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January 16, 2024

## By E-mail

Mike Norman Laborers Building a Better New York

Laurence Laufer

## FINAL BOARD DETERMINATION – EC2023 PRIMARY ELECTION INDEPENDENT SPENDER

The New York City Campaign Finance Board ("Board"), at a meeting held on January 11, 2024, made the following final determination concerning Laborers Building a Better New York:

The Board determined that Laborers Building a Better New York violated the New York City Charter and Board Rules and that the Independent Spender, Laborers Building a Better New York, and its Authorized Representative, Mike Norman, are jointly and severally liable for paying \$9,089 in penalties as follows:

- 1. A penalty of \$7,889 for late reporting. See NYC Charter § 1052(a)(15)(b); Board Rules 14-02, 14-03. An independent spender is required to report communications once it makes covered expenditures aggregating \$1,000 during an election cycle for communications that refer to a specific candidate or ballot proposal. See Board Rule 14-02(b), (c). Once the reporting requirement is triggered, independent spenders must file complete and timely disclosure statements on Mondays during the election year, and within 24 hours during the two weeks before an election. The Spender reported the following four communications after the applicable deadlines: \$5,485 in expenditures for Marjorie Velazquez Palm Cards (reported 17 days late); \$8,966 in expenditures for Marjorie Velazquez Mailers (reported 11 days late).; \$14,509 in expenditures for Kevin Riley Mailers (reported 11 days late); and \$5,485 in expenditures for Francisco Moya Palm Cards (reported 17 days late). For the Velazquez and Riley communications the Board assessed penalties representing 25% of the expenditures for each communication. For the Moya communication, the Board assessed a reduced penalty of \$650.
- 2. A penalty of \$1,200 for failure to report accurate information. Independent spenders are required to accurately report complete information about expenditures, contributions, leaders,

contributors, funders, and vendors. See NYC Charter § 1052 (a)(15)(b); Board Rule 14-02. On June 5, 2023, the Spender submitted a disclosure filing that included four contributions from entities for which leadership information was required to be reported but was not provided. On July 10, after the primary election, the Spender submitted leadership information for three of the entities. The Board assessed penalties of \$100 per instance per week from June 5 until election day.

The Board determined that the amount due is \$9,089.

You must pay to the Board the full amount due of \$9,089 no later than February 15, 2024. Checks should be made payable to the "New York City Election Campaign Finance Fund," and mailed to the attention of Joseph Gallagher, Interim General Counsel, New York City Campaign Finance Board, 100 Church Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10007 or delivered to the offices of the Board.

If the Board is not in receipt of the full \$9,089 by February 15, 2024, the Independent Spender's name and the unpaid amount will be posted on the Board's Website and the Board may initiate a civil action against the Independent Spender and its Authorized Representative to compel payment.

You may challenge this final determination, within four months, in the New York State Supreme Court pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules.

If you need additional time to pay this amount or if you have any questions concerning this Final Board Determination, please contact Joseph Gallagher, Interim General Counsel, at (212) 409-1865 or JGallagher@nyccfb.info.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Joseph Gallagher Interim General Counsel

NEW YORK CITY CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD