

CAMPAIGN FINANCE & PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD
658 Cedar . Suite 190 . Centennial Office Building . St. Paul, MN 55155
www.cfboard.state.mn.us

Termination of the Registration of a Candidate's Campaign Committee

General Requirements

The treasurer may terminate the registration of a candidate's campaign committee when

- there are no outstanding loans, notes, or unpaid bills;
- the physical assets have been sold or donated; and
- the total of cash and remaining assets does not exceed \$100.

An Individual who made a loan to the candidate's committee may forgive the outstanding balance of the loan in order to allow the committee to terminate its registration. Generally a business may not forgive an unpaid bill as this will result in a prohibited contribution to the candidate's committee.

Prohibited transactions

- Contributions to candidates for any federal office or to candidates for any local office are prohibited at all times.

Disposal of non-cash assets

Non-cash assets include credit balances, postage, and other major assets purchased by the committee such as computers. These assets must be sold or donated so that the committee is below the limit of \$100 in total assets prior to terminating its registration. If assets are sold, the proceeds of the sale become a cash asset of the committee which must then be donated to the extent required to reduce total assets to \$100 or less.

If a candidate retains physical assets, the candidate must pay to the committee the fair market value of any physical asset retained.

Debts

If a principal campaign committee has outstanding debts, including unpaid loans, it must use all assets to pay its debts when terminating its registration. If insufficient assets exist to pay remaining debts, contact Board staff for further advice.

Use of remaining assets

After payment of outstanding loans and debts, the committee must dispose of remaining assets in excess of \$100 by using the following methods:

- Contributing to state candidates
Contributions to state candidates are subject to the limit on the amount a state candidate may accept from party units and terminating principal campaign committees. If you make such contributions, include a Statement of Intent to Terminate with each contribution. The Statement is available on the Board's website at http://www.cfboard.state.mn.us/forms/Candidate/Candidate_Intent_to_Terminate.pdf. The donating principal campaign committee must complete its termination within 12 months after making a contribution to a state candidate.

- Contributing to political committee, a political fund, or a party unit registered with the Board
There is no limit on the amount of contributions to the above entities, however, a contribution to a party's legislative caucus committee may not be made during a regular session of the legislature.
- Contributing to a charity
There is no limit on contributions to charities, however, the charity must be recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. A committee donating more than \$100 to a charity must complete its termination within 12 months after making the donation.
- Donating to the general account of the State Elections Campaign fund (for distribution as part of the state's public subsidy program).
- Donating to the general fund of the state.
- With some restrictions, a candidate may donate assets to a different campaign committee of the same candidate. Contact Board staff for more information about this option.

Completing the termination

Once debts have been paid and assets liquidated to \$100 or less, the termination of registration is completed by filing a final Report of Receipts and Expenditures with the Board and checking the termination box on the cover page of the report. A generic report form is available from the Board's website at http://www.cfboard.state.mn.us/forms/Candidate/Candidate_Generic_Report.pdf

Board staff contact

For more information or for assistance in terminating a principal campaign committee, contact Joyce Larson at (651) 539-1188 or by email at joyce.larson@state.mn.us.