

Commissioner of Political Practices 1209 Eighth Avenue Post Office Box 202401 Helena, MT 59620-2401 Phone: 406-444-2942 Fax : 406-444-1643 www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

RECEIVED

2020 OCT 26 P 3:31

HAND DELIVERED [] POLITICAL PRACTICES

SIGNED/NOTARIZED []

Campaign Finance and Practices

Complaint Form (08/17)

Type or print in ink all information on this form except for verification signature

Person bringing complaint (Complainant):

Complete Name Trent Bolger - Montana Democratic Party Complete Mailing Address PO Box 802 Helena, MT 59624 Phone Numbers: Work 406-442-9520 Home

Person or organization against whom complaint is brought (Respondent):

Complete Name Republican Governor's Association (RGA)/ RGA Right Direction PAC Complete Mailing Address 1747 Penn Ave NW, Ste 250 Washington, DC 20006 Phone Numbers: Work 202-662-4140 Home

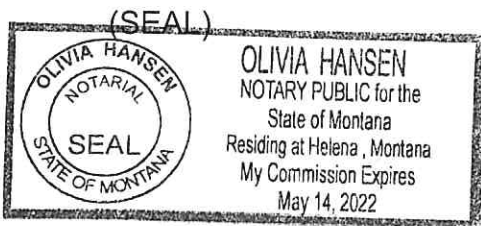
Please complete the second page of this form and describe in detail the facts of the alleged violation.

Verification by oath or affirmation

State of Montana, County of LEWIS & CLARK

I, Trent Bolger, being duly sworn, state that the information in this Complaint is complete, true, and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

[Signature] Signature of Complainant



Subscribed and sworn to before me this 26 day of OCTOBER, 2020.

[Signature] Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

Commissioner Jeff Mangan
Commissioner of Political Practices
1209 Eighth Avenue
P.O. BOX 202401
Helena, MT 59620-2401
cpphelp@mt.gov

Dear Commissioner Mangan:

The Republican Governors Association (RGA) has been sending out tens of thousands of text messages opposing Mike Cooney, with out any disclaimers at all, in clear violation of MCA 13-25-225.

The phone numbers that these messages are sent from do not connect to a phone and the senders do not reply to questions of who is behind the election communication. The only reason we know the RGA is responsible is in Exhibit A they link to a website the RGA owns and operates that expressly advocates for the defeat of Mike Cooney for Governor. This is a common practice in political communications to link people a landing page which you own. The two additional texts (see exhibit B & C) do not even provide the voter with a clue of who paid for the communication, in clear violation of ARM 44.11.601.

As there is no way to correct this election material, I ask that you find the RGA out of compliance with Montana election law and subject the RGA to a civil penalty pursuant to MCA 13-37-128.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Trent Bolger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and "B".

