



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN & POLITICAL FINANCE

ONE ASHBURTON PLACE, ROOM 411  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108

MICHAEL J. SULLIVAN  
DIRECTOR

TEL: (617) 979-8300  
(800) 462-OCPP  
FAX: (617) 727-6549

February 1, 2016

Christopher D. Cataldo  
11 West End Way  
Norwell, MA 02061

Re: CPF 15-114

Dear Mr. Cataldo:

This office has completed its review of a complaint we received alleging that the Cataldo Committee (the "Committee") did not disclose expenditures relating to a campaign event held at the Scituate Country Club in March 2015.

Based upon our review, we have concluded that your political committee did not comply with Section 18 of the campaign finance law, which requires complete and accurate disclosure of all contributions, expenditures, and liabilities by candidates and political committees.

In May 2015, the Committee filed a Pre-Election campaign finance report with the Norwell Town Clerk disclosing its activity from January 1, 2015 through May 8, 2015. This report disclosed a \$500 liability for the event at the Scituate Country Club on March 28, 2015. In June 2015, the Committee amended this report to make numerous data entry corrections. The \$500 liability, however, was not listed on the amended report. There were no payments disclosed for the event on this report or the next report filed, the Post Election Report. The Post Election Report was filed on June 16, 2015.

Liabilities are defined as "an obligation to make an expenditure which arises when a candidate or political committee, or person acting on behalf of a candidate or political committee, receives the proceeds of a loan or a good or service for the purpose of influencing the nomination or election of a candidate... or is otherwise legally obligated to make a payment." See 970 CMR 1.03(3) (emphasis added).

Once contacted by OCPF, the Committee amended their 2015 reports to again list a \$500 liability for the event held at the Scituate Country Club. The Committee acknowledged that it did not obtain a physical invoice for the event until they were notified by OCPF and that the \$500 liability represented an approximate value of the event. Once the invoice was obtained, which was higher than the original estimate, the Committee chose to immediately pay the invoice in full. The Committee has made a payment of \$1,119 for the event, the source of which was the personal funds of the candidate. The contribution from the candidate and expenditure to the Scituate Country Club is now disclosed on the 2015 Year End Report.



Christopher D. Cataldo

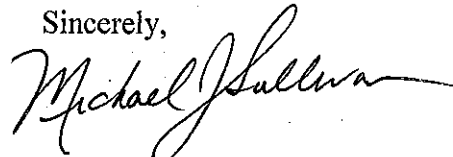
February 1, 2016

Page 2

Although the Committee's 2015 campaign finance reports did not initially comply with the campaign finance law, we have concluded that further action by this office is not warranted at this time. Once notified of this matter, the Committee fully cooperated and took the appropriate remedial actions.

In accordance with the opinion of the Supervisor of Public Records this letter is a public record. If you have any questions regarding this letter or any other campaign finance matter, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael J. Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Michael J. Sullivan  
Director

MJS/mj