

EXPENSES AND FUND RAISING FOR INTERNATIONAL CANDIDATES

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to set forth specific procedures and guidelines to be followed by each candidate, when submitting expenses or raising funds within Multiple District 14, while campaigning for an International Office of Lions Clubs International. This is done to provide for an orderly and ethical campaign of each candidate.

DEFINITIONS:

International Office, as referred to in this policy, is defined to mean International 2nd Vice President or International Director within Multiple District 14.

GENERAL:

1. Campaign Expenses by Individual Candidates Prior to State Endorsement at a MD-14 Lions Convention:

Each candidate for an International Office shall exercise moderation and sound judgment insofar as his/her own campaign expenses are concerned during the campaign prior to the endorsement at any State Lions Convention of Multiple District 14.

The Articles of Incorporation of the International Association of Lions Clubs expressly forbid that any part of the net earnings from fund raising activities shall inure to the benefit of any individual Lion or individual Lions Club. Therefore, no public funds shall be used for campaign expenses.

2. Multiple District Fund Raising:

The International Board Policy Manual Chapter XV Legal, Section D Legal Opinions, Number 2, Financial Aid to Candidates states: "The International Constitution grants multiple districts the right of representation at the international level. Inherent in this right is the right to finance efforts necessary to gain such representation. Therefore, it is implied that such funds may be raised from the membership of the respective multiple district. Said levy must be made in accordance with provisions contained in the multiple district constitution for a dues increase."

Any candidate seeking an International Office shall comply with this policy as previously defined in this policy.

3. Campaign Finance Expenditures:
 - a. After a candidate for international office is endorsed by the delegates at the Multiple District 14 convention, the Multiple District then pays the expenses of operating the campaign from the MD-14 Promotional Fund.

- b. The candidate is required to present a budget for all expenditures related to the campaign as outlined in the promotional fund guidelines which are as follows:
 - i. Air fare (coach) to the International Convention for 2 years as the endorsed candidate
First year - Round Trip
Second year – One way (if elected)
 - ii. Expenses for hotel, meals and taxi fare for a maximum of 7 days and 6 nights each year at the International Convention.
 - iii. Campaign brochures, posters (English and other languages if necessary)
Quantity _____
 - iv. Campaign giveaways Quantity _____

For the above expenses to be reimbursed, original receipts must be submitted to the State Office.

Any candidate who is speaking in a sub-district in Multiple District 14, prior to election, shall use his/her own campaign funds.

Once the candidate is elected to an international office, Lions Club International shall reimburse all expenses. The newly elected international officer will no longer be entitled to expenses from the Promotional Fund.

Personal pins or banners shall be purchased from the newly elected International Officer's personal campaign funds.

- c. The candidate or the candidate's committee chairperson shall present the following:
 - i. A budget, which is outlined in the guidelines for a candidate for international office, shall be submitted to the Finance Committee for review and must be approved by the Council of Governors.
 - ii. All approved items of the budget shall be paid by the State Administrator when presented with proven documentation (only original invoices will be accepted).
 - iii. Any items not covered in the budget shall be presented to the Finance Committee for a variance then approved by the Council of Governors.
 - iv. Any money not used from the budget shall be returned to the Promotional Fund.