COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES



STATE OF MONTANA

CHRIS J. GALLUS COMMISSIONER TELEPHONE (406) 444-2942 FAX (406) 444-1643 1209 EIGHTH AVENUE PO BOX 202401 HELENA, MONTANA 59620-2401 www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

June 14, 2023

Jane VanFossen 1322 Khanabad Drive Missoula, MT 59802

Subject:

Complaints received June 12, 2023; VanFossen v.

Siloti/Missoula County Republican Central Committee and Missoula County Republicans, Incorporated, COPP-2023-

CFP-008

Jane,

This letter acknowledges the receipt of your formal Campaign Finance and Practices (CFP) complaints, received by this Office via U.S. Mail on June 12, 2023. Each signed and certified CFP Complaint alleges violation of Montana election law under my jurisdiction as Commissioner of Political Practices. Each complaint also appears to conform to the basic requirements of 44.11.106 ARM. Consequently, I will accept each complaint as filed.

Pursuant to the established process, a letter and copy of the complaint is being sent to the respondents listed above, requesting that they provide a written response to this office and retain pertinent records pending further investigation of this matter. As each complaint involves common issues and alleged violators I am combining them into one (1) individual matter, as named above.

I will review any additional materials relevant to this complaint- including but not limited to any prior correspondence with or complaint response provided by Treasurer Siloti, other officers or individuals associated with the Missoula County Republican Central Committee, or officers or individuals associated with the incorporated Missoula County Republicans- for any deficiencies pursuant to 44.11.106 ARM, law, and prior relevant COPP rulings, and reserve the right to dismiss the complaint upon this initial inquiry. If this occurs, I will notify you and provide a basis for the dismissal. Alternatively, upon this further review, I may determine that a formal investigation is warranted. If an investigation is conducted, a summary of facts and statement of findings will be prepared, and a copy will be sent to you. This generally forms the basis as to whether the matter is going to be pursued further, which then involves referring the matter to the local county attorney.

Regards,

Chris J. Hallen

Chris Gallus

Commissioner of Political Practices