

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

**FINDINGS AND ORDER IN THE MATTER OF
A CONTRIBUTION DURING THE REGULAR 2006 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
BY ALBERT HOFSTEDE**

Summary of Allegations and Responses

On August 10, 2006, the Linda Slocum Volunteer Committee ("the Committee") voluntarily notified the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board ("the Board") that the Committee received a \$100 contribution from Albert Hofstede on March 7, 2006. The 2006 regular legislative session was held from March 1, 2006, to May 21, 2006. Mr. Hofstede is registered with the Board as a lobbyist.

Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273, subdivision 1(b), prohibits a registered lobbyist from making a contribution to a principal campaign committee during a regular legislative session. A lobbyist that violates this section is subject to a civil penalty imposed by the board of up to \$1,000.

By letter dated August 17, 2006, the Board notified Albert Hofstede of the correspondence received from the Committee and the statutory provision that appeared to be violated. Mr. Hofstede responded by letter dated August 23, 2006. Mr. Hofstede stated, "While I do not represent clients at the legislature but rather at the local level, and while I did not realize that the law governing contributions during the legislative session applied to not current legislators, it is clear now that I was in error."

This matter was considered by the Board in executive session on September 15, 2006. The Findings are based on the correspondence from the Linda Slocum Volunteer Committee, Mr. Hofstede, and Board records.

Relevant Statutes

Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273, subdivision 1(b). **Contributions during legislative session.** A registered lobbyist, political committee, political fund, or dissolving principal campaign committee, or a party unit established by the party organization within a house of the legislature, must not make a contribution to a candidate for the legislature or for constitutional office, the candidate's principal campaign committee, or a political committee or party unit established by all or a part of the party organization within a house of the legislature during a regular session of the legislature.

Based on the above Summary of Allegations and Responses and Relevant Statutes, the Board makes the following:

Findings of Probable Cause

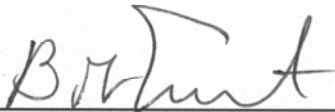
There is evidence that Albert Hofstede, a registered lobbyist, contributed \$100 to the Linda Slocum Volunteer Committee during the 2006 regular legislative session. The Board finds that Albert Hofstede inadvertently violated Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273, subdivision 1(b).

Based on the above Findings, the Board issues the following:

Order

1. The Board imposes a \$100 civil fine on Albert Hofstede for inadvertently violating Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273, subdivision 1(b). The penalty is equal to one times the amount of the contribution.
2. Albert Hofstede is directed to forward payment of the civil penalty to the Board within 30 days after receipt of this order.
3. If Albert Hofstede does not comply with the provisions of this order, the Board's Executive Director shall refer this matter to the Ramsey County Attorney for civil enforcement pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273.
4. The Board investigation of this matter is entered into the public record in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.02, subdivision 11, and upon payment by Albert Hofstede of the civil penalties imposed herein, the matter is concluded.

Dated: September 15, 2006



Bob Milbert, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board