

351—4.47(68A,68B) Permitted activity—reimbursement required. The prohibitions against certain transactions between corporate entities and candidates or committees expressly advocating the election or defeat of candidates contained in Iowa Code section 68A.503 and in rule 351—4.44(68A,68B) are not construed to prohibit activity that occurs consistent with this rule.

4.47(1) *Purchase or rental of office facility.* A candidate's committee or any other committee that expressly advocates the election or defeat of a candidate may purchase or rent property belonging to a corporate entity, so long as the purchase or rental is at fair market value. For the purpose of this subrule, "fair market value" means the amount that a member of the general public would expect to pay to purchase or rent a similar property within the community in which the property is located.

4.47(2) *Use of corporate facilities to produce or mail materials.* Any person who uses the facilities of a corporate entity to produce or mail materials in connection with a candidate election is required to reimburse the corporate entity within a commercially reasonable time for the normal and usual charge for producing or mailing such materials in the commercial market. For example, if it would otherwise cost 10 cents per page to have a brochure copied at a commercial printer, the corporate entity must be reimbursed at 10 cents per page even if the overhead and operating cost is only 5 cents per page. Likewise, the corporate entity must be reimbursed at the first-class mail rate even if the direct cost to the corporate entity is less through the use of its bulk mail permit. This subrule does not affect the ability of a commercial vendor to charge an amount for postage which is less than for first-class mail where the reduced or bulk mail charge is available to all similarly situated customers without respect to the political identity of the customer.

4.47(3) *Use or rental of corporate facilities by other persons.* Persons other than stockholders, administrative officers or employees of a corporate entity who make any use of corporate facilities, such as using telephones, facsimile machines, typewriters or computers or borrowing office furniture for activity in connection with a candidate election, are required to reimburse the corporate entity within a commercially reasonable time in the amount of the normal and usual rental charge. If one or more telephones of a corporate entity are used as a telephone bank, a rebuttable presumption is established that \$3 per telephone per hour, plus any actual long distance charges, is acceptable as a normal and usual rental charge.

4.47(4) *Use of airplanes and other means of transportation.*

a. Air travel. A candidate, candidate's agent, or person traveling on behalf of a candidate who uses noncommercial air transportation made available by a corporate entity shall, in advance, reimburse the corporate entity as follows:

(1) Where the destination is served by regularly scheduled commercial service, the coach class airfare (without discounts).

(2) Where the destination is not served by a regularly scheduled commercial service, the usual charter rate.

b. Other transportation. A candidate, candidate's agent, or person traveling on behalf of a candidate who uses other means of transportation made available by a corporate entity shall, within a commercially reasonable time, reimburse the corporate entity at the normal and usual rental charge.

4.47(5) *Equal access not required.* For the purpose of this rule, it is not necessary that the corporate entity be in the business of selling or renting the property, good or service to the general public; further, it is not necessary that the corporate entity provide access to the same property, good or service to other candidates or committees.

4.47(6) *Commercially reasonable time.* For the purpose of this rule, a rebuttable presumption is established that reimbursement to the corporate entity within ten business days is acceptable as within a commercially reasonable time.

4.47(7) *Loans and debts.* A financial institution may make a loan to a candidate or candidate's committee so long as the loan is repaid and all proper public disclosure of the transaction is made pursuant to rule 351—4.18(68A,68B). A candidate or candidate's committee may owe a debt to an insurance company, financial institution, or corporation so long as the debt is repaid and all proper public disclosure of the transaction is made pursuant to rule 351—4.16(68A,68B). The repayment of a loan or debt under this subrule shall be made prior to the dissolution of the committee pursuant to rule 351—4.57(68A,68B).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 68A.503.

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