

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

**FINDINGS IN THE MATTER OF  
A CONTRIBUTION ACCEPTED  
DURING THE REGULAR 2004 LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
BY THE FRIENDS FOR JIM CARLSON COMMITTEE**

**PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND**

By letter received October 25, 2004, the Friends for Jim Carlson Committee notified the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board ("the Board") that the Committee accepted a \$50 contribution from a registered lobbyist, Curtis Loewe, during the regular session of the 2004 legislature.

On October 25, 2004, Mr. Carlson provided the Board with a copy of the check dated October 24, 2004, returning the contribution to Mr. Loewe, and stated "the campaign committee of Friends of Friends for Jim Carlson...received a \$50 contribution from Curtis Loewe on March 9, 2004. At that time, we were unaware that Mr. Loewe was a registered lobbyist."

The contribution was made on March 9, 2004. The regular 2004 legislative session was held from February 2, 2004, to May 16, 2004.

This matter was considered by the Board in executive session on November 17, 2004.

**Based on the record before it, the Board issues the following:**

**EVIDENTIARY FINDINGS**

1. Friends for Jim Carlson, a registered principal campaign committee, accepted a \$50 contribution from Curtis Loewe, a registered lobbyist, on March 9, 2004.
2. Minn. Stat. §10A.273, subd. 1 (a), prohibits a principal campaign committee from accepting a contribution from a lobbyist during a regular session of the legislature. The regular 2004 legislative Session was held from February 2, 2004, to May 16, 2004.
3. The Friends for Jim Carlson Committee returned the \$50 contribution to Mr. Loewe.

**Based on the above Statement of the Evidence, the Board makes the following:**

**FINDING CONCERNING PROBABLE CAUSE**

There is probable cause to believe that Friends for Jim Carlson Committee violated Minn. Stat. §10A.273, subd. 1 (a), by accepting a contribution from a lobbyist during the regular session of the legislature in 2004.

**Based on the above Finding Concerning Probable Cause, the Board issues the following:**

**ORDER**

1. In lieu of forwarding the above public finding of probable cause to the appropriate county attorney to pursue a judgment in district court, the Board imposes a civil penalty of \$50 on the Friends for Jim Carlson Committee for acceptance of a contribution during the regular 2004 legislative session.
2. The Friends for Jim Carlson Committee is directed to forward to the Board payment of the civil penalty, by check or money order payable to the STATE OF MINNESOTA, within thirty days after receipt of this order.
3. If the Friends for Jim Carlson Committee 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 Minn. Stat. § 10A.273.
4. The Board investigation of this matter is entered into the public record in accordance with Minn. Stat. §10A.02, subd. 11, and upon payment by the Friends for Jim Carlson Committee of the civil penalty imposed herein, the matter is concluded.

Dated: November 17, 2004

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Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure  
Board