

Kevin Ward  
Mayor



Tracey E. Douglas  
City Administrator

September 13, 2021

Michael Brown  
████████████████████  
████████████████████

**RE: NOTICE OF FINES FOR CAMPAIGN VIOLATIONS**

Dear Mr. Brown,

As recommended by the Ethics Commission, the Board of Supervisors of Elections, under the authority of § 8-39 of the Hyattsville City Code, hereby imposes an initial fine of \$25, followed by a daily fine starting on Thursday, September 9, 2021, on your campaign for the following violations:

- § 8-29 (A): failure to file the second campaign finance report
- § 8-30 (C): failure to include the required information on the first campaign finance report, and
- § 8-31 (B): failure to correct deficient campaign finance reporting.

**The daily fine is hereby imposed until the Ethics Commission determines that the matter has been resolved and reports such to the Board of Supervisors of Elections.**

Attached is a copy of the correspondence from the Ethics Commission to the Board of Supervisors of Elections, dated September 9, 2021. A copy of this correspondence was provided to you on September 9, 2021. The details of the infractions are listed below

*1) Candidate Michael Brown has been non-compliant in resolving several issues associated with his First Campaign Finance Report. Candidate Brown was notified of the deficiencies by the Ethics Commission in writing on August 25 and September 7, 2021. Because of his continued delays to properly resolve this matter, the Ethics Commission recommends imposing an initial fine and a follow-on daily fine starting on Thursday, September 9th that will continue accruing until the Ethics Commission determines that the matter has been resolved.*

*2) Candidate Michael Brown is currently non-compliant in submitting his Second Campaign Finance Report. In a letter from the Ethics Commission dated September 7, 2021, Mr. Brown was advised to file the necessary report by 1 PM on September 9, 2021. He did not do so. As such, the Ethics Commission recommends imposing a daily fine for non-compliance starting on Thursday, September 9th that will continue until the Commission determines that the matter has been resolved.*

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Please note that per § 8-34 (D), campaign fines are not payable with campaign contributions. Additionally, after notification of a violation and for each day the violation continues, the Board may impose additional fines, if an infraction is not abated within a reasonable time. Payment of the fines for campaign violations may be made via check made out to the City of Hyattsville.

A copy of this correspondence will be posted on the City's website. Upon payment of the fines, a notation will be added to the website to indicate the fine status as "paid".

Should you have any questions please contact the Board of Supervisors of Elections via email at [elections@hyattsville.org](mailto:elections@hyattsville.org). Per § 8-40 of the Hyattsville City Code, any person who is aggrieved by any decision or action of the Board when it is enforcing any provision of this chapter, shall have the right to appeal the decision within 30 days to the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, which shall review the matter de novo and without a jury.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Greta Mosher", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Greta Mosher, Chair, Board of Supervisors of Elections

cc: City of Hyattsville Board of Supervisors of Elections  
Laura Reams, City Clerk  
Sean Corcoran, Deputy City Clerk

Kevin Ward  
Mayor



Tracey E. Douglas  
City Administrator

September 10, 2021

Greta Mosher, Chair  
Board of Supervisors of Elections  
4310 Gallatin Street  
Hyattsville, MD 20781

Dear Chair Mosher,

Based upon discussions held during yesterday's meeting of the City of Hyattsville Ethics Commission and a careful consideration of the relevant facts, the Ethics Commission is recommending that fines be imposed on the following candidate for the indicated causes at the amount expressed below:

- 1) Candidate Michael Brown has been non-compliant in resolving several issues associated with his First Campaign Finance Report. Candidate Brown was notified of the deficiencies by the Ethics Commission in writing on August 25 and September 7, 2021. Because of his continued delays to properly resolve this matter, the Ethics Commission recommends imposing an initial fine and a follow-on daily fine starting on Thursday, September 9th that will continue accruing until the Ethics Commission determines that the matter has been resolved.
- 2) Candidate Michael Brown is currently non-compliant in submitting his Second Campaign Finance Report. In a letter from the Ethics Commission dated September 7, 2021, Mr. Brown was advised to file the necessary report by 1 PM on September 9, 2021. He did not do so. As such, the Ethics Commission recommends imposing a daily fine for non-compliance starting on Thursday, September 9th that will continue until the Commission determines that the matter has been resolved.

The Ethics Commission recommends an initial fine of \$25 that reflects the long-standing infelicities of the First Campaign Finance Report followed by a combined fine of \$10 until both issues have been resolved. The Commission believes that under § 8-37, § 8-39(C) and § 8-39(E) of the City Code it is within the power of the Board of Election Supervisors to levy such fines to ensure compliance with the City's campaign finance regulations and to support public transparency around campaign activities.

Thank you.

Kevin Ward  
Mayor



Tracey E. Douglas  
City Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "TCR", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

T. Carter Ross  
Chair, Ethics Commission

cc: City of Hyattsville Ethics Commission  
Laura Reams, City Clerk  
Sean Corcoran, Deputy City Clerk  
Michael Brown, Candidate