and has value” such as “cash, inventory, equipment, real estate, accounts receivable, and goodwill.”<sup>5</sup>

In 2012, the Board concluded “that a governmental entity, including a municipality, is not a business and, thus, is never an ‘associated business’” as defined by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.01, subdivision 5.<sup>6</sup> Therefore, Senator Mitchell could be required to disclose a potential conflict of interest under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.07, arising from her employment as a state senator, only if that employment is an asset that she personally owns or controls.

When interpreting Minnesota statutes, “words and phrases are construed according to rules of grammar and according to their common and approved usage; but technical words and phrases and such others as have acquired a special meaning . . . are construed according to such special meaning”. Minn. Stat. § 645.08. The word asset is not commonly understood to mean an individual’s employment, and that is particularly true when the employment relationship is not governed by a contract that entitles the individual to continued employment. The statutory definition of “financial interest” limiting that term to assets with “the potential to produce a monetary return” indicates that the word asset was intended by the legislature to refer to investments or items that may appreciate in value, rather than employment relationships.

Senator Mitchell was a member of the Senate on January 27, 2025. The complaint asserts that Senator Mitchell cast a vote in the Senate regarding her expulsion, and alleges that her expulsion would have substantially affected her financial interests. However, the term “financial interest” is defined to be limited to “ownership or control in an asset that has the potential to produce a monetary return” and the word asset does not encompass a legislator’s employment relationship with their house of the legislature. Therefore, the complaint does not state a prima facie violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.07.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 10A.022, subdivision 3, this prima facie determination is made by the Board chair and not by any vote of the entire Board. The complaint is dismissed without prejudice.



Faris Rashid, Chair

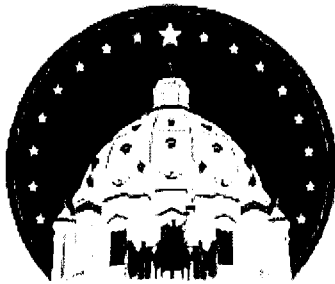
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Date: April 30, 2025

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<sup>5</sup> Asset, Black's Law Dictionary (12th ed. 2024).

<sup>6</sup> [Advisory Opinion 431 \(Nov. 7, 2012\)](#).



# MINNESOTA

## CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

### Complaint for Violation of the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Act

All information on this form is confidential until a decision is issued by the Board.  
A photocopy of the entire complaint, however, will be sent to the respondent.

#### Information about complaint filer

Name of complaint filer	Richard Carlbom		
Address	255 East Plato Boulevard	Email address	rcarlbom@dfi.org
City, state, and zip	St. Paul, MN 55107	Telephone (Daytime)	651-293-1200

#### Identify person/entity you are complaining about

Name of person/entity being complained about	Keri Heintzeman; Heintzeman (Keri) for Senate
Address	31840 Lakeway Drive NE
City, state, zip	Cambridge, MN 55008
Title of respondent (If applicable)	
Board/Department/Agency/District # (If legislator)	Candidate for Senate District 6

Signature of person filing complaint

April 23, 2025

Date

Send completed form to:

Campaign Finance & Public Disclosure Board  
190 Centennial Office Building  
658 Cedar Street  
St. Paul, MN 55155

If you have questions call 651-539-1189, 800-657-3889, or for TTY/TDD communication contact us via the Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529. Board staff may be reached by email at [cf.board@state.mn.us](mailto:cf.board@state.mn.us).

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling 651-539-1180, 800-657-3889, or through the Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529.

Give the statutory cite to the section of Chapter 10A, Chapter 211B, 10A.27, subd. 1(a)(4) or Minnesota Rules you believe has been violated:

You will find links to the complete text of Chapter 10A, Chapter 211B, and Minnesota Rules chapters 4501 - 4525 on the Board's website at [cfb.mn.gov](http://cfb.mn.gov).

### **Nature of complaint**

Explain in detail why you believe the respondent has violated the campaign finance and public disclosure laws. Attach extra sheet(s) of paper if necessary. Attach any documents, photographs, or other evidence needed to support your allegations. Electronic files may be provided to the Board by email or via a file transfer service.

See attached.

