

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD**

FINAL AUDIT REPORT

2016 AUDIT OF ELIGIBILITY FOR PUBLIC SUBSIDY PAYMENTS:

A candidate must do the following to be eligible for public subsidy payments: (1) sign a public subsidy agreement in which the candidate agrees, among other requirements, to be bound by a spending limit; (2) raise a statutorily-specified amount in qualifying contributions, (3) file a notarized affidavit of contributions with the Board verifying that the candidate has raised the required amount in qualifying contributions, and (4) appear on the general election ballot.

To ensure eligibility for public subsidy payments, the Board audited the qualifying contributions of candidates seeking public subsidy payments whose total reported individual contributions were less than the audit threshold. The audit threshold was set at twice the amount a candidate was required to raise in qualifying contributions. For example, the required amount of qualifying contributions for a house candidate is \$1,500. This amount must be raised between January 1 of the previous odd-numbered year and the cutoff date for transactions included in the pre-primary-election report. Consequently, a candidate for house was subject to audit if the candidate was seeking public subsidy funds and reported receiving \$3,000 or less in individual contributions between January 1, 2015, and July 18, 2016. An audit threshold of \$6,000 was used for senate candidates.

Applying this threshold to candidates who had signed a public subsidy agreement and filed an affidavit of contributions resulted in an audit of 40 house candidates and 25 senate candidates. Attachment A lists the candidates who were subject to the audit.

Reporting individual contributions less than the audit threshold had no effect on a candidate's eligibility for public subsidy payments. It simply determined which candidates would be subject to an audit by the Board to ensure that their certified affidavits of contributions were, in fact, correct and that the candidates actually had raised the required amount in qualifying contributions.

The Board asked each candidate subject to the audit to provide a list of the individual contributions that had been included in the amount required to qualify for public subsidy along with each contributor's name and address. To be included in the qualifying amount, a contribution had to have been made by an individual eligible to vote in Minnesota. In addition, only the first \$50 from each contributor could be included in the qualifying amount and in-kind contributions could not be considered.

Board staff reviewed the lists of individual contributors provided by the candidates against the criteria for eligible qualifying contributions. Jeff Sigurdson, executive director to the Board, was the individual primarily responsible for the audit. Mr. Sigurdson was supported in evaluating the candidates' responses by Joyce Larson, compliance officer, and Jodi Pope, legal analyst.

Some candidates provided reports with updated contributions to the Board. These candidates were required to provide documentation for any contributions added to their original submissions.

Findings:

1. After reviewing the requirements for qualifying contributions with Board staff, four candidates determined that they had not raised the required amount in qualifying contributions and withdrew their affidavits of contributions. The two house candidates who withdrew their affidavits were Tom Heinks and Erwin Rud. The two senate candidates who withdrew their affidavits were Brian Abrahamson and Darryl Scarborough.
2. The remaining 61 committees subject to the audit all raised the required amount in qualifying contributions.

Responsible Staff Person:

/s/ Jeff Sigurdson
Jeff Sigurdson, Executive Director
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Date: September 7, 2016

/s/ Daniel N. Rosen
Daniel N. Rosen, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Date: September 7, 2016

Attachment A: Candidates who initially reported individual contributions under the required threshold

House Candidates (\$3,000 threshold)

Reg. No.	Committee Name	Party	2015 Contrib.	2016 Contrib.	Total Contrib.
18081	Kristin Bahner for State Representative	DFL	\$0.00	\$2,255.00	\$2,255.00
18108	Bass (George) For House Campaign Committee	DFL	\$0.00	\$2,451.50	\$2,451.50
18075	Committee to Elect Tim Brandon for House 3B	RPM	\$0.00	\$2,060.00	\$2,060.00
18098	Elect Bob Cardinal Campaign	RPM	\$0.00	\$1,890.00	\$1,890.00
18009	Jared Christiansen for MN House	DFL	\$0.00	\$2,763.22	\$2,763.22
18087	Connelly (Jim) for State Rep	DFL	\$0.00	\$2,815.00	\$2,815.00
18080	Dave Craig for MN House	DFL	\$0.00	\$2,559.16	\$2,559.16
17995	Crouse (Matthew) for MN	DFL	\$0.00	\$1,635.00	\$1,635.00
18091	Diesslin (Elise) for 21B	DFL	\$0.00	\$2,603.00	\$2,603.00
18047	Margaret (Fernandez) for House	DFL	\$0.00	\$2,560.00	\$2,560.00
17921	Fogarty (Kevin) for MN House	DFL	\$0.00	\$2,715.00	\$2,715.00
18064	Brad Gerten for MN House	RPM	\$0.00	\$1,641.00	\$1,641.00
18015	Austin Grossenburg	DFL	\$0.00	\$1,875.00	\$1,875.00
18037	Sarah (Hamlin) for House	DFL	\$0.00	\$1,909.00	\$1,909.00
18097	Pat Hammond for Minnesota House	RPM	\$0.00	\$1,780.00	\$1,780.00
18092	Tom Heinks for State House	RPM	\$0.00	\$1,703.50	\$1,703.50
17790	Heyer (Jon) 4 House	RPM	\$1,200.00	\$675.00	\$1,875.00
17434	Committee to Elect Andy Hillebregt for House of Rep 35A	DFL	\$0.00	\$2,290.00	\$2,290.00
17889	Holl (CJ) for MN Representative	DFL	\$220.00	\$2,040.00	\$2,260.00
18105	Jordan Idso for House 4A	RPM	\$0.00	\$2,526.94	\$2,526.94
17951	Vote Kirby Kruse Committee	DFL	\$0.00	\$2,365.60	\$2,365.60
18074	Kruse (Allen) for House	DFL	\$0.00	\$1,940.00	\$1,940.00
18059	Sue Larson for MN House DFL	DFL	\$0.00	\$1,625.00	\$1,625.00
17684	Richard Lieberman Campaign Committee	RPM	\$1,235.00	\$700.00	\$1,935.00
18073	Meg Litts for House 9A	DFL	\$0.00	\$2,990.00	\$2,990.00
18017	Vote Jerry Loud	DFL	\$0.00	\$2,166.00	\$2,166.00
17800	Margaret (Martin) for MN House 59B	RPM	\$100.00	\$2,381.00	\$2,481.00
17783	Mali Marvin for House	RPM	\$0.00	\$2,068.00	\$2,068.00
17809	Matasich (Matt) for House	RPM	\$0.00	\$2,335.00	\$2,335.00
18082	Darrel Mosel Volunteer Committee	DFL	\$0.00	\$2,497.50	\$2,497.50
17973	Friends of Nelson for House LLC (initial 2016 total was \$0 due to late report)	RPM	\$0.00	\$3,083.57	\$3,083.57
18024	Newville (Jessica) for MN House	RPM	\$0.00	\$2,060.00	\$2,060.00
18070	Committee to Elect Kevin Parker to House of Rep.	DFL	\$0.00	\$2,850.00	\$2,850.00
18008	Friends of Cortney (Phillips)	DFL	\$0.00	\$1,914.00	\$1,914.00
17985	Vote John Poston Volunteer Committee	RPM	\$0.00	\$2,665.00	\$2,665.00
17939	Erwin (Erv) Rud For 1B	DFL	\$0.00	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00
18061	Lisa Thompson for MN House	RPM	\$0.00	\$2,872.00	\$2,872.00

