

**BEFORE THE OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS
1015 HALF STREET, S.E., SUITE 775
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20003**

IN THE MATTER OF

Lannette Woodruff for School Board
Lamont Harrell, Treasurer
4919 Brooks Street, NE
Washington, DC 20019

)
) Date: May 23, 2018
)
) Docket No: 18C-010
)
)

ORDER

Statement of the Case

This matter came before the Office of Campaign Finance (“OCF”) Office of the General Counsel following a determination by its Public Information and Records Management Division that **Lamont Harrell, Treasurer** of the Lannette Woodruff for School Board Principal Campaign Committee (“committee”), failed to timely file the January 31st Report of Receipts and Expenditures that was due by the extended filing date on Friday, February 16, 2018, in violation of the Campaign Finance Act of 2011, District of Columbia Official Code § 1-1163.09(b) (2015) and the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations, 3 DCMR § 3017.2 (May 2015, as amended).

By Notice of Hearing, Statement of Violations and Order of Appearance dated March 26, 2018 and April 6, 2018, OCF ordered Lamont Harrell (“Respondent”) to appear at a scheduled hearing on April 4, 2018 and April 18, 2018 and show cause why the committee should not be found in violation of the D.C. Official Code § 1-1163.09(b) (2015) and 3 DCMR § 3017.2 (May 2015, as amended), and fined accordingly.

Summary of Evidence

On January 11, 2018, the Public Information and Records Management (“PIRM”) Division mailed a Reminder letter to the Respondent that reminded the Respondent to file the January 31st Report of Receipts and Expenditures on Wednesday, January 31, 2018. The Respondent failed to file the January 31st Report. On February 7, 2018, PIRM mailed a Notice of Non-Compliance letter to the Respondent that informed the Respondent to file the report by February 16, 2018. Again, the Respondent failed to comply. Consequently, the matter was referred to the Office of the General Counsel (“OGC”) for enforcement of the filing violation.

On March 26, 2018, OGC issued a Notice of Hearing, Statement of Violations and Order of Appearance to the Respondent, via regular mail, ordering the Respondent to appear at a scheduled hearing on April 4, 2018. The Respondent failed to appear at the scheduled hearing and had not filed the January 31st Report.

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Once more, on April 6, 2018, OGC issued another Notice of Hearing, Statement of Violations and Order of Appearance to the Respondent, via regular and certified mail, ordering the Respondent to appear at a rescheduled hearing on April 18, 2018. Again, the Respondent failed to appear at the rescheduled hearing, and had not filed the January 31st Report. As of April 18, 2018, the January 31st Report became forty-three (43) days delinquent. To date, the Respondent has failed to file the January 31st Report. Moreover, the Respondent has a recurring history of delinquent filings and is currently in noncompliance with the filing requirements under the Campaign Finance Laws.

Findings of Fact

Having reviewed the allegations and the record herein, I find:

1. The Respondent is the treasurer of the Lannette Woodruff for School Board Principal Campaign Committee.
2. At all times pertinent, the Respondent was required to file the January 31st Report of Receipts and Expenditures on the extended filing date on Friday, February 16, 2018.
3. On January 11, 2018, the Office of Campaign Finance mailed a Reminder letter to the Respondent, reminding the Respondent to file the January 31st Report by Wednesday, January 31, 2018; however, the Respondent failed to comply.
4. On February 7, 2018, the Office of Campaign Finance mailed a Non-Compliance letter that informed the Respondent to file the January 31st Report by February 16, 2018, but again, the Respondent failed to comply.
5. By Notice of Hearing, Statement of Violations and Order of Appearance dated March 26, 2018 and April 6, 2018, the Respondent was ordered to appear at a scheduled hearing on April 4, 2018 and April 18, 2018. The Respondent failed to appear at either scheduled hearing.
6. As of April 18, 2018, the Respondent had failed to file the January 31st Report, which became forty-three (43) days delinquent.
7. To date, the Respondent has failed to file the January 31st Report.
8. The Respondent has a recurring history of delinquent filings and is currently in noncompliance with the filing requirements under the Campaign Finance Laws.
9. The Respondent attended the OCF mandatory training program in August, 2016, where he affirmed by signature and oath to adhere to the rules under the Campaign Finance Laws.