Minnesota Statutes section 10A.022 and Minnesota Rules Chapter 4525 describe the procedures required for investigating complaints. A full description of the complaint process is available on the Board's website. Briefly, the Board will notify you when it has received your complaint. The Board must send a copy of the complaint to the respondent. Complaints and investigations are confidential. Board members and staff cannot talk about an investigation except as required to carry out the investigation or to take action in the matter. After the Board issues a decision, the record of the investigation is public.

The law requires a complaint to go through two stages before the Board can begin an investigation: a prima facie determination and a probable cause decision. If the complaint does not pass one of the stages, it must be dismissed. The Board chair or their designee has 10 business days after receiving your complaint to determine whether the complaint alleges a prima facie violation. If the complaint alleges a prima facie violation, the Board has 60 days to decide whether probable cause exists to believe a violation that warrants a formal investigation has occurred. Both you and the respondent have the right to be heard on the issue of probable cause before the Board makes this decision. The Board will notify you if the complaint moves to the probable cause stage.

If the Board determines that probable cause does not exist, the Board will dismiss the complaint. If the Board determines that probable cause exists, the Board may start an investigation. In some cases the Board will issue findings, conclusions, and an order as its decision. In other cases the Board will instead enter into a conciliation agreement with the respondent. The Board's final decision will be posted on the Board's website.

Minn. Stat. § 10A.27, subd. 1(a)(4) provides that a candidate for state senator must not accept contributions of in excess of \$1,000 from any individual, political committee, political fund, or association not registered with the board in the election segment of an election cycle.

Notwithstanding this clear prohibition, Keri Heintzeman, the Republican candidate in the April 29, 2025 special election for Senate District 6 accepted contributions totaling \$2,000, double the limit, from nine separate individuals. These excess contributions account for \$9,000 of the \$60,503.80 contributions included in Heintzeman's April 22, 2025 campaign finance report; that is to say, nearly 15% of the reported contributions were illegal.

The excess contributions are highlighted in the attached copy of Heintzeman's report and are summarized in the following table.

<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Contributions</b>		<b>Total</b>
Nita Gross	\$1,000 (3/24/25)	\$1,000 (3/28/25)	\$2,000
Robert Gross	\$1,000 (3/24/25)	\$1,000 (3/28/25)	\$2,000
Steve Grosser	\$1,000 (3/24/25)	\$1,000 (3/26/25)	\$2,000
Justina Higgins	\$1,000 (3/24/25)	\$1,000 (3/28/25)	\$2,000
Michael Higgins	\$1,000 (3/24/25)	\$1,000 (3/28/25)	\$2,000
Brian Nystrom	\$1,000 (3/24/25)	\$1,000 (3/30/25)	\$2,000
Greta Nystrom	\$1,000 (3/22/25)	\$1,000 (3/30/25)	\$2,000
Mary Ann Nystrom	\$1,000 (3/24/25)	\$1,000 (3/30/25)	\$2,000
Peter Nystrom	\$1,000 (3/22/25)	\$1,000 (3/30/25)	\$2,000

This is a clear and unambiguous violation of Minnesota campaign finance law.

Report of Receipts and Expenditures for  
Principal Campaign Committee  
Special Election: Senator District 6

Period Covered: 01/01/2025 through 04/15/2025

Committee Information

**Registration Number:** 19205  
**Committee Name:** Heintzeman (Keri) for Senate  
**Candidate Name:** Heintzeman, Keri  
**Office and District:** Senator District 6  
**Treasurer Name:** Johnson, Diane  
**Treasurer Address:** 31840 Lakeway Dr NE Cambridge, MN 55008

Report Options

- ☐ **No Change Since Last Report** The committee received no contributions and made no expenditures during the report period.
- Previous Cash Balance:  
Current Cash Balance:
- ☐ **Amendment** This report amends a previously filed report for the same period.
- ☐ **Termination** The committee has settled all its debts, disposed of all its assets in excess of \$100 and dissolved.

