Administration of Campaign Finance, Conflict of Interest & Lobbying Laws



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

GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS COMMISSION

https://ethics.kansas.gov

Kate Ryan Treasurer for Brad Starnes 3410 River Bend Road Manhattan, KS 66502 September 25, 2024

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

RE: Receipts and Expenditures Report Due July 29, 2024 (Covering the Period January 1, 2024 thru July 25, 2024)

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,

Karina Renna

State Campaign Finance Coordinator

Karina.renna@ks.gov

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 the office of state senator or member of the state board of education,... \$1000 for each primary election... and an equal amount for each general election." The Starnes campaign reported receiving a \$1,041.98 contribution on 6-20-24 from Robert Boyd. This contribution was received during the primary election period which was January 1, 2021 through August 6, 2024 for senators.

Pursuant to K.S.A. 25-4153, the campaign accepted a contribution in excess of the legal limit amounting to \$41.98. 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 28, 2024 report.

- 2. Schedule B (In-Kind Contributions) of the July 29, 2024 report lists \$145.00 from the Secretary of State on 5-15-24 for the filing fee and \$113.61 from FirePit PR for printing on 5-14-24. These in-kind contributions are also reported on Schedule C (Expenditures and Other Disbursements) as paid by the campaign. If these in-kind contributions were actually paid by the campaign and not in-kind contributions to the campaign, they should only be listed on Schedule C, not Schedule B. Only in-kind contributions donated to the campaign should be listed on Schedule B. An amended Schedule B (In-Kind Contributions) for the July 29, 2024 report must be filed removing the in-kind contributions that were paid by the campaign.
- 3. K.S.A. 25-4146(b) states, "No contribution or other receipt shall be received or expenditure made, by or on behalf of a candidate, except payment of a filing fee: 1) until such candidate appoints a treasurer and makes the report required to the Secretary of State..." Several contributions were received by the campaign prior to the date the candidate's Appointment of Treasurer or Candidate Committee form was filed on May 9, 2024. No amendment is required for this error.

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