

THE STATE OF MONTANA

Commissioner of Political Practices
1205 Eighth Avenue
Post Office Box 202401
Helena, MT 59620-2401
Phone: 406-444-2942
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www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

Campaign Finance and Practices

Complaint Form (10/09)

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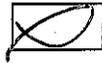
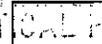
COMMISSIONER OF
POLITICAL PRACTICES

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POLITICAL PRACTICES

HAND DELIVERED

CERTIFIED MAIL

SIGNED/NOTARIZED



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

Person bringing complaint (Complainant):

Complete Name: Larry Reinlasoder
Complete Mailing Address: 2241 Boulder Avenue
Billings, Montana 59102
Phone Numbers: Work _____ Home (406) 861-7311

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

Complete Name: Mayor Rose Hanser
Complete Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1902
Colstrip, Montana 59323
Phone Numbers: Work (406) 748-2300 Home _____

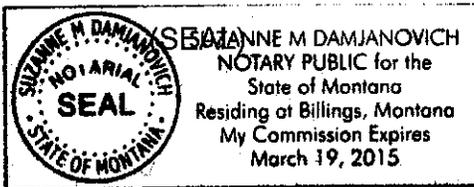
Please complete the second page of this form and describe in detail the facts of the alleged violation.

Verification by oath or affirmation

State of Montana, County of Yellowstone

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

Larry Reinlasoder
Signature of Complainant



Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of May, 2013

Siobane M Damjanovich
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: March 19, 2015

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.

On May 8, 2013, I attended Mayor Rose Hanser's deposition. I listened to Mayor Hanser testify regarding her campaign finances. Attached is the pertinent deposition testimony from Mayor Hanser.

I am making a complaint with the commission on political practices that Mayor Hanser and her campaign violated §13-37-217, MCA (2011). From her deposition testimony I believe Mayor Hanser failed to identify those who contributed to her campaign and how much. Mayor Hanser failed to keep proper records of those who donated to her campaign and how much. Additionally, I believe Mayor Hanser's campaign took in over \$500.00 in donations. I request the commissioner's officer investigate whether Mayor Hanser violated Montana law regarding her campaign finances.

Complaints must be:

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

*Larry Reinlasoder v.
City of Colstrip, Mayor Rose Hanser, et al.*

*Rose Hanser
May 8, 2013*

*Charles Fisher Court Reporting
503 East Mendenhall
Bozeman, MT 59715
(406) 587-9016
maindesk@fishercourtreporting.com*



Min-U-Script® with Word Index

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1 A. Nothing more than a cursory "Hi," --
 2 Q. Okay.
 3 A. -- "How are you doing?"
 4 Q. Did Kris support your campaign in terms
 5 of giving you money?
 6 A. Not that I am aware of.
 7 Q. Would you -- if she did give you money,
 8 would she have written a -- well, how did you take
 9 in money? Through checks?
 10 A. Most of the donations that I'm aware of
 11 were less than \$20.
 12 Q. How many people donated to your campaign?
 13 A. I'm not really sure.
 14 Q. Is it possible that Kris donated to your
 15 campaign?
 16 A. It could be possible.
 17 Q. Did you file financial disclosures as
 18 part of your campaign?
 19 A. Not that I'm aware of.
 20 Q. Okay. Were you required to file
 21 financial disclosures?
 22 A. No.
 23 Q. Okay. Who was the secretary, your
 24 treasurer in charge of your campaign?
 25 A. Don Nolte.

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1 Q. What was the last name?
 2 A. Nolte, N-o-l-t-e.
 3 Q. Okay. Would you have a record of the
 4 campaign donations made to your campaign and the
 5 list of donors?
 6 A. Possible.
 7 Q. If you did, would that be at your home,
 8 or where would it be?
 9 A. I would have to check.
 10 Q. Okay. Did Mercedes Kroll donate to your
 11 campaign?
 12 A. Not that I'm aware of.
 13 Q. How about Lisa Demaniow, did she donate
 14 to your campaign?
 15 A. Not that I'm aware of.
 16 Q. Are you aware of any employees with
 17 the -- either worked for or working for the City
 18 of Colstrip Police Department who donated to your
 19 campaign?
 20 A. Not that I'm aware of.
 21 Q. Okay. Are you telling me you're not
 22 aware but some could have donated to your
 23 campaign?
 24 A. It's possible.
 25 Q. Okay.

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1 A. Cash donations are...
 2 Q. You took in cash donations?
 3 A. Yes.
 4 Q. Okay. When you took in the cash
 5 donations, did you have a ledger of the name of
 6 the person who gave the cash?
 7 A. At a breakfast, just a box where cash
 8 donations are allowed, that is not required.
 9 Q. You didn't keep a ledger of the people?
 10 A. Not at that occasion.
 11 Q. Was the box -- where was the box?
 12 A. Sitting on a table at a breakfast that I
 13 put on.
 14 Q. I see. So was that a campaign event?
 15 A. Yes.
 16 Q. And you put out a box?
 17 A. Yes.
 18 Q. And during the meeting, you said, "If
 19 you'd like to donate, just put the money in the
 20 box"?
 21 A. I don't recall saying that.
 22 Q. Okay. Well, how did people know to put
 23 the money in the box?
 24 A. I don't know. It sat at the table. If
 25 they put money in the box for breakfast, great; if

