

**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
Lannette Woodruff, Treasurer/Candidate
5820 4th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20011

)
) Date: February 25, 2020
)
) Docket No: 19C-051
)
)

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 **Lannette Woodruff, Candidate** of the Lannette Woodruff for School Board Principal Campaign Committee ("committee"), failed to timely file the July 31st Report of Receipts and Expenditures that was due by the extended filing date on Friday, August 16, 2019, in violation of the Campaign Finance Act of 2011, District of Columbia Official Code § 1-1163.09(b) (March 2019) and the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations, 3 DCMR § 3017.2 (July 2019).

By Notice of Hearing, Statement of Violations and Order of Appearance dated August 28, 2019 and September 25, 2019, OCF ordered Lannette Woodruff, Candidate/Treasurer ("Respondent") to appear at a scheduled hearing on September 10, 2019 and October 9, 2019 and show cause why the committee should not be found in violation of the D.C. Official Code § 1-1163.09(b) (March 2019) and 3 DCMR § 3017.2 (July 2019), and fined accordingly.

Summary of Evidence

On July 8, 2019, the Public Information and Records Management ("PIRM") Division mailed a Reminder letter to the Respondent that reminded the Respondent to file the July 31st Report of Receipts and Expenditures on Wednesday, July 31, 2019. The Respondent failed to file the July 31st Report. On August 7, 2019, PIRM mailed a Notice of Non-Compliance letter to the Respondent that informed the Respondent to file the report by August 16, 2019. Again, the Respondent failed to comply. The Respondent's apparent failure to file the required report gave reason to refer the violation to the Office of the General Counsel ("OGC") for possible enforcement.

On August 28, 2019, 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 September 10, 2019. The Respondent failed to appear at the scheduled hearing and had not filed the July 31st Report.

Once more, on September 25, 2019, 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 October 9, 2019. Again, the Respondent failed to appear at the rescheduled hearing, and had not filed the July 31st Report. As of October 9, 2019, the July 31st Report became thirty-seven (37) days delinquent. The Respondent filed the report on October 29, 2019. The Respondent has a recurring history of delinquent filings; however, the committee is currently in compliance with the reporting requirements of the Campaign Finance Laws.

Findings of Fact

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

1. The Respondent is the treasurer/candidate of the Lannette Woodruff for School Board Principal Campaign Committee.
2. At all times pertinent, the Respondent was required to file the July 31st Report of Receipts and Expenditures on July 31, 2019.
3. The Respondent failed to file the July 31st Report on July 31, 2019 or August 16, 2019.
4. By Notice of Hearing, Statement of Violations and Order of Appearance dated August 28, 2019 and September 25, 2019, the Respondent was ordered to appear at a scheduled hearing on September 10, 2019 and October 9, 2019.
5. The Respondent failed to appear at either scheduled hearings.
6. As of October 9, 2019, the Respondent had failed to file the July 31st Report, which became thirty-seven (37) days delinquent.
7. The Respondent filed the July 31st Report on October 29, 2019.
8. The Respondent has a recurring history of delinquent filings but is currently in compliance with the filing requirements under the Campaign Finance Laws.
9. The Respondent attended the OCF mandatory training program in June 29, 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) (March 2019) and 3 DCMR § 3017.2 (July 2019).
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 **\$1,850**, 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. The Respondent failed to file the July 31st Report on July 31, 2019 or August 16, 2019.
7. The Respondent was ordered to appear at a scheduled hearing on September 10, 2019 and October 9, 2019; however, the respondent failed to appear at either scheduled hearing.
8. As of October 9, 2019, the Respondent had failed to file the July 31st Report, which became thirty-seven (37) days delinquent.
9. The Respondent filed the July 31st Report on October 29, 2019.
10. The Respondent has a recurring history of delinquent filings but is currently in compliance with the filing requirements of the Campaign Finance Laws.
11. The Respondent attended the OCF mandatory training program in June 29, 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 a reduced fine of \$250 against the treasurer Lannette Woodruff in this matter.

February 25, 2020
Date

Kalvanetta K. Reete
Kalvanetta K. Reete
Hearing Officer

Concurrence

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

February 25, 2020
Date

William O. SanFord
William O. SanFord
General Counsel

ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR

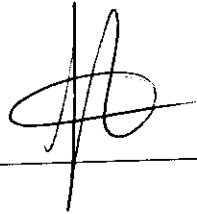
IT IS ORDERED that a reduced fine in the amount of \$250 SHALL BE IMPOSED against the treasurer Lannette Woodruff in this matter.

February 25, 2020
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 Lannette Woodruff, Candidate, via regular and certified mail at 5820 4th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20011 on this 25th day of February 2020.

A handwritten signature, possibly reading "J. 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.