

December 30, 2013

Director Graham Sloan
Arkansas Ethics Commission
910 West Second Street, Suite 100
P.O. Box 1917
Little Rock, AR 72203

Dear Mr. Sloan and members of the Arkansas Ethics Commission:

Earlier this month, in a private hearing before the Ethics Commission, I told the commissioners that I wanted to apologize to them and to the people of Arkansas. I want to reiterate that: I have failed to keep adequate records of my campaign finances, and as a result my campaign record-keeping and campaign disclosures were inadequate.

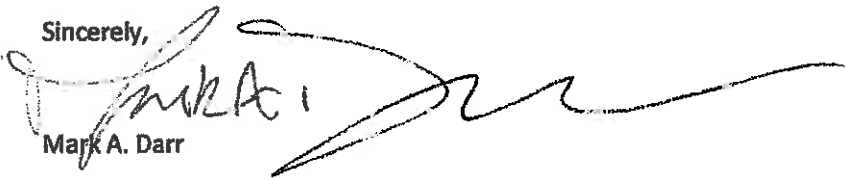
I think it is fair to note, however, that it is a mistake to infer from this that I ever intentionally took money that I was not entitled to. The reality is that, before my election, I loaned a substantial amount of money to my campaign; after my election, I raised additional money and directed my campaign to repay the money it owed to me in a series of transactions.

Because of inadequate record-keeping, in three circumstances I accepted contributions over the legal limit. I intend, as soon as possible, to reimburse these three contributors for these over-the-limit contributions. This reimbursement will turn my campaign surplus into a campaign debt. The fact of this campaign debt suggests that some accusations I have weathered -- accusations of personal use of campaign monies and of raising too much in debt-retirement contributions -- rest on a mistake of legal analysis.

I don't wish to minimize the seriousness of the mistakes I have made in campaign record-keeping and campaign disclosure. Again, however, I think it is fair to distinguish between these mistakes and intentionally taking money that was not mine. I do not believe I ever intentionally took money that was not owed to me. That does not change the fact that I made mistakes in record-keeping and disclosure.

Again, I apologize for the mistakes I have made to the people of Arkansas, and I will comply fully with the Ethics Commission's recommendations of fines and corrected disclosure reports.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark A. Darr', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mark A. Darr