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1 they didn't, great.
 2 Q. All right. Well, how many of these
 3 meetings would you have to afford your campaign?
 4 A. I only recall the one.
 5 Q. Okay. At this meeting, was Kris Egan
 6 there?
 7 A. Not that I recall.
 8 Q. How about Lisa Demaniow?
 9 A. Not that I recall.
 10 Q. How about Mercedes Kroll?
 11 A. Not that I recall.
 12 Q. How about Cory Hert?
 13 A. Not that I recall.
 14 Q. How about his wife?
 15 A. Not that I recall.
 16 Q. Okay. I -- just so I'm sure, are you
 17 saying definitively that all those people I just
 18 mentioned were not at the meeting, or you just
 19 don't know if they were at the meeting?
 20 A. I don't recall them being at the meeting.
 21 Q. Okay. And who collected the money?
 22 A. I'm not sure at this time.
 23 Q. Okay. Did anyone on the current police
 24 commission donate to your campaign: Ms. Dudley,
 25 Mr. Benner, and Mr. Dolbear?

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1 A. I believe Ms. Dudley did.
 2 Q. How much did Ms. Dudley donate?
 3 A. I don't have that exact amount.
 4 Q. Would your records show that amount?
 5 A. They may.
 6 Q. Okay. How about Mr. Benner?
 7 A. Not that I'm aware of.
 8 Q. Okay. Mr. Dolbear?
 9 A. Not that I'm aware of.
 10 Q. Who in -- either had worked or worked in
 11 city hall donated to your campaign?
 12 A. I don't recall anyone at this time.
 13 Q. Do you know if you're required by law to
 14 submit a list of people who donated to your
 15 campaign and how much they contributed?
 16 A. Only if your campaign has totaled over a
 17 certain dollar amount.
 18 Q. What is that amount?
 19 A. At this time, I'm not positive.
 20 Q. Okay. Did your campaign go over that
 21 amount?
 22 A. I don't believe it did.
 23 Q. All right. What was the date you became
 24 mayor?
 25 A. Well, I took the oath of office on, I

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1 believe, January 3rd, 2012.
 2 Q. Had -- prior to becoming mayor, had you
 3 served in any political offices prior to that
 4 point?
 5 A. No.
 6 Q. You were elected in November?
 7 A. Yes.
 8 Q. And who was running against you? Who did
 9 you beat in the election?
 10 A. Mr. Gale Palmer.
 11 Q. Is Mr. Palmer on the council today?
 12 A. No.
 13 Q. Why'd you decide to run for mayor?
 14 A. I was concerned for the community of
 15 Colstrip.
 16 Q. What were you concerned about?
 17 A. That we have leadership that would take
 18 care of the city.
 19 Q. When you -- did you speak at the campaign
 20 events? Did you give a speech?
 21 A. Very briefly. The breakfast I mentioned
 22 was basically a meet-and-greet.
 23 Q. Okay. Did you -- at any function
 24 regarding your campaign, did you ever make a
 25 statement concerning Larry Reinlasoder and

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1 problems at the police department?
 2 A. Not that I recall.
 3 Q. When you said you were concerned about
 4 leadership, can you give me a specific person you
 5 were concerned about in terms of leadership?
 6 A. Mr. Palmer appeared to be -- or appeared
 7 to have an attitude of what I would consider
 8 deconstruction, and I did not feel that that would
 9 be beneficial to the community.
 10 Q. Okay. I'm not clear on what
 11 "deconstruction" means.
 12 A. Meaning, get rid of the police
 13 department, get rid of our -- some of our public
 14 works people. He was talking about cut, cut, cut,
 15 get rid of things, and I didn't feel that was in
 16 the best interest of our community.
 17 Q. Okay. Were you concerned about Larry
 18 being the police chief?
 19 A. I was not.
 20 Q. Okay. You didn't have any concerns prior
 21 to January 1st, 2013?
 22 MR. LILLY: You mean concerns about what?
 23 MR. D'ALTON: Larry Reinlasoder --
 24 MR. LILLY: Okay.
 25 MR. D'ALTON: -- being police chief.

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1 A. Would you please repeat that?
 2 Q. Yeah. You did -- is it my
 3 understanding -- well, did you have any concerns
 4 about Larry Reinlasoder continuing to be police
 5 chief and his leadership prior -- you -- prior to
 6 January 1st, 2013?
 7 A. Not specifically.
 8 Q. Okay. When you sat in on the hearing in
 9 December of 2000 -- oh, excuse me. Excuse me. I
 10 have gotten the date wrong. Let me go back.
 11 A. Okay.
 12 Q. December 2012, let me take you back to
 13 December of 2012. And we had a hearing in
 14 Colstrip, did we not, on the police commission?
 15 A. No, not in --
 16 Q. 2011, excuse me.
 17 A. Okay.
 18 Q. 2011. I got my date finally right.
 19 A. Okay.
 20 Q. And you sat in on that hearing?
 21 A. Uh-huh.
 22 Q. Is that correct?
 23 A. Yes, I did.
 24 Q. And you listened to everything, right?
 25 A. Yes.