**Received by the Board April 22, 2025**

# Committee Transaction Summary

## Heintzeman, Keri Senator District 6 Committee

1 Beginning cash balance 01/01/2025 (should be the same as the previous year ending cash balance) 0.00

A	Receipts		Cash	Blank	In-kind	Total
2	Individual Contributions	Sch. A1 - IND	48,424.80		0.00	48,424.80
3	Lobbyist Contributions	Sch. A1 - LOB	8,474.00		0.00	8,474.00
4	Political committee and political fund contributions	Sch. A1 - PCF	1,600.00		0.00	1,600.00
5	Political party and terminating principal campaign committee contributions	Sch. A1 - PTY/TERM PCC	2,000.00		0.00	2,000.00
6	Other contributions	Sch. A1 - OTH	0.00		0.00	0.00
7	Public Subsidy Payment	Sch. A1 - PS	0.00			0.00
8	Receipts from loans payable	Sch. A2 - LP	1,000.00			1,000.00
9	Receipts from miscellaneous receipts	Sch. A2 - MISC	5.00			5.00
10	Total Receipts	Sum #2 to #9	61,503.80		0.00	61,503.80
B	Disbursements		Cash	Unpaid Bills	In-kind	Total
11	Campaign expenditures	Sch. B1 - CE	48,406.59	0.00	0.00	48,406.59
12	State ballot question expenditures (Not local referendums)	Sch. B1 - BQ	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13	Total Campaign Expenditures	Sum #11 to #12	48,406.59	0.00	0.00	48,406.59
14	Noncampaign disbursements	Sch. B1 - NCD	1,596.29	0.00	0.00	1,596.29
15	Contributions to other principal campaign committees	Sch. B2 - PCC	0.00		0.00	0.00
16	Contributions to political parties	Sch. B2 - PTY	80.00		0.00	80.00
17	Contributions to political committees and political funds	Sch. B2 - PCF	0.00		0.00	0.00
18	Other disbursements	Sch. B3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19	Total Expenditures and Disbursements	Sum #13 to #18	50,082.88	0.00	0.00	50,082.88
20	#1 + #10 - #19	Ending cash balance on 04/15/2025	11,420.92			

### Loans and Unpaid Obligations Summary

21A	Total Outstanding balance of all loans incurred during the current year	Sch. A2-LP	1,000.00
21B	Total outstanding balance of all loans incurred during any year prior to the reporting year	Sch. C	0.00
21C	Total Outstanding balance of all loans	Sum #21A + #21B	1,000.00
22A	Total unpaid obligations incurred during the current year	Line 19	0.00
22B	Total unpaid obligations incurred during any year prior to the reporting year	Sch. D	0.00
22C	Total unpaid obligations	Sum #22A + #22B	0.00
23	Total debt of committee	Sum #21C + #22C	1,000.00

### Certification

I certify that this report is complete, true, and correct.

Johnson, Diane (Treasurer)

Signature of Candidate, Treasurer, or Deputy Treasurer

April 22, 2025

Date

Certified Electronically by Valid Person

Any person who signs and certifies to be true a report or statement which the person knows contains false information, or who knowingly omits required information, is subject to a civil penalty imposed by the Board of up to \$3,000 and is subject to criminal prosecution for a gross misdemeanor.

## Schedule A1 - IND Contributions from Individuals

## Heintzeman, Keri Senator District 6 Committee

Baker, Mary  
 4490 15th St NE Willmar, MN 56201  
 Employment: Hospitality

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/13/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

Byce, Neil  
 14948 47th St NE St. Michael, MN 55376  
 Employment: Nordic Metals

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/31/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00

Cummins, Michael  
 7727 Sod Rd Brook Park, MN 55007  
 Employment: Real Estate & Construction

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/21/2025	300.00	0.00	300.00

Daudt, Kurt  
 33361 Cobalt Cir NW Cambridge, MN 55008  
 Employment: Stateside

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/26/2025	500.00	0.00	500.00

Doherty, Timothy  
 7625 Parklawn Ave Minneapolis, MN 55435  
 Employment: Doherty

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/31/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

Elliott, Mark  
 2030 Harding Ct SW Bemidji, MN 56601  
 Employment: CPA

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/29/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

Fenton, Kelly  
 11333 Sundance Way Woodbury, MN 55129  
 Employment: Retired

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/23/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

