

Cook, Scott

From: Michael Caldwell <caldwelllaw001@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2026 9:53 AM
To: Cook, Scott
Cc: Gallus, Chris J.; Hendricksen-Scott, Shelley
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Attribution Complaint Received by COPP- Forslund v. Caldwell, COPP-2026-CFP-014

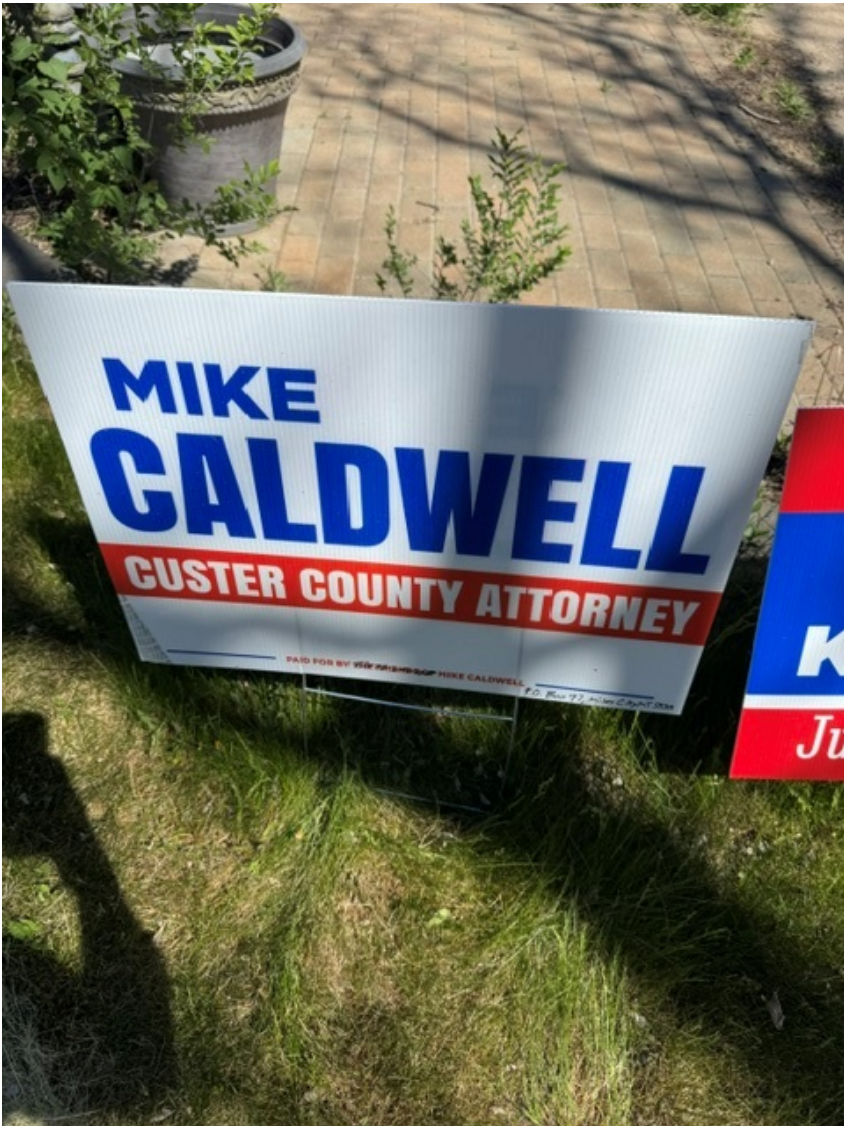
Scott,

I have attached the numbers for 21 signs that are out and all have been corrected. I had not visited or been by most of the signs since they were placed last month. I had initially placed 30 signs with some in reserve. When I went through yesterday to modify them there were only sixteen left where they had been placed. The remaining 14 were gone. Although some signs from other people have been reported missing I had lost effectively half which is not normal. I put five additional corrected signs that I had with me out. Aside from the loss my concern is that Mr. Forslund works as a contract attorney for the only other person in this county attorney race. And someone had a significant number of my signs that have not been modified. I could also mention that Mr. Forsland is a registered voter here in Custer County where he lives, and in Garfield County where he is the elected county attorney and is running for reelection. It seems like he is claiming to be an elector in both counties, filing a complaint against me and running for office in different counties.

Mike Caldwell
406-951-1891









































Mike Caldwell

On Tue, May 12, 2026 at 9:47 AM Cook, Scott <SCook3@mt.gov> wrote:

Michael,

Please see the attached copy of *Forslund v. Caldwell*, COPP-2026-CFP-014, a formal Campaign Finance and Practices (CFP) Complaint submitted to COPP and initially accepted by Montana Commissioner of Political Practices Chris Gallus. A letter from Commissioner Gallus generally outlining the attribution complaint process is also attached. Due to the expedited nature of the attribution complaint process, a copy of this complaint will be posted to COPP's agency website shortly (the morning of May 12, 2026). While hard copies of the submitted complaint and Commissioner's correspondence were sent to you via U.S. Mail yesterday (May 11, 2026), I am providing copies via email message today due to the expedited nature of the attribution complaint process.

As indicated in the Commissioner's letter, the allegation that certain campaign material indicating support for your candidacy fails to include the full "paid for by" attribution statement required under MCA [13-35-225](https://legmt.gov/mca/13-35-225) [mca.legmt.gov] (a statement of "paid for by" followed by the candidate/campaign's full name and address) appears merited. The full required attribution statement will need to be added to all materials that do not already include it within two business days, pursuant to 13-35-225(5) and (6). Please note that a failure to bring material "into compliance as required...is subject to a civil penalty pursuant to 13-37-218, MCA", under MCA 13-35-225(6)(b). If you did not engage in the activity relating to this complaint, I would appreciate having any additional

information you can provide as to potential parties involved. It is in everyone's best interest to immediately resolve the situation in the manner described above, and COPP will work with you, or other parties, to get this accomplished.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly with questions about attribution requirements generally or the attribution complaint process established in MCA 13-35-225(5) and (6). I am away from the office this week and so most easily reached via email at scook3@mt.gov, but may also be reached via telephone at (406) 444-4627.

Scott Cook

Compliance Specialist 3/Public Records Officer

Office of the Commissioner of Political Practices

(406) 444-4627

SCook3@mt.gov