



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN & POLITICAL FINANCE

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June 12, 2019

Stephen Chaletzky
20 Randolph Road
Newton, MA 02467

Re: CPF 19-42

Dear Mr. Chaletzky:

This office has completed its review of certain contributions you made to four local party committees in Massachusetts in 2018.

While conducting a standard audit of campaign finance reports filed with this office, OCPF staff identified four local party committees – the North Andover Republican Town Committee, the Taunton Ward 7 Republican Ward Committee, the Billerica Republican Town Committee, and the Taunton Ward 8 Republican Ward Committee – that reported receiving contributions from you in the amount of \$5,000 each during calendar year 2018. During the course of the review, you acknowledged that you made a \$5,000 contribution to each of the above-named local party committees, totaling \$20,000, between April and October 2018. You stated that each contribution was made in response to a request made by the recipient committees, in which they informed you that you could make contributions to party committees in the amount of \$5,000.

M.G.L. c. 55, § 7A states that an individual may make contributions to the Massachusetts political committees representing any one political party in the aggregate amount of \$5,000 per party per calendar year. Therefore, an individual may give up to \$5,000 to any one party committee representing a political party in Massachusetts, or that individual could give multiple contributions to several different committees representing the same party, *provided those multiple contributions, in the aggregate, do not exceed \$5,000.*¹

Accordingly, OCPF has determined that you made excess contributions to Republican party committees in 2018 in the total amount of \$15,000. To resolve this matter, and because none of the recipient committees have sufficient funds to refund the excess contributions received, you have agreed to refrain from making additional contributions to any Massachusetts Republican party committee for a period of three years, until January 1, 2022.

Because your actions in making excess contributions was the result of a lack of knowledge and based in part on information you received from the recipient committees, and because OCPF believes

¹ OCPF notes that the \$5,000 aggregate individual limit to party committees remains in effect despite the Supreme Court's decision in McCutcheon v. FEC, 572 U.S. 185 (2014), because the federal statutory provisions reviewed in McCutcheon differ substantially from the law in Massachusetts.



that the guidance provided during the course of this review will ensure future compliance with the campaign finance law, we have determined that this matter may be closed at this time.

In accordance with the opinion of the Supervisor of Public Records, this letter is a matter of public record.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael J. Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "M" and "S".

Michael J. Sullivan
Director

MJS/mc