FitzSimmons, David  
 11032 Guildner Ave NW Maple Lake, MN 55358  
 Employment: US Congress

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/04/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

Gross, Nita  
 10568 Pine Song Dr SW Nisswa, MN 56468  
 Employment: Retired

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/24/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
03/28/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>

Gross, Robert  
10568 Pine Song Dr SW Nisswa, MN 56468  
Employment: Retired

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/24/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
03/28/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>

Grosser, Steve  
9843 Pioneer Trl Loretto, MN 55357  
Employment: Mid Continent Media Inc

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/24/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
03/26/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>

Hanson, Cindy  
3708 Highcroft Ct Minnetonka, MN 55345  
Employment: Retired

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/26/2025	500.00	0.00	500.00

Hanson, Samuel  
3708 Highcroft Ct Minnetonka, MN 55345  
Employment: Retired

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/26/2025	500.00	0.00	500.00

Heintzeman, Keri  
10180 Tenonizer Trl Nisswa, MN 56468  
Employment: Property Manager

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/20/2025	75.00	0.00	75.00

Higgins, Justina  
1511 Northern Pacific Rd Brainerd, MN 56401  
Employment: Northern Pacific Center

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/24/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
03/28/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>

Higgins, Michael  
1511 Northern Pacific Rd Brainerd, MN 56401  
Employment: Brainerd Industrial Center

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/24/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
03/28/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>

Jensen, Scott  
9375 Pierson Lake Dr Chaska, MN 55318  
Employment: IHealth

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/26/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

Jerulle, Tony  
24901 Lago Dr Grand Rapids, MN 55744  
Employment: Sammy's Pizza

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/03/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00



Landsburg, Marie  
2472 Maple Dr SW Nisswa, MN 56468  
Employment: Retired

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/03/2025	500.00	0.00	500.00

Liedl, Mark  
PO Box 545 Pequot Lakes, MN 56472  
Employment: Retired

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/01/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

Lueck, Dale  
37489 295th St Aitkin, MN 56431  
Employment: Farmer

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/25/2025	500.00	0.00	500.00

Lutter, Kathleen  
13212 Hwy 18 Brainerd, MN 56401  
Employment: Retired

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/30/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00

Matteson, Del  
24399 Great Sunset Rd Cohasset, MN 55721  
Employment: LM Supply

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/03/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

McGowan, Michael  
7205 Fleetwood Dr Edina, MN 55439  
Employment: Freeway Transfer

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/09/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00

McGowan, Richard  
315 7th Ave N #518 Minneapolis, MN 55401  
Employment: Consultant

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/09/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00

Merickel, Laura  
423 Thumper Lodge Rd Ottertail, MN 56571  
Employment: Consultant

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/24/2025	500.00	0.00	500.00

Miller, Darin  
260 Ikola Rd Esko, MN 55733  
Employment: Glory Shine

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/25/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

Miller, Jodi  
260 Ikola Rd Esko, MN 55733  
Employment: Glory Shine

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/25/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

Nystrom, Brian  
4075 149th Ave NW Andover, MN 55304  
Employment: Retired

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/24/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
03/30/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>

Nystrom, Greta  
3082 Willow Dr Hamel, MN 55340  
Employment: Retired

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/22/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
03/30/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>

Nystrom, Mary Ann  
4075 149th Ave NW Andover, MN 55304  
Employment: Retired

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/24/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
03/30/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>

Nystrom, Peter  
3082 Willow Dr Hamel, MN 55340  
Employment: Retired

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/22/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
03/30/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>

Orvis, Joy  
2010 151st Ave NW Andover, MN 55304  
Employment: State of MN

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/22/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00

Palmer, Darrel  
22752 Serenity Lane Nisswa, MN 56468  
Employment: Energy Management Resources

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/23/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00
03/26/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>500.00</b>

Porwall, Cy  
1018 Walnut St Brainerd, MN 56401  
Employment: Retired

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/31/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

Schmidgall, Neil  
46968 206th St Morris, MN 56267  
Employment: Retired

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/01/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

Schwendeman, Chad  
11279 Birch Island Rd Brainerd, MN 56401  
Employment: Realtor

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/06/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

Seidel, Adam  
9075 Gould Rd Eden Prairie, MN 55347  
Employment: McKinstry

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/24/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

Stevenson, Carol  
1052 Oak Terrace Dr North Mankato, MN 56003  
Employment: SMR Management Inc.

