

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 Committee for a Responsive Legislature, Ellen C. Lowe,)
Treasurer, for the First Pre-Election for the May 18, 2004,) Case No. L7649
Primary Election)

August 4, 2004

Committee for a Responsive Legislature (003474)
Ellen C. Lowe, Treasurer
901 SW King Ave #912
Portland, OR 97205

Dear Ms. Lowe:

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 Committee for a Responsive Legislature (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 September 10, 2001. The statement reported Ellen C. Lowe as the treasurer and 901 SW King Ave #912, Portland, OR 97205 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 sent the committee a notice that it had failed to file a timely report on April 13, 2004. The notice was sent by first class mail to the treasurer at the above-referenced address.

4. On April 30, 2004, the secretary sent a letter to the committee informing them that their report had still not been received.
5. The secretary received the report on May 13, 2004, which is 23 business days after the date on which the report was due.
6. The committee reported no contributions and total expenditures of \$63.00 during the accounting period for the report.
7. 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 \$14.49 and allowed the committee 20 days to request a hearing. The notice sent by certified mail was received and signed for by Latisha Rezvoy on June 12, 2004.
8. The committee did not request a public hearing or submit notarized testimony in lieu of a public hearing.
9. The secretary has record of no previous late filings during the two-year period beginning September 15, 2003.

ULTIMATE FINDINGS OF FACT

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

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Treasurer Ellen C. Lowe'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.

The calculated penalty for the late report is \$14.49 ($\$63.00 \times 1\% \times 23 \text{ days}$).

ORDER

Payment of the proposed civil penalty of \$14.49 was received in the office of the Secretary of State on July 14, 2004. This Order will serve as your receipt and this matter is now considered closed.

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: _____