

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 Houser for Circuit Judge Committee (William C.))
William C. Houser, Candidate, Steven L. Lawrence,) Case No. L7896
Treasurer, for the Supplemental of 2004)

March 16, 2005

Houser for Circuit Judge Committee (William C.) (003500)
William C. Houser, Candidate / Steven L. Lawrence, Treasurer
17725 Baywatch Ct NE
Poulsbo, WA 98370

Dear Mr. Houser:

This is a Final Order by Default issued by the Secretary of State (secretary) for your failure to file a timely supplemental contribution and expenditure report for 2004.

On January 21, 2005, the secretary notified Houser for Circuit Judge Committee (William C.) (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 220), applicable during the reporting period, was filed with the secretary on December 18, 2001. The mailing address provided on the Statement of Organization for the candidate was 1107 E. 28th ST, McMinnville, OR 97128. The statement reported Steven L. Lawrence as the treasurer and 235 E. Third St, Ste 1, McMinnville, OR 97128 as the address to which all committee correspondence was to be sent.
2. Although an amended Statement of Organization was never filed, the secretary learned through phone conversations with Mr. Houser that his mailing address for candidate correspondence had changed to 17725 Bay Watch Ct NE, Poulsboro, WA 98370.
3. The committee was required to file a supplemental report with the secretary on September 10, 2004.

4. The secretary sent the committee a notice that it had failed to file a timely report on September 13, 2004. The notice was sent by first class mail to the candidate and treasurer at the above-referenced addresses.
5. The secretary received the report on September 29, 2004, which is 13 business days after the date on which the report was due.
6. The committee reported no contributions and total expenditures of \$108.00 during the accounting period for the report.
7. On January 21, 2005, the secretary sent the committee a Notice of Proposed Civil Penalty. The notice was sent by both certified and first class mail to the candidate and was sent by first class mail to the treasurer at the above-referenced addresses. The notice proposed a civil penalty of \$14.04 and allowed the committee 20 days to request a hearing. The notice sent by certified mail was received and signed for by Brenda Houser on January 24, 2005.
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

William C. Houser, Candidate, and Steven L. Lawrence, Treasurer, failed to file a timely supplemental contribution and expenditure report for 2004.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Candidate William C. Houser's and Treasurer Steven L. Lawrence's failure to file a timely supplemental contribution and expenditure report for 2004 violated ORS 260.058.

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 candidate.

The calculated penalty for the late report is \$14.04 ($\$108.00 \times 1\% \times 13$ days). Because the appropriate penalty is under \$50, no penalty will be assessed.

ORDER

It is ordered that no penalty be assessed.

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: _____

c: Steven L. Lawrence, Treasurer
235 E. Third St, Ste 1
McMinnville, OR 97128