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/12/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

Tiedeman, Angel  
3038 Aspen Lake Dr NE Blaine, MN  
Employment: Consultant

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/31/2025	500.00	0.00	500.00

Tormondsen, John  
22 Sea Beach Dr Stamford, CT 06902  
Employment: Retired

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/29/2025	500.00	0.00	500.00

Vanwyngaereen, Grant  
2156 Norway Pine Rd Brainerd, MN 56401  
Employment: CW Companies

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/31/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00

Wasson, Ann  
8959 Garland Ct Eden Prairie, MN 55347  
Employment: Homemaker

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/09/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00

Wikstrom, Paul  
200 Bridge St Shoreview, MN 55126  
Employment: RTX Inc/Collins Aerospace

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/28/2025	500.00	0.00	500.00

	Cash	In kind	Total
Total of itemized	34,375.00	0.00	34,375.00
Total of non-itemized	14,049.80	0.00	14,049.80
	Cash	In kind	Total
Totals	48,424.80	0.00	48,424.80

## Schedule A1 - LOB Contributions from Lobbyists

Heintzeman, Keri Senator District 6 Committee

Lobbyist: Anderson, Chas (Registered Id: 3337 )

Park Street Public 525 Park St Ste 210 St Paul, MN 55103

Employment: Park Street Public

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/31/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

Lobbyist: Anderson, Jeffery D (Registered Id: 4514 )

600 E Superior St #405 Duluth, MN 55802

Employment: Costin Group

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/25/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00
04/01/2025	100.00	0.00	100.00
<b>Total</b>	350.00	0.00	350.00

Lobbyist: Bagnoli, Joseph T (Registered Id: 218 )

Winthrop &amp; Weinstine PA 225 S 6th St Ste 3500 Minneapolis, MN 55402

Employment: Winthrop &amp; Weinstine PA

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/07/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

Lobbyist: Carlson, Joel (Registered Id: 8692 )

6 W 5th St Ste 700 St Paul, MN 55102

Employment: Lobbyist

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/29/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00

Lobbyist: Cerkenik, Gary E (Registered Id: 9166 )

7226 Sand Lake Rd Britt, MN 55710

Employment: Lobbyist

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/31/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

Lobbyist: Einess, Ward (Registered Id: 580 )

Ward Einess Strategies LLC 525 N 3rd St #513 Minneapolis, MN 55401

Employment: Lobbyist

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/28/2025	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00

Lobbyist: Golnik, Ben (Registered Id: 4523 )

Golnik Strategies LLC 1192 Portland Ave St Paul, MN 55104

Employment: Golnik Strategies LLC

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/14/2025	500.00	0.00	500.00

Lobbyist: Goodno, Kevin P (Registered Id: 1786 )

525 Park Street Suite 350 Minneapolis, MN 55402

Employment: Lobbyist

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/01/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

Lobbyist: Hill, Todd A (Registered Id: 88 )

Hill Capitol Strategies, Inc. 13570 Grove Dr Ste 281 Maple Grove, MN 55311

Employment: Hill Capitol Strategies, Inc.

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/01/2025	500.00	0.00	500.00

Lobbyist: Kwilas, Anthony R (Registered Id: 199 )  
11688 Ivywood Trl Woodbury, MN 55129  
Employment: Lobbyist

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/28/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00
04/01/2025	150.00	0.00	150.00
Total	400.00	0.00	400.00

Lobbyist: McAlpin, Brennan C (Registered Id: 1603 )  
78 10th St E #508 St Paul, MN 55101  
Employment: Lobbyist

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/31/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

Lobbyist: Rowen, Robyn (Registered Id: 638 )  
Robyn Rowen & Assoc 19035 Lake Ave Deephaven, MN 55391  
Employment: Lobbyist

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
03/26/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

Total of itemized	Cash	In kind	Total
	5,250.00	0.00	5,250.00
Total of non-itemized	3,224.00	0.00	3,224.00
Totals	Cash	In kind	Total
	8,474.00	0.00	8,474.00

