Jennifer Savage Campaign's Formal Response to Daniel Carlino's COPP Complaint

October 29, 2025

This a formal written response from the Jennifer Savage for Ward 3 Campaign, requested by the Commissioner of Political Practices, regarding the complaint filed by Daniel Carlino regarding Carlino v. Savage COPP-2025-CFP-009.

Complaint #1.

1. A "political postcard" was mailed to Missoula voters paid for by "Citizens to Re-Elect Mayor Andrea Davis," that contained the following:

"I endorse these City Council candidates, believing they will best serve all Missoulians: Ward 1, Betsy Craske; Ward 2, Justin Ponton; Ward 3, Jennifer Savage; Ward 4, Mike Nugent; Ward 5, Stacey Anderson; Ward 6, Chris Foster"

- 2. Based on the "political postcard" supplied to the Commissioner, there are no ethical or legal responsibilities required of my campaign or that of any of the other five candidates listed to do anything, including reporting an in-kind contribution or expenditure. As a candidate, I have no control over what another candidate puts in their campaign materials.
- 3. Candidates often endorse other candidates and they can share that information with others. Montana law is very clear on the legal requirements regarding endorsements.
- 4. I, therefore, do not believe this accusation of a campaign violation against my campaign has merit.

Complaint #2.

1. A "political text message" was sent to Missoula voters paid for by "Citizens to Re-Elect Mayor Andrea Davis," that contained the following:

"This is Mayor Andrea Davis. You should have received your ballot last week! I'm asking for your vote for my re-election and Jennifer Savage for Ward 3."

- 2. Based on that "political text message" supplied to the Commissioner, there are no ethical or legal responsibilities required of my campaign to do anything, including reporting an in-kind contribution or expenditure. As a candidate, I have no control over what another candidate puts in their campaign materials.
- 3. Candidates often endorse other candidates and they can share that information with others. Montana law is very clear on the legal requirements regarding endorsements.
- 4. I, therefore, do not believe this accusation of a campaign violation against my campaign has merit.