

Commissioner of Political Practices
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www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

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SEP 26 2016

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2016 SEP 28 A 9 18

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COMMISSIONER OF
POLITICAL PRACTICES

Campaign Finance and Practices

Complaint Form (10/09)

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

Person bringing complaint (Complainant):

Complete Name Caron Cooper (Ruth Caron Cooper)
Complete Mailing Address PO Box 123
Livingston, MT 59047
Phone Numbers: Work 406 589-7129 Home 406 222-5151

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

Complete Name MTCowgirl
Complete Mailing Address www.mtcowgirl.com
Phone Numbers: Work _____ Home _____

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

Verification by oath or affirmation

State of Montana, County of PARK

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

(SEAL)

[Signature]
Signature of Complainant

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 26 day of Sept, 2016.
Melba Baalberry Deputy Clerk of
Notary Public 6th Judicial District Court

My Commission Expires:

Statement of facts:

Describe in detail the alleged violation(s) and cite the statute or statutes you believe have been violated. Please attach copies of documentary evidence to support the facts alleged in your statement.

If the space provided below is insufficient, you may attach additional pages as necessary.

SEE ATTACHED

Complaints must be:

- signed
- notarized
- delivered in person or by certified mail.

September 26, 2016

Complaint by Caron Cooper against MTCowgirl/violation of MCA 13-35-225

On August 8, 2016, the MTCowgirl (www.mtcowgirl.com) blog published an anonymous post "Renowned TEA Partier Caught Hosting Fundraiser for PSC Spoiler Candidate."

The "Topic Tags" to this article, which are featured prominently after the article title, including topics tags such as PORN and RACIST VIEWS. The sole purpose of these "Topic Tags" was to single me out as a candidate and damage my reputation. They had no journalistic basis and these topics were never a part of the written text.

By using an anonymous author/anonymous website for electioneering, MTCowgirl is violation of **MCA 13-35-225 Election materials not to be anonymous.**

According to a recent piece from reporter Mike Dennison:

"The Cowgirl also is an anonymous blog. Its author – or authors – remain a closely guarded secret, although it's clear they have a close relationship with Democrats in Montana. MTN News could not confirm conclusively who Cowgirl may be. However, the website's author agreed to correspond via email, anonymously, about how the site works. Cowgirl said about 80 percent of the six-year-old blog's content originates from tipsters and readers. **She said she may develop the story further and edit it before posting, and that all facts must be soundly sourced.**"

TOPIC TAGS :

Caron Cooper

Confederate Flag

Ethics

Guns On Campus

Hypocrisy

Infighting

Judicial Code Of Ethics

Kendra Anderson

Nels Swandal

PCS

Spoiler

Porn

Racist Views

Roger Koopman

Stars And Bars

Young Earth Creationist