# Schedule A1 - PCF Contributions from Political Committees and Political Funds

## Heintzeman, Keri Senator District 6 Committee

CAR, Committee of Automotive Retailers (Registered Id: 40038)

200 Lothenbach Ave St Paul, MN 55118

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/01/2025	300.00	0.00	300.00

Insurance Federation Political Action Comm (Registered Id: 70014)

3500 American Blvd W Ste 700 Bloomington, MN 55431

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/01/2025	400.00	0.00	400.00

Lignite Energy Council Political Fund (Registered Id: 30710)

1016 E Owens Ave Bismarck, ND 58501

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/14/2025	300.00	0.00	300.00

Winthrop & Weinstine PA Political Fund (Registered Id: 30345)

225 S 6th St Ste 3500 Minneapolis, MN 55402

Date	Cash	In kind	Total
04/08/2025	250.00	0.00	250.00

	Cash	In kind	Total
Total of itemized	1,250.00	0.00	1,250.00
Total of non-itemized	350.00	0.00	350.00
	Cash	In kind	Total
Totals	1,600.00	0.00	1,600.00

Schedule A1 - PTY/TERM PCC Contributions from  
Political Party Units and Terminating Candidate Committees

Daniels, Brian T House Committee (Registered Id: 17717)  
1415 Brentwood Cir Faribault, MN 55021

**Date**

03/28/2025

**Cash**  
2,000.00

**In kind**  
0.00

**Total**  
2,000.00

	Cash	In kind	Total
Total of itemized	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
Total of non-itemized	0.00	0.00	0.00

	Cash	In kind	Total
<b>Totals</b>	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00

# Schedule A2 - LP Receipts from Loans incurred in Current Year

Heintzeman, Keri Senator District 6 Committee

Lender: Heintzeman, Keri  
 10180 Tenonizer Trl Nisswa, MN 56468  
 Employment: Property Manager

Date	Original Loan Amount	Outstanding Balance
03/21/2025	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Original Loan Amount	Outstanding Balance
Total of itemized	1,000.00	1,000.00
Total of non-itemized	0.00	0.00
	Original Loan Amount	Outstanding Balance
Totals	1,000.00	1,000.00



Schedule A2 - MISC Receipts from Miscellaneous Income  
Heintzeman, Keri Senator District 6 Committee

Total of itemized	Total
Total of non-itemized	0.00
	5.00
Totals	Total
	5.00

## Schedule B1 - CE Campaign Expenditures

Heintzeman, Keri Senator District 6 Committee

Advantage Direct Communications Inc

9420 Bonita Beach Rd SE Ste 200 Bonita Springs, FL 34135

Date	Specific purpose of expenditure	Paid	Unpaid	In Kind	Total
03/26/2025	Subscriptions: Subscription	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00

Crombie Marketing LLC

612 Kingwood St Brainerd, MN 56401

Date	Specific purpose of expenditure	Paid	Unpaid	In Kind	Total
03/27/2025	Other Services: Videography	450.00	0.00	0.00	450.00

Edgerton Strategies LLC

1601 Elm St Suite 4360 Dallas, TX 75201

Date	Specific purpose of expenditure	Paid	Unpaid	In Kind	Total
04/11/2025	Advertising - general: Phone calls, text and digital	16,580.00	0.00	0.00	16,580.00

L2 Inc

18912 N Creek Pkwy Bldg 1, Ste 201 Bothell, WA 98011

Date	Specific purpose of expenditure	Paid	Unpaid	In Kind	Total
04/07/2025	Mailing / Voter List Rent/Purchase: List Rental	474.00	0.00	0.00	474.00

Matchbox Media LLC

2009 W Broadway Forest Lake, MN 55025

Date	Specific purpose of expenditure	Paid	Unpaid	In Kind	Total
03/27/2025	Advertising - Print: Literature	600.00	0.00	0.00	600.00
03/28/2025	Advertising - Print: Design, Print & Postage	6,097.52	0.00	0.00	6,097.52
03/31/2025	Advertising - Print: Signs	1,170.45	0.00	0.00	1,170.45
04/02/2025	Advertising - Print: Design, Print and Postage	6,097.52	0.00	0.00	6,097.52
04/04/2025	Advertising - Print: Signs, Printing & Postage	7,687.92	0.00	0.00	7,687.92
04/10/2025	Advertising - Print: Car Magnets, Printing and Postage	6,131.41	0.00	0.00	6,131.41
	<b>Total</b>	27,784.82	0.00	0.00	27,784.82

