



MINNESOTA

CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

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	
Address	Email address
City, state, and zip	Telephone (Daytime)

Identify person/entity you are complaining about

Name of person/entity being complained about
Address
City, state, zip
Title of respondent (If applicable)
Board/Department/Agency/District # (If legislator)

Signature of person filing complaint

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 651-539-1189, 800-657-3889, or for TTY/TDD communication contact us via the Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529. Board staff may be reached by email at 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.

, and Minnesota Rules chapters 4501 -

campaign finance and public disclosure laws.
photographs, or other evidence needed to
ward by email or via a file transfer service.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is a solid black vertical line along the left edge, which serves as a margin. The paper appears to be from a notebook or a standard writing template.

4525 describe the procedures required for
s available on the Board's website. Briefly,
board must send a copy of the complaint to
ard members and staff cannot talk about an
take action in the matter. After the Board

Board can begin an investigation: a prima facie case does not pass one of the stages, it must be resolved after receiving your complaint to determine if the complaint alleges a prima facie violation, the Board must find a violation that warrants a formal investigation. The Board must rule on the issue of probable cause before the complaint moves to the probable cause stage.

ard will dismiss the complaint. If the Board
igation. In some cases the Board will issue
e Board will instead enter into a conciliation
osted on the Board's website.

On January 27th, 2025, the Minnesota Senate considered a motion from Senator Jordan Rasmusson to expel Senator Nicole Mitchell. The presiding officer, Senator Bobby Joe Champion, ruled the motion out of order. Senator Rasmusson then appealed the President's ruling and requested a roll-call vote. The motion failed 33-33. Senator Mitchell cast the tie-breaking vote to uphold the ruling of the President, a vote which dismissed the threat to her elected position and every benefit that it brings by preventing the full body from considering her continued membership in the legislature.

In voting to support that ruling, she was voting in her own personal, financial interest, which was to remain a member of the Senate, and therefore continue to receive salary and benefits all senators receive. She did not recuse herself under Senate Rule 56.4, which states, "Members of the Senate must disclose potential conflicts of interest in the discharge of senatorial duties as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.07."

The Minnesota Senate is governed not only by statute but also by its own rules, which are enforced through the body's Subcommittee on Ethical Conduct. On March 13, 2025, the Senate Subcommittee on Ethical Conduct convened and discussed the conflict-of-interest charge against Senator Mitchell. The committee was unable to reach a majority conclusion as to whether Senator Mitchell's vote represented a violation of Senate Rules.

While the Senate has jurisdiction over its own rules, Minnesota Statute 10A.07 stands independent of the Senate Rules, and is firmly within the jurisdiction of the Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board to enforce. The Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board is charged with overseeing financial disclosures for state officials as well as campaign finance documents for candidates across the state and has authority under Minnesota Statute 10A.022 to enforce violations of Minnesota Statute Chapter 10A.

In compliance with Minnesota statutes, Senator Mitchell has filed a Statement of Economic Interest Statement outlining her sources of income. Senator Mitchell reports her only sources of income as of January 22, 2025, as the "MN State Senate" and the "National Guard." She lists no business ownership, independent contracting income, real property, honoraria, government agency interests, or pari-mutuel horse racing interests. She reports one security, a technology startup called "Chat Lingual." Given this report, it seems likely that her Senate income, along with benefits, is a substantial part of her income and thus a significant financial interest. Being expelled from the Senate would dramatically impact her financial situation.

Senator Mitchell did not recuse herself from this vote and failed to disclose the conflict of interest in the prescribed manner. I am requesting the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board review the vote pursuant to its authority under Minnesota Statute

Chapter 10A.022 and determine whether Senator Mitchell's vote on her own disciplinary proceedings was consistent with conflict of interest laws found in 10A.07.