

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

**Findings and Order in the Matter of a  
Prohibited Contribution During the Regular 2006 Legislative Session  
By the Carpenters Union Local #87 PAF**

**Summary of Allegations and Responses**

In response to a Board inquiry John Fahey, treasurer, of the Carpenters Union Local #87 PAF confirmed to the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board ("the Board") that the Committee made a contribution on March 15, 2006, to the DFL Senate Caucus. The amount of the contribution was \$500. The 2006 legislative session was held from March 1 to May 21, 2006.

Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273, subdivision 1 (b), prohibits political committees and political funds from making a contribution to a party unit established within a house of the legislature during a regular legislative session. A political committee or political fund which violates this section is subject to a civil penalty imposed by the board of up to \$1,000.

Mr. Fahey states, "Carpenters Local Union No 87 was under the impression that the band (sic) during session only applied to Legislators. The error in donating to the Caucus was our ignorance. We will inform our staff of the regulations in order to prevent future oversights."

This matter was considered by the Board in executive session on October 17, 2006.

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

**Findings Concerning Probable Cause**

There is evidence that the Carpenters Union Local #87 PAF, a registered political fund, contributed \$500 to the DFL Senate Caucus during the 2006 legislative session. The Board finds that there is probable cause to believe that the Carpenters Union Local #87 PAF inadvertently violated Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273, subdivision 1, clause b.


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

**Order**

1. For making a contribution to a candidate during the 2006 legislative session the Board orders the Carpenters Union Local #87 PAF to pay a civil penalty of \$500, which is one times the amount of the contribution. This civil penalty must be paid within 30 days.

2. If the Carpenters Union Local #87 PAF 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.
3. 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 the Carpenters Union Local #87 PAF of the civil penalties imposed herein, the matter is concluded.

Dated: October 17, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Milbert", written over a horizontal line.

Bob Milbert, Chair  
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

### Relevant Statutes

Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273, subdivision 1, clause 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.