

**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

Money Supply Increase
Ameer Flippin, Treasurer
4713 Wisconsin Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20016

)
) Date: February 25, 2020
)
) Docket No: 19REF-002
)
)

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 **Ameer Flippin, Treasurer** of the Money Supply Increase Referendum Committee (“committee”), failed to timely file the July 31st Report of Receipts and Expenditures that was due on Wednesday, July 31, 2019, 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 August 28, 2019 and September 25, 2019, OCF ordered Ameer Flippin (“Respondent”) to appear at a scheduled hearing on September 12, 2019 and October 8, 2019 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 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 by the required filing date. Again, on August 8, 2019, PIRM mailed a Non-compliance letter to the Respondent that advised that Respondent to file the July 31st Report by the extended filing date on August 12, 2019. The Respondent failed to file the July 31st Report by August 12, 2019. 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 of the violation.

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 12, 2019. The Respondent failed to appear 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 8, 2019. Again, the Respondent failed to appear and still had not filed the July 31st Report.

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As of October 8, 2019, the July 31st Report became thirty-six (36) days delinquent. The Respondent attended the Office of Campaign Finance Mandatory Training program on April 11, 2018, in which the Respondent affirmed by signature and oath to adhere to the District's Campaign Finance Laws. The committee remains in non-compliance with its filing obligations and has a history of delinquent filings.

Findings of Fact

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

1. The Respondent is the treasurer of the Money Supply Increase Referendum Committee.
2. The Respondent attended training on April 11, 2018, where the Respondent affirmed by signature and oath to follow the District's Campaign Finance Laws.
3. At all times pertinent, the Respondent was required to file the July 31st Report of Receipts and Expenditures on Wednesday, July 31, 2019.
4. The Respondent was ordered to appear at a scheduled hearing on September 12, 2019 and October 8, 2019. The Respondent failed to appear at either scheduled hearings.
5. As of October 8, 2019, the July 31st Report became thirty-six (36) days delinquent.
6. The committee remains in noncompliance with its reporting requirements and has a history of delinquent filings.

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. Accordingly, the Respondent may be fined up to a maximum of **\$1,800**, pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 1-1163.35(a)(3).
4. The Director may impose fines upon the candidate, treasurer, committee, or designated agent, pursuant to 3 DCMR § 3711.1.

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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 July 31st Report of Receipts and Expenditures on Wednesday, July 31, 2019.
7. The Respondent was ordered to appear at a scheduled hearing on September 12, 2019 and October 8, 2019. The Respondent failed to appear at either scheduled hearings.
8. As of October 8, 2019, the July 31st Report became thirty-six (36) days delinquent.
9. Respondent attended training on April 11, 2018, in which the Respondent affirmed by signature and oath to adhere to the District's Campaign Finance Laws.
10. The committee remains in noncompliance with its filing obligations and has a history of delinquent filings.

Recommendation

In view of the foregoing and information included in the record, I HEREBY RECOMMEND that the Director IMPOSE the maximum fine of **\$1,800** against the committee Money Supply Increase in this matter.

February 25, 2020
Date

Kalvanetta K. Peete
Kalvanetta K. Peete
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 maximum fine in the amount of **\$1,800** shall be **IMPOSED** against the committee Money Supply Increase 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 Ameer Flippin, Treasurer, via regular and certified mail at 4713 Wisconsin Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20016 on this 25th day of February 2020.

[Signature]

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.