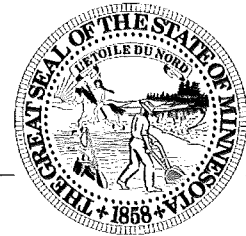


# Campaign Finance & Public Disclosure Board

190 Centennial Office Building, 658 Cedar St, St Paul, MN 55155 [www.cfboard.state.mn.us](http://www.cfboard.state.mn.us)



## Complaint for Violation of the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Act

All information on this form is confidential until a decision is issued by the Board.  
A photocopy of the entire complaint, however, will be sent to the respondent.

### Information about complaint filer

Name of complaint filer	Chris Evans		
Address	9340 Wedgewood Ln N	Email address	crevans83@gmail.com
City, state, and zip	Maple Grove, MN 55369	Telephone (Daytime)	6104428519

### Identify person/entity you are complaining about

Name of person/entity being complained about	Dennis Smith
Address	13570 Grove Dr #370
City, state, zip	Maple Grove, MN 55311
Title of respondent (If applicable)	Representative
Board/Department/Agency/District # (If legislator)	34B

Signature of person filing complaint

10/1/2018

Date

Send completed form to:

Campaign Finance & Public Disclosure Board  
190 Centennial Office Building  
658 Cedar Street  
St. Paul, MN 55155

If you have questions:

Call 651-539-1190, 800-657-3889, or for TTY/TDD communication contact us through the Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529. Board staff may also be reached by email at [cf.board@state.mn.us](mailto:cf.board@state.mn.us).

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling 651-539-1180, 800-657-3889, or through the Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529.

Give the statutory cite to the section of Chapter 10A, Chapter 211B, or Minnesota Rules you believe has been violated:

10A.20

You will find the complete text of Chapter 10A, Chapter 211B, and Minnesota Rules chapters 4501 - 4525 on the Board's website at [www.cfboard.state.mn.us](http://www.cfboard.state.mn.us).

**Nature of complaint**

Explain in detail why you believe the respondent has violated the campaign finance and public disclosure laws. Attach an extra sheet of paper if necessary. Attach any documents, materials, minutes, resolutions, or other evidence to support your allegations.

State Representative Dennis Smith's 2018 pre-primary report, filed July 30, 2018, disclosed \$0 in contributions and \$0 in campaign expenditures. On July 12, 2018, Rep. Smith marched in the Maple Grove Days parade (see Exhibit 1). Maple Grove Community Organization (MGCO) charges a fee for a spot in the parade. Rep. Smith's opponent, Kristin Bahner, marched in the same parade and reported paying parade fees totaling \$350 to MGCO in April and June 2018. To march in the parade, Rep. Smith would have also had to pay such a fee prior to the parade and report it in his pre-primary report. (Unless MGCO waived his fee in violation of Minn. Stat. 211B.205.) I believe the omission of Rep. Smith's parade fee from his pre-primary report violates Minn. Stat. 10A.20, and I believe a formal investigation is necessary to determine whether he made other omissions or violations.

Minnesota Statutes section 10A.022, subdivision 3, describes the procedures required for investigating complaints. A full description of the complaint process is available on the Board's website.

Briefly, the Board will notify you when it has received your complaint. The Board must send a copy of the complaint to the respondent. Complaints and investigations are confidential. Board members and staff cannot talk about an investigation except as required to carry out the investigation or to take action in the matter. After the Board issues a decision, the record of the investigation is public.

The law requires a complaint to go through two stages before the Board can begin an investigation: a prima facie determination and a probable cause decision. If the complaint does not pass one of the stages, it must be dismissed.

The Board has 10 business days after receiving your complaint to determine whether the complaint is sufficient to allege a prima facie violation of the campaign finance laws. If the Board determines that the complaint does allege a prima facie violation, the Board has 45 days to decide whether probable cause exists to believe a violation that warrants a formal investigation has occurred. Both you and the respondent have the right to be heard on the issue of probable cause before the Board makes this decision. The Board will notify you if the complaint moves to the probable cause stage.

If the Board determines that probable cause does not exist, the Board will dismiss the complaint. If the Board determines that probable cause exists, the Board will start an investigation. The Board will send you monthly updates regarding the status of the investigation. At the end of the investigation, the Board will offer you and the respondent the opportunity to be heard before the Board makes a final decision.

In most cases, the Board will issue findings, conclusions, and an order as its decision. For a spending or contribution limits violation, the Board can enter into a conciliation agreement with the respondent instead of issuing findings, conclusions, and an order. The Board's final decision will be sent to you and posted on the Board's website.

# Exhibit 1

 **Dennis Smith**  
@DennisSmithMN

Following 

Still waiting for the rain to stop at the Maple Grove Days Parade! #mnleg #MapleGroveDays



7:05 PM - 12 Jul 2018

12 Likes 

   12 