Menards

15236 Dellwood Dr Baxter, MN 56401

Date	Specific purpose of expenditure	Paid	Unpaid	In Kind	Total
03/31/2025	Supplies: Supplies	228.37	0.00	0.00	228.37

Rapids Radio LLC

PO Box 597 Grand Rapids, MN 55744

Date	Specific purpose of expenditure	Paid	Unpaid	In Kind	Total
04/11/2025	Advertising - Radio: Radio Ads	1,656.00	0.00	0.00	1,656.00

Timberlake Lodge

144 17th St SE Grand Rapids, MN 55744

Date	Specific purpose of expenditure	Paid	Unpaid	In Kind	Total
04/14/2025	Lodging: Lodging	245.02	0.00	0.00	245.02

	Paid	Unpaid	In Kind	Total
<b>Total of itemized</b>	47,718.21	0.00	0.00	47,718.21
<b>Total of non-itemized</b>	688.38	0.00	0.00	688.38
	<b>Paid</b>	<b>Unpaid</b>	<b>In Kind</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Totals</b>	48,406.59	0.00	0.00	48,406.59

## Schedule B1 - NCD Non-Campaign Disbursements

Heintzeman, Keri Senator District 6 Committee

Louisiana Cafe

613 Selby Ave St. Paul, MN 55102

Date	Specific purpose of expenditure	Paid	Unpaid	In Kind	Total
04/02/2025	NCD: Food, beverages and supplies for fundraising event - Food and Beverages: Food for Fundraiser	281.89	0.00	0.00	281.89

WinRed

1776 Wilson Blvd Suite 530 Arlington, VA 22209

Date	Specific purpose of expenditure	Paid	Unpaid	In Kind	Total
03/26/2025	NCD: Credit card or electronic payment processing fees - Credit Card Processing Fees: Credit Card Processing Fees	171.41	0.00	0.00	171.41
03/28/2025	NCD: Credit card or electronic payment processing fees - Credit Card Processing Fees: Credit Card Processing Fees	10.80	0.00	0.00	10.80
03/31/2025	NCD: Credit card or electronic payment processing fees - Credit Card Processing Fees: Credit Card Processing Fees	63.05	0.00	0.00	63.05
03/31/2025	NCD: Credit card or electronic payment processing fees - Credit Card Processing Fees: Credit Card Processing Fees	1.97	0.00	0.00	1.97
03/31/2025	NCD: Credit card or electronic payment processing fees - Credit Card Processing Fees: Credit Card Processing Fees	121.96	0.00	0.00	121.96
04/01/2025	NCD: Credit card or electronic payment processing fees - Credit Card Processing Fees: Credit Card Processing Fees	48.27	0.00	0.00	48.27
04/02/2025	NCD: Credit card or electronic payment processing fees - Credit Card Processing Fees: Credit Card Processing Fees	1.97	0.00	0.00	1.97
04/03/2025	NCD: Credit card or electronic payment processing fees - Credit Card Processing Fees: Credit Card Processing Fees	23.64	0.00	0.00	23.64
04/08/2025	NCD: Credit card or electronic payment processing fees - Credit Card Processing Fees: Credit Card Processing Fees	45.31	0.00	0.00	45.31
04/08/2025	NCD: Credit card or electronic payment processing fees - Credit Card Processing Fees: Credit Card Processing Fees	8.87	0.00	0.00	8.87
04/15/2025	NCD: Credit card or electronic payment processing fees - Credit Card Processing Fees: Credit Card Processing Fees	3.94	0.00	0.00	3.94
<b>Total</b>		501.19	0.00	0.00	501.19

