



## New York City Campaign Finance Board

100 Church Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10007

212.409.1800 | [www.nyccfb.info](http://www.nyccfb.info)

April 14, 2016

### **By First Class Mail and C-ACCESS**

Mathieu Eugene  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Delsie L. Lawson  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

ME Inauguration 2014  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

### **FINAL BOARD DETERMINATION – EC2013T TRANSITION AND INAUGURATION COMMITTEE (“TIE”)**

The New York City Campaign Finance Board (“Board”), at a meeting held on April 14, 2016, made the following final determination concerning the Mathieu Eugene 2013 Transition Inauguration Committee (“TIE”):

The Board determined that the Elected Candidate, the Treasurer, and the Committee named above violated the New York City Campaign Finance Act (“Act”) and Board Rules and are jointly and severally liable for paying \$4,221 in penalties as follows:

1. A penalty of \$2,250 for failing to provide bank statements. *See Admin. Code § 3-802(1); Board Rules 11-05(a), (b)(8), (c), (e).* The TIE failed to provide, despite repeated requests from CFB staff, 1) the TIE’s bank statements from July 2015-present, 2) the current balance of the TIE’s bank account, and 3) the sources of the deposits into the TIE’s account on 1/14/14 (\$100), 4/12/14 (\$500), 7/21/14 (\$250), 3/31/15 (\$1,500), and 5/8/15 (\$500), none of which was reported to the CFB. The Board assessed a penalty of \$250 per statement. The penalty was increased from the Board’s penalty guidelines in light of several aggravating factors. The TIE’s repeated failure to provide all requested bank statements, contrary to verbal assurances from the Treasurer and the Elected Candidate and repeated extensions granted by CFB staff, amounted to a willful withholding of requested documentation. In addition, the Elected Candidate represented

to Board staff on October 10, 2014 and February 23, 2015, and in its response to the Penalty Notice, that the TIE’s reporting was largely incorrect and did not accurately reflect the TIE’s financial activity. The withholding of documentation, coupled with the inaccuracies in the TIE’s reporting, significantly interfered with the CFB staff’s review of the TIE’s compliance with the NYC Charter, Act, and Board Rules.

2. A penalty of \$1,917 for accepting over-the-limit donations. *See Admin. Code §§ 3-801(2)(b), (4), 3-802(2); Board Rules 11-04(b), (c), (d).*

The TIE reported \$4,221 in advances from Curlina L. Edwards (“Edwards”). The Elected Candidate’s inauguration was on January 26, 2014, and the TIE’s reporting indicates that repayment for these advances is still outstanding. Because the advances were not repaid by the inauguration, they are deemed donations from Edwards to the TIE that exceeded the donation limit by \$1,721.

The TIE also reported \$5,241 in advances from the Elected Candidate. Because the TIE did not report repayment for these advances by the Elected Candidate’s inauguration, they are deemed donations from the Elected Candidate to the TIE. Although the TIE reported repaying \$1,000 of these donations on July 28, 2014, the remaining \$4,241 in donations from the Elected Candidate exceeded the donation limit by \$1,741. Moreover, because the repayment was made after the inauguration, the full outstanding amount of \$5,241 remains a donation.

The Board assessed a penalty of \$250 plus the donation overage for Edwards. The Board staff recommends a penalty of \$1,971 (\$250 plus the donation overage) for the over-the-limit donations from Edwards and a violation with no associated penalty for the over-the-limit donation from the Elected Candidate.

**The Board determined that the amount due is \$4,221.**

You must pay to the Board the full amount due of \$4,221 no later than **March 6, 2017**. Checks should be made payable to the “New York City Election Campaign Finance Fund,” and mailed to the attention of Bethany M. Perskie, Senior Associate Counsel, New York City Campaign Finance Board, 100 Church Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10007 or delivered to the offices of the Board.

If the Board is not in receipt of the full \$4,221 by March 6, 2017, the candidate’s name and the unpaid amount will be posted on the Board’s Website and the Board may initiate a civil action against the Committee, the Elected Candidate, and the Treasurer to compel payment. In addition, you will be ineligible for public funds in any future election until this debt is paid in full.

You may challenge this final determination, within four months, in the New York State Supreme Court pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules.

If you need additional time to pay this amount or if you have any questions concerning this Final Board Determination, please contact Bethany M. Perskie, Senior Associate Counsel, at (212) 409-1861 or [bperskie@nyccfb.info](mailto:bperskie@nyccfb.info).



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Sue Ellen Dodell  
General Counsel

**NEW YORK CITY  
CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD**

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