



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN & POLITICAL FINANCE

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WILLIAM C. CAMPBELL
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November 9, 2023

Enrique Pepén
72 Cohasset Street
Roslindale, MA 02131

Re: CPF 23-35

Dear Mr. Pepén:

This office has completed its review of information we received alleging that, while you were a public employee, you used your personal social media accounts to share information regarding a fundraising event for your Committee, the Committee to Elect Enrique Pepén (the “Committee”).

Section 13 of the campaign finance law prohibits any person “employed for compensation, other than an elected officer, by the commonwealth or any county, city, or town” from directly or indirectly soliciting or receiving contributions for a candidate for public office. This restriction applies at all times, and not just during the work day. You have acknowledged that, until your resignation became effective on July 10, 2023, you were a public employee with the City of Boston. You were also a candidate for Boston City Council in the September 12, 2023 preliminary election and in the November 7, 2023 general election.

To support your candidacy for City Council, your Committee planned a “kickoff” fundraising event, which was held on June 22, 2023 with suggested contributions ranging from \$50 to \$1,000 per person. In the two weeks leading up to that event, while you were still a public employee, you published at least six posts to your personal social media accounts, advertising your Committee’s June 22 event, inviting people to attend, and soliciting contributions.

Based upon our review, we have concluded that your distribution via social media of a fundraising invitation did not comply with Section 13. To resolve this matter, you have purged contributions received as a result of the prohibited activity, in the total amount of \$5,400.

OCPF notes that additional concerns were raised relative to your alleged use of public resources in support of your candidacy. You acknowledged that, prior to your resignation becoming effective, you conducted a campaign interview from your personal office within Boston City Hall, after the work day had ended, with your personal cell phone. Based on our review, and information you provided, it does not appear that staff time or publicly-paid computers or phones were used in support of your candidacy. Public employees should refrain, however, from using their offices for campaign activity, even if the activity takes place after working hours.



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OCPF expects this letter will ensure future compliance with the campaign finance law. Therefore, this matter may be closed at this time.

In accordance with the opinion of the Supervisor of Public Records, this letter is a public record and a copy will be placed in your Committee's public file.

Sincerely,



William C. Campbell
Director

WCC/mc

Office of Campaign and Political Finance
11/16/2023 09:44:16 AM