



## Summary of Final Board Determination#

### **Sara Gonzalez**

**Candidate, 2017, City Council District #38**

**Program participant: \$87,180 in public funds received**

**Elsa Sloman, Treasurer of Sara M. Gonzalez 2017**

The Board determined that the Campaign has substantially complied with the requirements of the Campaign Finance Act and Board rules, and assessed penalties and a public funds repayment as detailed below.

#### **1. Failing to demonstrate compliance with cash receipts reporting and documentation requirements \$943**

Campaigns are required to report all cash receipts, deposit them into the bank account listed on the candidate's filer registration and/or certification within ten business days of receipt, and provide the deposit slips for the account to the Board. *See* Admin. Code §§ 3-703(1)(d), (g), (6), (10), (11), (12); Board Rules 1-04(a), (b), 2-06(a), 3-03(c), 4-01(a), (b)(1), (3), (f).

The Campaign reported \$3,845 in cash receipts, but the deposit slips provided only account for \$70 in cash receipts, a difference of \$3,775.

The Board assessed a penalty of \$943 for these violations.

#### **2. Accepting a contribution from a corporation \$125**

Campaigns may not accept a campaign contribution from any corporation, limited liability company (LLC), or partnership. *See* N.Y.C. Charter § 1052(a)(13); Admin. Code §§ 3-702(8), 3-703(1)(l); Board Rules 1-04(c)(1), (e), (g), 1-05.

The Campaign accepted a \$100 contribution from Joan's 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Inc., on April 11, 2017. The Campaign was notified on June 6, 2017 that it must refund the contribution by July 17, 2017. The Campaign refunded the contribution on August 8, 2017.

The Board assessed a penalty of \$125 for this violation.

#### **3. Failing to demonstrate that spending was in furtherance of the campaign \$642**

Campaigns are required to demonstrate that all spending was in furtherance of the campaign. *See* Admin. Code §§ 3-702(21)(a), (b); 3-703(1)(d), (g), (6), (11); Board Rules 1-03(a), 1-08(p), 4-01(e). "If [a] campaign receives public funds, bonus payments . . . are entirely prohibited unless written into an employee's contract at the time of hiring. However, [a campaign] cannot issue payment of bonuses post-election even if written into a contract preelection." *See* 2017



**New York City Campaign Finance Board**

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Campaign Finance Handbook, p. 56.

The Campaign paid an individual \$2,569 on September 5, 2017 and described the payment as a bonus for work that “was above and beyond the time and responsibilities contemplated in the written agreement.” The Campaign provided a contract, which detailed the employee’s rate of pay and the work she would perform, but contained no reference to a bonus.

The Board assessed a penalty of \$642 for this violation.

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