

SWORN COMPLAINT BEFORE THE TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION

An individual must be a resident of the state of Texas to be eligible to file a sworn complaint with the Texas Ethics Commission. The complainant is required to attach to the complaint a copy of one of the following documents:

- complainant's driver's license or personal identification certificate issued under Chapter 521 of the Transportation Code, or commercial driver's license issued under Chapter 522 of the Transportation Code; or
- a utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document that shows the name and address of the complainant and is dated not more than 30 days before the date on which the complaint is filed.

Effective September 1, 2009, an individual may also be eligible to file a sworn complaint with the Texas Ethics Commission if the individual owns real property in the state of Texas. Under this provision, the complainant will be required to attach to the complaint a copy of a property tax bill, notice of appraised value, or other government document that shows the name of the complainant, shows the address of the real property in Texas, and identifies the complainant as the owner of the real property.

OFFICE USE ONLY
Docket Number
Date Hand-delivered or Date Postmarked

I. IDENTITY OF COMPLAINANT

1 COMPLAINANT NAME	MS / MRS / MR MR. <small>NICKNAME</small>	FIRST CRAIG <small>LAST</small>	MI L. <small>SUFFIX</small>		
2 COMPLAINANT PHYSICAL ADDRESS	ADDRESS 609 W. 18th ST.	APT / SUITE #: E	CITY: Austin	STATE: Texas	ZIP CODE 78701
<small>(Full home or business address, including street, city, state, and zip code)</small>					
3 COMPLAINANT MAILING ADDRESS	ADDRESS	APT / SUITE #:	CITY:	STATE:	ZIP CODE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (check if same as above)					
<small>(Full home or business address, including street, city, state, and zip code)</small>					
4 COMPLAINANT TELEPHONE NUMBER	AREA CODE 512.	PHONE NUMBER 492-9990	EXT	5 COMPLAINANT E-MAIL ADDRESS	Craig@tpj.org

II. IDENTITY OF RESPONDENT

6 RESPONDENT NAME	MS / MRS / MR	FIRST Debra <small>LAST</small>	MI		
	<small>NICKNAME</small>	Lehrmann	<small>SUFFIX</small>		
7 RESPONDENT POSITION OR TITLE	District Judge District 360				
8 RESPONDENT PHYSICAL ADDRESS	ADDRESS 1213 Somerset Blvd.	APT / SUITE #:	CITY: Colleyville	STATE: TX	ZIP CODE 76034
<small>(Full home or business address, including street, city, state, and zip code)</small>					
9 RESPONDENT MAILING ADDRESS	ADDRESS	APT / SUITE #:	CITY:	STATE:	ZIP CODE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (check if same as above)					
<small>(Full home or business address, including street, city, state, and zip code)</small>					
10 RESPONDENT TELEPHONE NUMBER	AREA CODE 817	PHONE NUMBER -239-8984	EXT	11 RESPONDENT E-MAIL ADDRESS (IF KNOWN)	Unknown

GO TO PAGE 2

III. Nature of Alleged Violations

Respondent Debra Lehrmann, a candidate in the March 2, 2010 Republican Primary election for Texas Supreme Court Justice Place 3 appears to have accepted approximately \$15,100 in political contributions that exceed the contribution limits for the office in violation of the Judicial Campaign Fairness Act Section 253.155 of the Texas Election Code.

According to Section 253.155 of the Judicial Campaign Fairness Act, the aggregate limit on political contributions from a person to a candidate for the March 2, 2010 primary election for the office is \$5,000 [Section 253.155 (b)(1)].

The only exception to the \$5,000 limit is found in Section 253.159, which states that the limit does not apply to an individual who is related to the candidate within the second degree by consanguinity, as defined in Subchapter B, Chapter 573, Government Code.

The respondent appears to have accepted a loan in the amount of \$20,000 from Norma J. Talley of Fort Worth, Texas on January 6, 2010 and a \$100 contribution from Talley on October 5, 2009. Under Chapter 251 of the Election Code (Subchapter A, Section 251.001), such a loan (not made by a corporation that has legally lent money for at least one year) is defined as a "Contribution."

###

IV. Statement of Facts

Respondent Debra Lehrmann was a candidate for the March 2, 2010 Republican Party election for Place 3 on the Texas Supreme Court. Lehrmann survived the primary and subsequently won the Republican nomination by prevailing in the April 13 runoff. Each of the six candidates in the race filed sworn declarations of intent to comply with the expenditure limits prescribed by the Judicial Campaign Fairness Act. Therefore all candidates in the race were subject to the \$5,000 contribution limits detailed in the Judicial Campaign Fairness Act.

Respondent Lehrmann's Judicial Campaign Finance Report (Account # 00041325) covering the period 1/1/2010 through 1/21/2010 lists a \$20,000 campaign loan received on 1/6/2010 from Norma J. Talley of Fort Worth, TX. The report indicates the lender is not a financial institution and lists the lender's occupation as "retired." Respondent also reported receiving a \$100 contribution from Norma Talley on October 5, 2009.

These contributions appear to exceed the allowable contribution limit for the election (\$5,000) by \$15,100.

The only exception to the \$5,000 limit is for contributions from individuals related to the candidate within the second degree of consanguinity. From information conveyed to and reported on in the Austin-American Statesman on March 3, 2010, the respondent identified the lender as her "mother-in-law."

###

V. LISTING OF DOCUMENTS AND OTHER MATERIALS

List all documents and other materials filed with this complaint. Additionally, list all other documents and other materials that are relevant to this complaint and that are within your knowledge, including their location, if known.

1.) Form JC/OH for period 1/01/2010 through 1/21/2010 filed by Debra Lehmann, Acct #00041325. (partial)

2) Article by Chuck Lindell published in the Austin-American Statesman on March 3, 2010.

3) Form JC/OH for period 7/1/09 through 12/31/09 filed by Debra Lehmann (partial).

ATTACH ADDITIONAL PAGES AS NEEDED

**VI. AFFIDAVIT
BASED ON PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE**

(Execute this affidavit if the acts alleged are within your direct personal knowledge.)

I, _____, complainant,
swear that I am a resident of the state of Texas. I swear that I have knowledge of the
facts alleged in this complaint and that the information contained in this complaint is
true and correct.

Signature of Complainant

AFFIX NOTARY STAMP / SEAL ABOVE

Sworn to and subscribed before me, by the said _____, this the _____ day of
_____, 20 _____, to certify which, witness my hand and seal of office.

Signature of officer administering oath

Printed name of officer administering oath

Title of officer administering oath

**VII. AFFIDAVIT
BASED ON INFORMATION AND BELIEF**

(Execute this affidavit if the acts alleged are not within your direct personal knowledge, but are based on reasonable belief.)

I, CRAIG L. Mc DONALD, complainant,
swear that I am a resident of the state of Texas. I swear that I have reason to believe
and do believe that the violation alleged in this complaint has occurred. The source
of my information and belief is

public documents.

Craig L. McDonald
Signature of Complainant

AFFIX NOTARY STAMP / SEAL ABOVE

Sworn to and subscribed before me, by the said Craig L. Mc DONALD, this the 22nd day of
April, 20 10, to certify which, witness my hand and seal of office.

[Signature]
Signature of officer administering oath

Janette Flores
Printed name of officer administering oath

Public Notary
Title of officer administering oath

