



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN & POLITICAL FINANCE

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DIRECTOR

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May 12, 2009

Tony Lafuente
137 Sycamore Street
Somerville, MA 02145

Re: CPF-08-95

Dear Mr. Lafuente:

This office has completed its review of an expenditure originally made by the John Buonomo Committee to National Telecommunications Services, Inc. ("NTS") for services that were actually provided to the Lafuente Committee in November 2007. Based upon our review, we have determined that the Lafuente Committee violated M.G.L. c. 55, § 6, the Massachusetts campaign finance law, by accepting an excess in-kind contribution from the Buonomo Committee in the amount of \$2,048.

Specifically, we have concluded, and your Committee has acknowledged, that the Buonomo Committee paid \$2,148 for services that NTS provided to you when they made voter identification calls for your campaign in November 2007. "Contributions" are generally defined in Section 1 of Chapter 55 to include loans, advances, or transfers of money or anything of value between political committees. The payment by the Buonomo Committee resulted in an in-kind contribution from the Buonomo Committee to your Committee in the amount of \$2,148. The campaign finance law prohibits a committee organized on behalf of a non-statewide candidate from contributing to another candidate committee in excess of \$100 in a calendar year. See M.G.L. c. 55, § 6. Since your Committee received the goods and services for which the Buonomo Committee paid, an excess in-kind contribution of \$2,048 was received.

In response to inquiries from this office, you acknowledged the receipt of the excess in-kind contribution and have made a payment to the Commonwealth in the nature of a civil forfeiture in the amount of \$1,000 from your personal funds. In addition, you have forgiven \$24,635.24 in liabilities owed to you by your Committee and your Committee has filed a dissolution report with the Somerville Election Commissioner, a copy of which you have provided to OCPF.

Based on the remedial measures outlined in this letter, and as we believe that the guidance provided in the course of this review will result in future compliance with the campaign finance law, we have concluded that this matter may be closed at this time. Should you decide to run for office in the future, please contact this office first to arrange to file quarterly reports with OCPF.



Tony Lafuente
May 12, 2009
Page 2

Your Committee would also be required to provide OCPF with copies of its bank statements and all checks received and deposited with each quarterly report.

In accordance with the opinion of the Supervisor of Public Records this letter is a public record. If you have any questions regarding this letter or any other campaign finance matter, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael J. Sullivan". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Michael J. Sullivan
Director

MJS/sh