# BEFORE THE OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS FRANK D. REEVES MUNICIPAL BUILDING 2000 14<sup>th</sup> STREET, N.W., SUITE 433 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009 Telephone: (202) 671-0547 Fax: (202) 671-0658

## **IN THE MATTER OF**

Christian Carter for Mayor 2014 Christian Carter, Treasurer 2509 Branch Ave, SE Washington, DC 20020 Date: May 22, 2014 Docket No: 14C-015

#### <u>ORDER</u>

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#### 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 & Records Management ("PIRM") Division that pursuant to the District of Columbia Campaign Finance Act of 2011, D.C. Official Code § 1-1163.09(b) (2012) and District of Columbia Municipal Regulations, 3 DCMR § 3017.2 (August 2013), CHRISTIAN CARTER, Treasurer for the Christian Carter for Mayor 2014 principal campaign committee ("Committee"), failed to timely file the March 10<sup>th</sup> Report of Receipts and Expenditures, which was due on Monday, March 10, 2014.

By Notice of Hearing, Statement of Violations and Order of Appearance dated March 25, 2014 and April 4, 2014, OCF ordered Christian Carter, Treasurer ("Respondent") to appear at a scheduled hearing on April 3, 2014 and April 15, 2014 and show cause why the Committee should not be found in violation of the D.C. Official Code § 1-1163.09(b) and 3 DCMR § 3017.2, and fined accordingly.

#### Summary of Evidence

On March 25, 2014, OCF sent via regular mail a Notice of Hearing, Statement of Violations and Order of Appearance, ordering Respondent to appear at a scheduled hearing on April 3, 2014. Respondent failed to appear. On April 4, 2014, OCF sent another Notice of Hearing, Statement of Violations and Order of Appearance via regular mail and certified mail, ordering Respondent to appear for a rescheduled hearing on April 15, 2014. Again, Respondent did not appear.

Respondent filed the required report on March 25, 2014, ten (10) days subsequent to the March 10, 2014 due date. Currently, the Committee is in compliance with the March 10<sup>th</sup> Report filing; however, the Committee has a history of delinquent filings. The civil penalty attached to the violation for failure to timely file a Report of Receipts and Expenditures is fifty (\$50) dollars per day, for each day of noncompliance (excluding weekends and holidays).

# **Findings of Fact**

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

- 1. Respondent is the treasurer of the Christian Carter for Mayor 2014 Principal Campaign Committee.
- 2. Respondent was required to file the March 10<sup>th</sup> Report of Receipts & Expenditures by Monday, March 10, 2014.
- 3. Respondent failed to timely file the March 10<sup>th</sup> Report by the required due date
- 4. On March 25, 2014, OCF sent via regular mail a Notice of Hearing, Statement of Violations and Order of Appearance, ordering Respondent to appear at a scheduled hearing on April 3, 2014. Respondent did not appear.
- 5. On April 4, 2014, OCF sent another Notice of Hearing, Statement of Violations and Order of Appearance via regular mail and certified mail, ordering Respondent to appear on April 15, 2014. Again Respondent did not appear.
- 6. Respondent filed the required report on March 25, 2014, ten (10) days subsequent to the March 10, 2014 due date.
- 7. The committee has a history of delinquent filings; however, the committee is currently in compliance with the March 10<sup>th</sup> Report filing.

# Conclusions of Law

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

- Respondent violated D.C. Official Code § 1-1163.09(b) and 3 DCMR § 3017.2. Respondent failed to timely file the March 10<sup>th</sup> Report of Receipts and Expenditures by March 10, 2014.
- 2. The penalty established by 3 DCMR § 3711.2(f) for failure to timely file a Report of Receipts and Expenditures, as required by D.C. Official Code § 1-1163.09(b), is a fine of fifty (\$50) dollars per day for each business day subsequent to the due date. Respondent filed the required report on March 25, 2014, ten (10) days subsequent to the March 10, 2014 due date

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- 3. In accordance with D.C. Official Code § 1-1163.35(a)(3), the alleged violator may be fined up to a maximum of \$2000 for each violation. Respondent may be fined a maximum of \$500 for failure to timely file the March 10<sup>th</sup> Report.
- 4. For good cause shown pursuant to 3 DCMR § 3711.7, the Director of Campaign Finance (Director) may modify, rescind, dismiss or suspend any fine. Respondent failed to appear for the first hearing scheduled April 3, 2014, and failed to appear at the second hearing scheduled on April 15, 2014. Furthermore, the committee has a history of delinquent filings; however, the committee is currently in compliance with the March 10<sup>th</sup> Report filing.

## Recommendation

In view of the foregoing and information included in the record, I HEREBY **RECOMMEND** that the Director impose a fine of \$500 in this matter.

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eete **Hearing Office** 

## Concurrence

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

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Villiam O. SanFord

General Counsel

## **ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR**

IT IS ORDERED that a fine of \$500 is hereby imposed in this matter.

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that a true copy of the ORDER has been served on Christian Carter, yia regular mail and certified mail at 2509 Branch Ave, SE, Washington, D.C. 20020 on this Wday of May, 2014.

#### **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 (16<sup>th</sup>) 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, Frank D. Reeves Municipal Building, 2000 14<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite 433, Washington, DC 20009.*