

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN & POLITICAL FINANCE

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January 21, 2026

David DeBonis  
11 Ohlson Way  
Middleton, MA 01949

Re: CPF-25-96

Dear Mr. DeBonis:

This office has completed its review of certain campaign finance activity relative to your candidacy for School Committee in Middleton. As a result of this review, we have concluded that you did not comply with M.G.L. c. 55, the Massachusetts campaign finance law.

The campaign finance law requires candidates seeking public office at the municipal level to file reports of contributions received, expenditures made and liabilities incurred with the city or town clerk. See M.G.L. c. 55, §18. During election years when the candidate's name appears on a town ballot, reports are due on or before the 8th day preceding the election and on or before the 30th day after the election. Additionally, a year-end report must also be filed every year so long as a committee is in existence, or a candidate maintains a campaign fund, has outstanding debts, or is an incumbent elected official.

You were elected to the School Committee in 2022 to a three-year term and you were subsequently re-elected to another three-year term in 2025. During a review of campaign finance activity in the town of Middleton, it came to our attention that you did not file campaign finance reports with the local election official. Specifically, the 2024 year-end report was not filed while you were an incumbent elected official and campaign finance reports were not filed prior to and after the May 20, 2025 election.

Once contacted by OCPF, you filed the missing disclosure reports with the Town of Middleton on November 17, 2025. The reports show that no activity occurred during 2024, while the 2025 pre-election and post-election reports disclosed an out-of-pocket expenditure of \$478.13 for lawn signs. You paid for the lawn signs on April 8, 2025. Accordingly, this activity was required to be disclosed on the pre-election report, due by May 12, 2025.

The campaign finance law requires candidates and committees to file timely and accurate campaign finance reports. OCPF is committed to providing guidance to candidates and committees in meeting their reporting requirements. However, ultimately the responsibility for



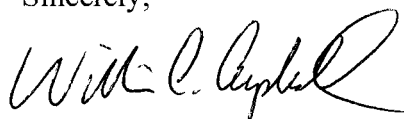
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filing timely reports lies with the candidates and committees. The delay in filing required reports frustrates the public's interest in accurate and timely disclosure of campaign finance activity during the relevant periods.

Based upon our review, we have determined that the failure to file campaign finance reports in a timely manner did not comply with the campaign finance law. However, since the reports have now been filed and OCPF anticipates that the guidance provided as a result of this review will ensure future compliance with the campaign finance law, we have determined that no further action is warranted at this time.

In accordance with a ruling by the Supervisor of Public Records, this letter and all related correspondence is a matter of public record. If you have any questions regarding this or any other campaign finance matter, do not hesitate to contact this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William C. Campbell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

William C. Campbell  
Director

WCC/mj