17863	Wally 4 Rep (Linda Walbruch)	DFL	\$827.59	\$1,844.50	\$2,672.09
17758	Alma (Wetzker) for House	RPM	\$1,500.00	\$1,177.34	\$2,677.34
18072	Anthony Wilder for House	RPM	\$0.00	\$2,220.00	\$2,220.00

Senate Candidates (\$6,000 threshold)

Reg. No.	Committee Name	Party	2015 Contrib.	2016 Contrib.	Total Contrib.
18043	Brian Abrahamson for Senate	DFL	\$0.00	\$4,255.75	\$4,255.75
18099	Ali (Ali) for Minnesota	DFL	\$0.00	\$5,385.00	\$5,385.00
18010	Brown (Chilah) for Senate	DFL	\$0.00	\$2,445.00	\$2,445.00
18044	Roxana Bruins for Senate	RPM	\$0.00	\$3,805.00	\$3,805.00
17340	Voters Together for Term Limits (Jual Carlson)	DFL	\$4,315.00	\$120.00	\$4,435.00
17856	Davern (Patrick) Volunteer Committee	DFL	\$1,395.00	\$2,855.00	\$4,250.00
18083	Ricky's (Englund) Run for the Senate	DFL	\$0.00	\$4,485.00	\$4,485.00
13404	Friends of (Michelle) Fischbach	RPM	\$1,350.00	\$3,010.00	\$4,360.00
18060	Sten (Hakanson) for MN Senate	DFL	\$0.00	\$4,670.00	\$4,760.00
18019	Leilani Holmstadt for MN Senate	RPM	\$0.00	\$5,125.00	\$5,125.00
17894	Roger Johnson Campaign Committee	DFL	\$100.00	\$3,170.00	\$3,270.00
18022	Yes! We! Kanne! (James Kanne) Senate 16	DFL	\$0.00	\$5,909.99	\$5,909.99
18034	Janice Kittok for Senate	DFL	\$0.00	\$5,126.00	\$5,126.00
18089	Lillis (John) for MN Dist 23	DFL	\$0.00	\$3,406.00	\$3,406.00
13262	Limmer (Warren) for Senate Committee	RPM	\$1,750.00	\$4,115.00	\$5,865.00
18102	Marvin (Robert) for Senate	RPM	\$0.00	\$3,650.00	\$3,650.00
18084	Mark Misukanis for Senate	RPM	\$0.00	\$5,740.00	\$5,740.00
15123	Nienow (Sean) Volunteer Committee	RPM	\$500.00	\$5,135.00	\$5,635.00
18002	Pieper (Jon) for Senate	DFL	\$0.00	\$4,494.00	\$4,494.00
18055	Sherrie Pugh 4 senate	DFL	\$0.00	\$4,832.02	\$4,832.02
17987	Darryl Scarborough	DFL	\$0.00	\$2,937.50	\$2,937.50
18063	Skeeter (Tomczak) for Senate	RPM	\$0.00	\$4,834.00	\$4,834.00
17999	Weinerman (Jason) for Minnesota Senate	DFL	\$0.00	\$5,750.00	\$5,750.00
18021	Bonnie Westlin for MN Senate	DFL	\$0.00	\$5,925.00	\$5,925.00
17934	Dan Whitcomb for MN State Senate	RPM	\$0.00	\$4,973.50	\$4,973.50