

*Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
*Office of Campaign and Political Finance*

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**OCPF, Childs and Maginn sign disposition agreement  
concerning independent expenditure**

The Office of Campaign and Political Finance announced today that it has entered into a disposition agreement with John W. Childs of Chestnut Hill and Robert A. Maginn of Cambridge concerning election-related radio advertisements that were funded by the two men in November 2002.

In the agreement, Childs and Maginn acknowledged paying \$25,000 each for radio ads promoting Mitt Romney's candidacy for governor on Nov. 1. A disclosure form concerning the expenditure filed on Nov. 8 identified the source of the funds as "Citizens for Good Government," with an address in Washington, D.C.

OCPF subsequently learned that Childs and Maginn provided the funds used to make the expenditure. Each had wired \$25,000 of their personal funds to an escrow account maintained by their attorney, who in turn wired the money to the firm that placed the radio advertisement.

An independent expenditure is defined by M.G.L. Chapter 55, Section 18A as an expenditure by an individual, group, or association not defined as a political committee expressly advocating the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate which is made without cooperation or consultation with any candidate, or candidate committee and which is not made in concert with, or at the request or suggestion of, any candidate of candidate committee.

OCPF found no indication that the ads were produced in consultation with or with the approval of the Romney Committee.

Section 18A requires that those making independent expenditures exceeding \$100 in a calendar year disclose, in a filing with OCPF within seven business days of the expenditure: (1) the name and address of the individual, group or association making the expenditure; (2) the name of the candidate or candidates whose election or defeat the expenditure promoted; (3) the name and address of the person or persons to whom the expenditure or expenditures were made; and (4) the total amount or value; the purpose and the date of the expenditure or expenditures.

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OCPF concluded that that Childs and Maginn should have disclosed their expenditures as required by M.G.L. c. 55, § 18A instead of reporting them in a manner that prevented the public from having timely and accurate disclosure of the sources of the expenditures.

To resolve the matter, Childs and Maginn each agreed to file a new CPF Form 18A disclosing his portion of the November 1 expenditure and also to pay \$500 each to the Commonwealth for the delayed disclosure.

OCPF agreed not to refer the matter to the Attorney General for further action.

The agreement was signed by Childs, Maginn and OCPF Director Michael J. Sullivan.

Copies of the agreement and of the completed forms 18A are available at OCPF's office at One Ashburton Place, Room 411, Boston.

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