Conclusions of Law

Based on the record provided by OCF, I therefore conclude:

1. The Respondent violated D.C. Official Code § 1-1163.09)(b) (2015) and 3 DCMR § 3017.2 (May 2015).
2. 3 DCMR § 3711.2(f) establishes a fifty dollar (\$50) fine for failure to timely file a Report of Receipts and Expenditures.
3. 3 DCMR § 3711.1 maintains that a fine shall attach for each day of noncompliance; up to a maximum of **\$2,150.00**, pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 1-1163.35(a)(3).
4. The Director may ministerially impose fines upon the candidate, treasurer, committee, or designated agent, pursuant to 3 DCMR § 3711.1.
5. For good cause shown pursuant to 3 DCMR § 3711.7, the Director of Campaign Finance (Director) may modify, rescind, dismiss or suspend any fine.
6. At all times pertinent, the Respondent was required to file the January 31st Report of Receipts and Expenditures by the extended filing date on Friday, February 16, 2018.
7. On January 11, 2018, the Office of Campaign Finance mailed a Reminder letter to the Respondent, reminding the Respondent to file the January 31st Report by Wednesday, January 31, 2018; however, the Respondent failed to comply.
8. On February 7, 2018, the Office of Campaign Finance mailed a Non-Compliance letter that informed the Respondent to file the January 31st Report by February 16, 2018, but again, the Respondent failed to comply.
9. By Notice of Hearing, Statement of Violations and Order of Appearance dated March 26, 2018 and April 6, 2018, the Respondent was ordered to appear at a scheduled hearing on April 4, 2018 and April 18, 2018. The Respondent failed to appear at either scheduled hearing.
10. As of April 18, 2018, the Respondent had failed to file the January 31st Report, which became forty-three (43) days delinquent.
11. To date, the Respondent has failed to file the January 31st Report.
12. The Respondent has a recurring history of delinquent filings and is currently in noncompliance with the filing requirements under the Campaign Finance Laws.
13. The Respondent attended the OCF mandatory training program in August, 2016, where he affirmed by signature and oath to adhere to the rules under the Campaign Finance Laws.

Recommendation

In view of the foregoing and information included in the record, I HEREBY RECOMMEND that the Director IMPOSE the maximum fine of \$2,150.00 against the treasurer Lamont Harrell in this matter.

May 23, 2018
Date

Kalvanetta K. Peete
Kalvanetta K. Peete
Hearing Officer

Concurrence

In view of the foregoing, I hereby CONCUR with the Recommendation.

May 23, 2018
Date

William O. Sanford
William O. Sanford
General Counsel

ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR

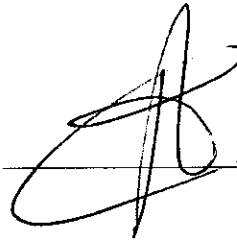
IT IS ORDERED that a fine in the amount of \$2,150.00 SHALL BE IMPOSED against the treasurer Lamont Harrell in this matter.

May 23, 2018
Date

Cecily E. Collier-Montgomery
Cecily E. Collier-Montgomery
Director

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that a true copy of the **ORDER** has been served on Lamont Harrell, Treasurer, via regular and certified mail at 4919 Brooks Street, NE, Washington, DC 20019 on this 23rd day of May, 2018.

A handwritten signature, possibly reading "A. B.", is written over a horizontal line.

Notice

Any party adversely affected by an Order of the Director may: (1) file a Motion for Reconsideration (Motion) with the OCF within five (5) days after receipt of an Order, provided that, relevant evidence was omitted from consideration at the hearing (3 DCMR § 3709.13); or (2) obtain review of the Order by filing a request for a hearing *de novo* with the Board of Elections within fifteen (15) days from the date of issuance of an Order. Any fine imposed by the Director, pursuant to § 3711.2 shall become effective on the sixteenth (16th) day following the issuance of a decision or Order; provided that, the Respondent does not request a hearing *de novo* with the Board of Elections. Fines imposed shall be paid within ten (10) days of the effective date of the issued Order of the Director. Make payment by check or money order, payable to: District of Columbia Treasurer. Send payment to the *Office of Campaign Finance, 1015 Half Street S.E., Suite 775, Washington, DC 20003*.