Trent Bolger

Senior Advisor, Montana Democratic Party

Exhibit A

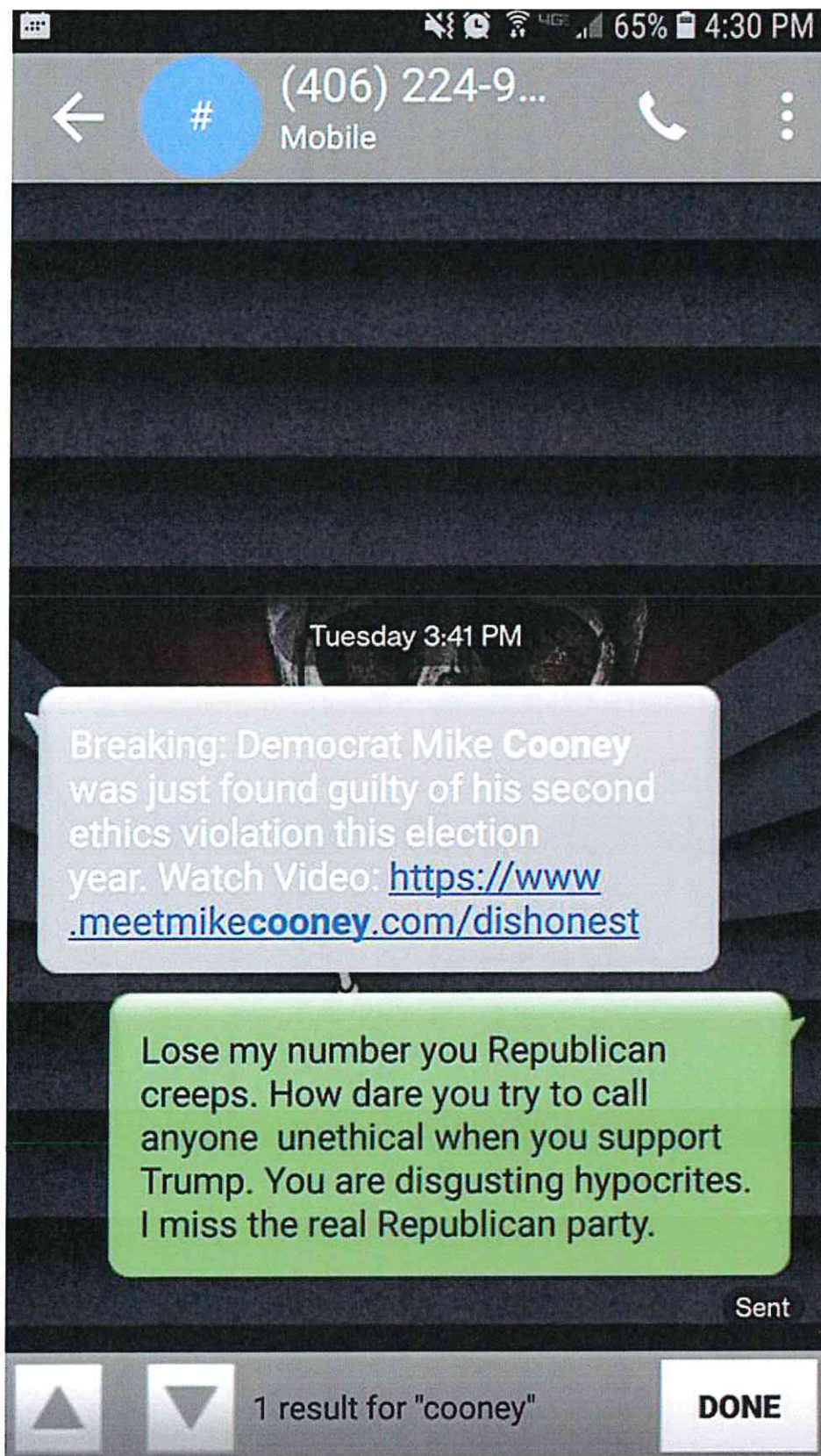


Exhibit B

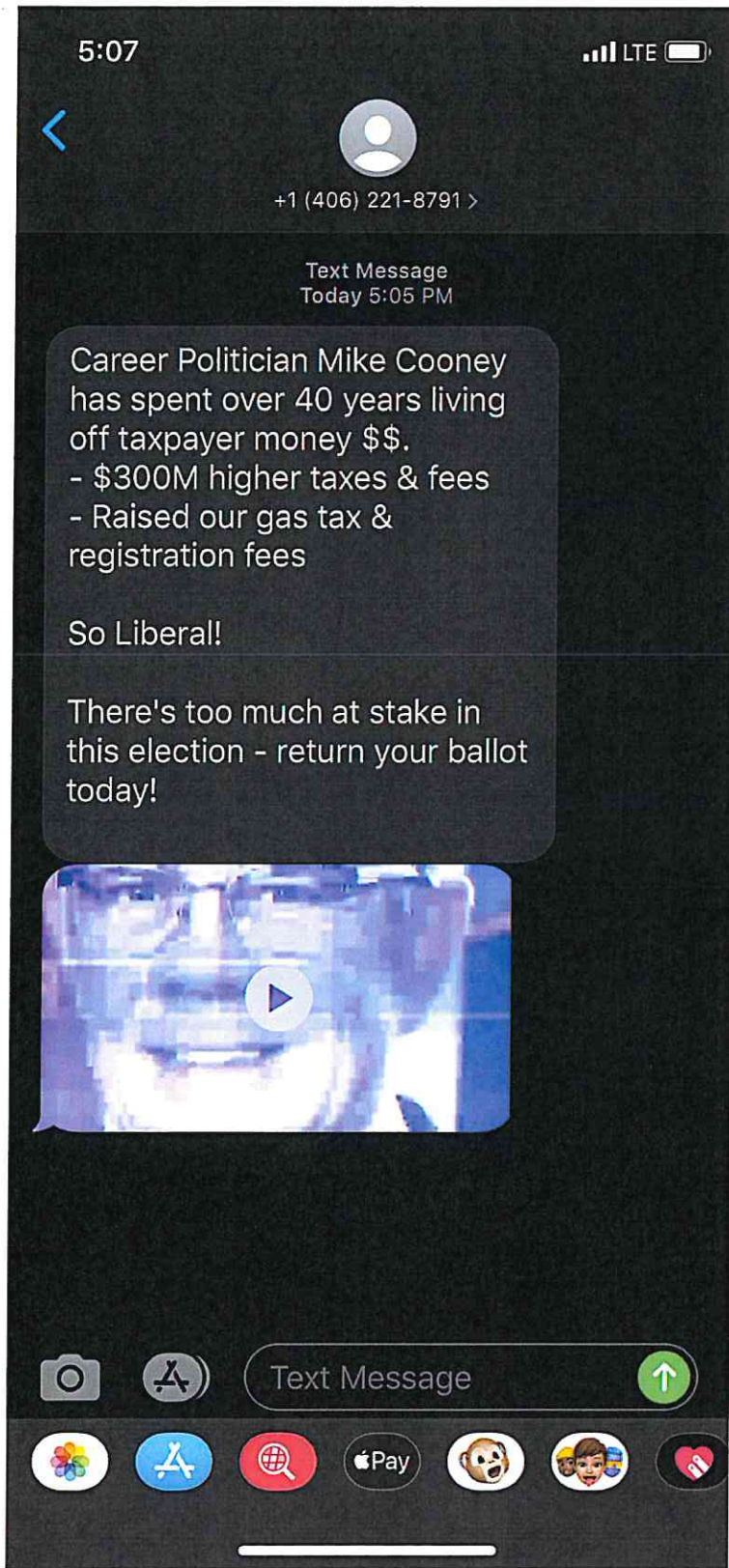


Exhibit C

