

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

**FINDINGS AND ORDER IN THE MATTER OF
A CONTRIBUTION WITHOUT PROVIDING REGISTRATION NUMBER
BY JOSEPH WEBER**

Summary of the Facts

In response to an inquiry from the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board (“the Board”), the (Mary) Kiffmeyer for Secretary of State Committee (“the Committee”) confirmed that Joseph Weber made a contribution to the Committee without identifying the contribution as a lobbyist contribution. Mr. Weber gave a contribution to the Committee on November 16, 2006. Mr. Weber registered with the Board as a lobbyist on January 3, 2005.

Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.15, subdivision 5, prohibits a registered lobbyist from making a contribution without providing the lobbyist’s name and registration number. A lobbyist that violates this section is subject to a civil penalty imposed by the Board of up to \$1,000.

By letter dated March 16, 2007, the Board notified Joseph Weber of the correspondence received from the Committee and the statutory provision that appeared to be violated. Erick Kaardal, legal counsel for Mr. Weber, responded by letter dated March 30, 2007. Mr. Kaardal stated, “Mr. Weber acknowledges he made a \$250 contribution to the Committee. The check written on a joint spousal account identified Mr. Weber as a donor, but did not include his lobbyist registration number. ...In the past, Mr. Weber has included his lobbyist registration number on campaign contributions. In the future, Mr. Weber intends to include his lobbyist registration number on campaign contributions.”

This matter was considered by the Board in executive session on April 10, 2007. The Findings are based on the correspondence from Mr. Weber, the (Mary) Kiffmeyer for Secretary of State Committee, and Board records.

Based on the above Summary of the Facts and Relevant Statutes, the Board makes the following:

Findings Concerning Probable Cause

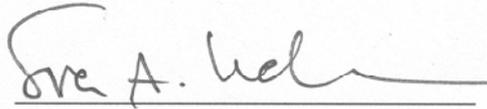
There is evidence that Joseph Weber failed to indicate his lobbyist registration number on a contribution to a candidate. The Board finds that there is probable cause to believe that Mr. Weber inadvertently violated Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.15, subdivision 5.

Based on the above Findings, the Board issues the following:

Order

1. For failure to provide a lobbyist registration number on or with a contribution to a candidate the Board orders Joseph Weber to pay a civil penalty of \$250, which is one times the amount of the contribution. This civil penalty must be paid within 30 days.
2. If Joseph Weber does not comply with the provisions of this order, the Board's Executive Director shall refer this matter to the Ramsey County Attorney for civil enforcement pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273.
3. The Board investigation of this matter is entered into the public record in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.02, subdivision 11, and upon payment by Joseph Weber of the civil penalties imposed herein, the matter is concluded.

Dated: April 10, 2007

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sven A. Wehrwein", is written over a horizontal line.

Sven A. Wehrwein, Vice Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Relevant Statutes

Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 5. **Registration number on checks.** A contribution made to a candidate by a lobbyist, political committee, political fund, or party unit must show the name of the lobbyist, political committee, political fund, or party unit and the number under which it is registered with the board.