Khuram Aftab

2018 Candidate for City Councilor ward 13 Toronto

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION LIMIT VIOLATION

Honorable Compliance Audit Committee Members:

I run a small business in Toronto's regent park area and often participate in community volunteer opportunities and assist the needy people. Local community know me well and requested me to run for city councilor in 2018's Toronto Municipal Elections for ward 13. My close friends and family helped me with donations and now I am told by city Clerk that I might have violated city's by law for campaign finances.

Before 2018 election, I have never been involved in political campaign, nor run for any public posting during any election. My intention was to help my local community and have their voices heard in city hall. Since I was novice to this whole process, I was taking directions from the candidate of 2014 election, but he didn't mention any thing about contribution limit. Based on document "Contribution Rebate Guide for Contributors" downloaded from city's website our understanding was that total limit was $5000.

It was very clear and obvious that we can't win so, I didn't have any intention to spend big money nor take contributions. But later my team convinced me to ask for donations, just like other candidates. It was very late into campaign, so I only reached out to my close friends and family for support, and they helped me beyond my expectations; but unfortunately, we failed to determine the max limit of contribution. It was an unintentional mistake on my behalf of accepting those donations above city's recommended limits, none of the contributors knew about this rule either

Now I feel very embarrassed in front of my friends that I put them in trouble. I have never been involved in any litigation process nor court charges or any other kind of illegal activity in my life, and this current situation is very stressful. I apologize for my mistakes and I assure the compliance Audit Committee that it will never happen again.

Sincerely

Khuram Aftab.