ADVISORY ALERT

DOUBLING OF CONTRIBUTION LIMITS FOR PHILADELPHIA’S 8TH COUNCIL DISTRICT ELECTION

Chapter 20-1000 of the Philadelphia Code contains the City’s campaign finance law. The provisions of Chapter 20-1000 are subject to the jurisdiction of the Board of Ethics. Section 20-1002 establishes contribution limits for candidates for City office. Board of Ethics Regulation No. 1 interprets and sets forth detailed guidance on the City’s campaign finance law.

Pursuant to Regulation No. 1, Paragraph 1.7, if a candidate makes total contributions of $250,000 or more of his or her personal resources to his or her candidate committee, then the contribution limits for all candidates for that office shall be doubled for that calendar year. However, the limits for post-candidacy contributions and the limits for contributions to litigation fund committees do not double.

On May 12, 2011, Howard Treatman, a candidate in the 8th City Council district election, contributed $35,000 to his candidate committee, Treatman for Council. That contribution brought the total amount contributed by Mr. Treatman to his campaign to $279,486.10.

Therefore, effective May 12, 2011, the contribution limits are doubled for all candidates in the 8th City Council district election to:

- Individuals: $5,200
- Other persons and political committees: $21,200
Please note, pursuant to Regulation No. 1, Paragraph 1.7(c), a contribution that exceeds the contribution limits at the time it is accepted by a candidate exceeds the contribution limits even if the contribution limits subsequently double and the contribution is less than the doubled limits.

Questions concerning Philadelphia’s campaign finance law may be directed to Board of Ethics staff at 215-686-9450. Information is also available on the Board’s website at: http://www.phila.gov/ethicsboard.

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