

BILL BRADBURY
SECRETARY OF STATE



ELECTIONS DIVISION
JOHN LINDBACK
DIRECTOR
141 STATE CAPITOL
SALEM, OREGON 97310-0722
ELECTIONS—(503) 986-1518

BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF STATE
OF THE
STATE OF OREGON

In the matter of a Late Contribution and Expenditure Report) Final Order by Default
by the Benton County Democratic Central Committee,)
Keith McCreight, Treasurer, for the First Pre-Election for the) Case No. L7611
May 18, 2004, Primary Election)

August 4, 2004

Benton County Democratic Central Committee (000291)
Keith McCreight, Treasurer
Box 232
Corvallis, OR 97339

Dear Mr. McCreight:

This is a Final Order by Default issued by the Secretary of State (secretary) for your failure to file a timely first pre-election contribution and expenditure report for the May 18, 2004, Primary Election.

On June 10, 2004, the secretary notified the Benton County Democratic Central Committee (committee), pursuant to ORS 260.232(2), that it had failed to file the report and that the secretary may impose a civil penalty. An opportunity for a hearing was provided in that notice; however, no request for a hearing was received by the secretary within the time permitted in the notice. Accordingly, after consideration of the records and files of the secretary regarding this matter, the secretary is entering the following Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The committee's Statement of Organization (SEL 221), applicable during the reporting period, was filed with the secretary on November 27, 2002. The statement reported Keith McCreight as the treasurer and Box 232, Corvallis, OR 97339 as the address to which all committee correspondence was to be sent.
2. The committee was required to file a first pre-election report with the secretary on April 12, 2004.
3. The secretary received the report on April 13, 2004, which is one business day after the date on which the report was due.

4. The committee reported total contributions of \$21,166.05 and total expenditures of \$20,663.48 during the accounting period for the report.
5. On June 10, 2004, the secretary sent the committee a Notice of Proposed Civil Penalty. The notice was sent by both certified and first class mail to the treasurer at the above-referenced address. The notice proposed a civil penalty of \$211.66 and allowed the committee 20 days to request a hearing. The notice sent by certified mail was received and signed for by Keith McCreight on June 22, 2004.
6. The committee did not request a public hearing or submit notarized testimony in lieu of a public hearing.
7. The secretary has record of no previous late filings during the two-year period beginning September 15, 2003.

ULTIMATE FINDINGS OF FACT

Keith McCreight, Treasurer, failed to file a timely first pre-election contribution and expenditure report for the May 18, 2004, Primary Election.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Treasurer Keith McCreight's failure to file a timely first pre-election contribution and expenditure report for the May 18, 2004, Primary Election violated ORS 260.063.

By statute, a maximum \$10,000 civil penalty may be imposed for this violation. The *2004 Campaign Finance Manual*, which contains a penalty calculation matrix on pages 101 and 102, is designated in OAR 165-012-0005 as the procedure manual for Oregon campaign finance regulations.

Under the penalty matrix, the maximum statutory penalty of \$10,000 is reduced to 1% of the total contributions or total expenditures—whichever is greater—for each business day the report was late as this is the first late violation by the treasurer.

ORDER

It is ordered that a penalty of \$211.66 ($\$21,166.05 \times 1\% \times 1 \text{ day}$) is assessed. If your payment is not received within 60 days from the date of service noted below, this Order will be sent to our accounting division for collection and may be subsequently sent to the Oregon Department of Revenue.

Please refer to case number L7611 when mailing your payment.

RIGHT TO JUDICIAL REVIEW

You have the right to appeal this Order to the Oregon Court of Appeals pursuant to ORS 183.482. To appeal you must file a petition for judicial review with the Court of Appeals within 60 days from the day this Order was served to you. Because this Order was mailed to you, the date of service is the day it was *mailed*, not the day you received it. If you do not file a petition for judicial review within the 60-day time period, you will lose your right to appeal.

Jennifer Hertel, Compliance Specialist

DATE of Service: _____