

Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

This bulletin applies only to candidates for state representative. At the end of an election cycle a candidate's committee may carry forward a limited amount of money, postage, and credit balances into the next year. For a state representative candidate, the maximum amount their campaign committee may carry forward from the end of 2024 into 2025 is \$20,075.

Campaign Finance Reporter Online (CFRO) is able to calculate if your committee has an excess carry forward amount. You can check your committee's current carry forward status by selecting the menu path <u>Reports > Board reports</u>, then ensure that the report period is set to 2024 Year-End Report and select the "complete/edit form" button on the left side of the screen next to the text "Carry forward." Next, enter the amount of any postage on hand or credit balances with vendors on line 2 of the form if that amount exceeds \$500, and the amount displayed on line 6 will be the amount, if any, that exceeds the carry forward limit. <u>The information on this screen assumes that you have entered all receipts and expenses, including unpaid bills, into CFRO before using this feature.</u>

If you wish to manually calculate the current carry forward amount for your committee follow these steps:

- 1. Subtract the amount of unpaid bills owed by the committee from the cash balance of the committee (this amount does not include loan balances).
- 2. Add the value of unused postage to the amount of any credit balances the committee has at vendors. If the value of the postage and the credit balances exceeds \$500 the amount is added to the number calculated in step one. If the total is \$500 or less **do not** add the amount to the number calculated in step 1.
- 3. If the number calculated under steps 1 and 2 is more than \$20,075 the committee is over the carry forward limit.

Please note, the committee's final carry forward amount is determined on **December 31, 2024**, and includes any contributions received or expenditures made by that date. If you believe that your committee may exceed the carry forward limit you may reduce the cash balance of your committee by making additional campaign expenditures or noncampaign disbursements, including by making contributions to political party units (noncampaign disbursement) or political committees or funds (campaign expenditure). If your committee is still over the carry forward limit on January 1, 2025, the amount over the limit must be forwarded to the Board for deposit in the state elections campaign account, or contributed to a political party unit for multicandidate expenditures listed within Minnesota Statutes section 10A.275.

There is no limit on the amount that may be contributed to a political party unit or political committee or fund, but candidate committees generally may not make contributions to other candidate committees. Contributions or expenditures made after December 31, 2024, may not be used to reduce the carry forward for this election cycle. If you need assistance or have any questions concerning your carry forward limit, please feel free to contact Melissa Stevens at (651) 539-1188 or (800) 657-3889, or by e-mail at melissa.stevens@state.mn.us.