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DIRECTOR

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March 18, 2022

Eugene Grzywna
35 Gorman Road
Framingham, MA 01702

Re: CPF-21-100

Dear Mr. Grzywna:

This office has completed its review of a complaint related to your Committee's activity during the 2021 City Council campaign in Framingham. Based on our review, and for the reasons that follow, OCPF has determined that expenditures that were made outside of the depository bank account did not comply with the campaign finance law.

As a candidate for City Council in Framingham, you were required to designate a financial institution as your depository bank to file reports under Section 19 of Chapter 55, the Massachusetts campaign finance law. Section 19 specifies that, for those candidates and committees required to designate a depository, all campaign finance activity must take place through the designated depository account and be disclosed in a timely manner.

You organized your Committee with OCPF on July 14, 2021, and you filed Form D103 to designate a depository bank on August 10, 2021. After reviewing the Committee's July bank report, which reflected zero activity, OCPF staff contacted you to confirm that the bank report was, in fact, accurate. At that time, you acknowledged that you had personally funded your campaign up to that point, without first depositing the funds into the depository account.

Between July 14, 2021, and August 16, 2021, you spent a total of \$1,545.40 on miscellaneous campaign expenses, all with your own funds, and all outside of the depository system of disclosure. On August 16, 2021, with the assistance of OCPF staff, you filed an external activity report to fully disclose all of your out-of-pocket spending.

Based upon our review, we have determined that campaign activity transacted outside of your Committee's depository account did not comply with Section 19 of the campaign finance law. Furthermore, although that activity was subsequently disclosed in the Committee's external activity report, the activity was not timely disclosed, which frustrated the public's interest in accurate and timely disclosure of campaign finance activity.

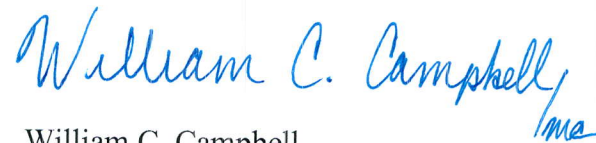
In conversations with OCPF staff, you indicated that you intended to forgive a portion of the loans you made to your Committee, as you were not planning to run for elected office again.

On February 23, 2022, you filed a dissolution report with OCPF, in which you forgave \$1,828.23 of the outstanding candidate loans you made to your Committee and dissolved your Committee. As a result, and in light of the specific facts presented, OCPF has concluded that forgiveness of your personal loans to the Committee is sufficient to resolve this matter, and no further payment shall be required.

Because we believe the failure to comply with the requirements of the campaign finance law was due in large part to a lack of understanding of those requirements, and because you cooperated fully with this review and all activity has since been disclosed, no further action is required and this matter may now be closed. We anticipate that, should you run again for another elected office, the guidance provided during the course of this review will result in future compliance with the campaign finance law.

In accordance with the opinion of the Supervisor of Public Records, this letter is a public record. If applicable, a copy may be provided to the person(s) who brought this matter to our attention.

Sincerely,



William C. Campbell
Director

WCC/sh

cc: Marie Vetter, Treasurer