Administration of Campaign Finance, Conflict of Interest & Lobbying Laws



901 S. Kansas Avenue Topeka, Kansas 66612 (785) 296-4219 (phone) (785) 296-2548 (fax)

GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS COMMISSION

https://ethics.kansas.gov

Jennifer Edwards Treasurer for Sydney Carlin 2342 Chris Drive Manhattan, KS 66502 August 31, 2016

Notification of Material Error or Omission In A Receipts and Expenditures Report

RE: Receipts and Expenditures Report Due July 25, 2016 (Covering the Period January 1, 2016 thru July 21, 2016)

A review of your Receipts and Expenditures Report identified above indicates the material error(s) or omission(s) <u>listed on the other side of this page</u>. Such error(s) and omission(s) must be corrected within thirty (30) days of the date of this notice by filing an amended report.

File the amended report within thirty (30) days with:

Secretary of State 120 SW 10th Memorial Hall Topeka, KS 66612

As provided by law, a copy of this notice has been made a part of your record in the Secretary of State's Office. The intentional failure to file an amended report within thirty (30) days is a class A misdemeanor. In addition, you may not accept contributions or make expenditures following the end of the thirty (30) day period if the amended report has not been filed.

Additional information and assistance may be obtained by writing or calling this office. If after having contacted this office substantial issues remain unresolved, you may within ten (10) days of receipt of this notice request a hearing before the Commission.

Sincerely,

Carol E. Williams Executive Director

- 1. Schedule D (Other Transactions) of the amended January 10, 2016 Receipts and Expenditures Report lists loans payable totaling \$7839.49 to Sydney Carlin. These loans are not carried forward as loans payable to the July 25, 2016 Receipts and Expenditures Report, nor are they disclosed on Schedule C (Expenditures and Other Disbursements). All loans should be listed on Schedule D (Other Transactions) until such time as they are repaid or forgiven. An amended July 25, 2016 report must be filed disclosing the disposition of these debts.
- 2. K.S.A. 25-4153 (a)(1) states, "The aggregate amount contributed to a candidate and such candidate's committee . . . shall not exceed the following: for member of the house of representatives, . . . \$500 for each primary election . . . and an equal amount for each general election." The Carlin campaign reported receiving a \$300 contribution on 9-17-15 from Margo Kren, and an additional \$300 on 7-14-16, for a total of \$600. Both of these contributions were received during the primary election period.
- Pursuant to K.S.A. 25-4153, the campaign accepted a contribution in excess of the legal limit amounting to \$100. We would suggest that this contribution be refunded immediately. The return of this contribution should be noted on Schedule C (Expenditures and Other Disbursements) of the October 31, 2016 Receipts and Expenditures Report.
- 3. Schedule C (Expenditures and Other Disbursements) of the July 25, 2016 report shows expenses in the amount of \$59.41 for fuel costs. Pursuant to Advisory Opinion 2007-14, the candidate can only be reimbursed for mileage at the state mileage reimbursement rate. The candidate can not be reimbursed for fuel. The Commission opined "due to the difficulty in determining the allocation of vehicle expenses between a candidate's personal use of a vehicle and the candidate's use of a vehicle for holding political office or for campaign purposes, the Commission now determines that beginning January 1, 2008, the use of campaign funds to pay for otherwise un-reimbursed vehicle expenses will be limited to the state mileage reimbursement rate." When claiming reimbursement for mileage from campaign funds, the treasurer needs to keep detailed records for mileage expenditures showing the dates of travel, the necessity for and specific purpose of the travel, and the actual mileage traveled. It will be necessary for the candidate to reimburse the campaign account for the fuel purchased. This reimbursement will need to be disclosed on Schedule A (Contributions and Other Receipts) on the October 31, 2016 Receipts and Expenditures Report. The candidate can be reimbursed for the miles driven at the state rate of 54 cents per mile. If done, this expenditure would be disclosed on Schedule C (Expenditures and Other Disbursements) on the October 31, 2016 report.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact this office.