	Paid	Unpaid	In Kind	Total
<b>Total of itemized</b>	783.08	0.00	0.00	783.08
<b>Total of non-itemized</b>	813.21	0.00	0.00	813.21
<b>Totals</b>	<b>Paid</b> 1,596.29	<b>Unpaid</b> 0.00	<b>In Kind</b> 0.00	<b>Total</b> 1,596.29

Schedule B2 - PTY Contributions to Political Party Units  
Heintzeman, Keri Senator District 6 Committee

	<b>Cash</b>	<b>InKind</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Total of itemized</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total of non-itemized</b>	80.00	0.00	80.00
	<b>Cash</b>	<b>InKind</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Totals</b>	80.00	0.00	80.00

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

**PRIMA FACIE  
DETERMINATION**

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT OF RICHARD CARLBOM REGARDING HEINTZEMAN (KERI) FOR  
SENATE

On April 24, 2025, the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board received a complaint submitted by Richard Carlbom regarding Keri Heintzeman, a candidate for Minnesota Senate District 6. Heintzeman (Keri) for Senate is the principal campaign committee of Ms. Heintzeman.

The complaint alleges that the Heintzeman committee violated the individual contribution limit under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 1. The complaint includes a copy of the Heintzeman committee's pre-special election report of receipts and expenditures that was filed with the Board on April 22, 2025. As is stated in the complaint, the report includes contributions received by the Heintzeman committee from nine individuals who each contributed \$1,000 during the period from March 22 through March 24, 2025, and contributed an additional \$1,000 during the period from March 26 through March 30, 2025. The complaint notes that a candidate for state senator is prohibited from accepting contributions in excess of \$1,000 from any particular contributor that is an individual, a political committee or fund, or an association that is not registered with the Board, "in the election segment of an election cycle."

Ms. Heintzeman filed an affidavit of candidacy during the filing period created by the Writ of Special Election for Senate District 6, which was issued on March 25, 2025. The Writ of Special Election directs that a special election be held on April 29, 2025.

**Determination**

Minnesota Statutes section 10A.01, subdivision 16, provides that:

"Election cycle" means the period from January 1 following a general election for an office to December 31 following the next general election for that office, except that "election cycle" for a special election means the period from the date the special election writ is issued to 15 days after the special election is held. For a regular election, the period from January 1 of the year prior to an election year through December 31 of the election year is the "election segment" of the election cycle. Each other two-year segment of an election cycle is a "nonelection segment" of the election cycle. An election cycle that consists of two calendar years has only an election segment. The election segment of a special election cycle includes the entire special election cycle.

The Writ of Special Election for Senate District 6 was issued on March 25, and the special election will be held on April 29, 2025. Therefore, the Senate District 6 special election cycle and its election segment, which are coextensive, consist of the period from March 25 through May 14, 2025. The 2025-2026 regular election segment for Senate District 6 special election candidates includes the two-year period, excluding the special election cycle, and therefore consists of the periods from January 1 through March 24, 2025, and from May 15, 2025, through December 31, 2026.

Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 1, provides that a candidate for state senator “must not permit the candidate’s principal campaign committee to accept aggregate contributions made or delivered by any individual, political committee, political fund, or association not registered with the board in excess of” the amount of “\$1,000 in the election segment of an election cycle for the office sought. . . .” Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 16b, provides that “Election segment contribution limits set forth in this section apply to a special election cycle.” Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 16c, provides that “Contribution limits apply independently for election segments, nonelection segments, and special election cycles.” As a result, a Senate District 6 special election candidate and their campaign committee may accept contributions totaling up to \$1,000 from an individual during the special election cycle, and may accept contributions totaling up to \$1,000 from the same individual during the 2025-2026 regular election segment.

With respect to each of the nine contributors identified in the complaint, the Heintzeman committee reportedly received their first \$1,000 contribution prior to March 25, the start of the special election cycle, and received their second \$1,000 contribution after March 25, 2025. According to the complaint and the Heintzeman committee’s pre-special election report, those contributors each gave the maximum amount of \$1,000 during two separate election segments. Therefore, the complaint does not state a prima facie violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 1.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 10A.022, subdivision 3, this prima facie determination is made by the Board chair and not by any vote of the entire Board. The complaint is dismissed without prejudice.

  
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Faris Rashid, Chair  
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Date: April 25, 2025