

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of Campaign and Political Finance

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OCPF, Flynn Committee sign disposition agreement

The Office of Campaign and Political Finance announced today that it has entered into a disposition agreement with the Raymond L. Flynn Committee and its treasurer, John F. Kilcommons, concerning an expenditure made by the committee in October 1999.

In the agreement, Kilcommons acknowledged that a \$1,000 payment to former Boston Mayor Flynn was improperly made and reported to OCPF.

Kilcommons agreed to pay \$1,000 from his personal funds to the Commonwealth and to submit an amended disclosure report to OCPF reflecting the purpose of the expenditure. No payment was required from the Committee.

The agreement stems from questions raised by OCPF concerning a cash advance made by the Committee to Flynn before he left on a trip to New York City. Kilcommons wrote and cashed a \$1,000 committee check and gave the money to Flynn, ostensibly for expenses in connection with the trip. In the committee's bank report, the stated purpose of the expenditure was listed as "New York City Irish Dem. Mtg."

After OCPF sent the Committee a letter requesting further disclosure of the expenditure, Kilcommons signed and submitted a disclosure form listing a \$950 payment to a hotel for a two-night stay and \$50 for cab fare. OCPF subsequently requested confirmation of the expenditures in the form of receipts or invoices. Kilcommons then acknowledged that the money had not been spent as reported and that he had filled out the form based on his own assumptions, without discussing the filing with Flynn.

In fact, the \$1,000 was never spent, according to Flynn and Kilcommons. Flynn returned the cash to Kilcommons, who deposited it into the Committee's account.

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In addition to the payment, the Committee and Kilcommons acknowledged their understanding that the campaign finance law prohibits the Committee from making cash advances to the candidate or treasurer that exceed \$50 per check and \$500 per reporting period. Payments of any higher amount must be made directly to vendors by committee check.

In the agreement, OCPF agreed not to refer the Committee or Kilcommons to the Attorney General. Kilcommons signed the agreement both individually and on behalf of the Committee.

“All campaign finance transactions must be supported by accurate, timely disclosure based on facts, not assumptions,” OCPF Director Michael J. Sullivan said. “Anything less defeats the purpose of the law.”

A copy of the agreement and the Committee’s reports are available at OCPF’s office in Room 411, One Ashburton Place, Boston.

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