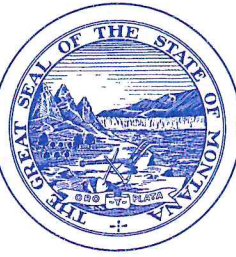


COMMISSIONER OF
POLITICAL PRACTICES



STATE OF MONTANA

CHRIS J. GALLUS
COMMISSIONER
TELEPHONE (406) 444-2942
FAX (406) 444-1643

1209 EIGHTH AVENUE
PO BOX 202401
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-2401
www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

September 9, 2024

Montana Republican Party
Attn. Danielle Bradley
PO Box 935
Helena, MT 59624

Subject: Montana Republican Party (via Bradley) v. Busse, COPP-2024-
CFP-034

Danielle,

This letter acknowledges receipt of the Montana Republican Party's formal Campaign Finance and Practices (CFP) Complaint, received by this office on September 3, 2024. On September 6, 2024 I provided you with correspondence requesting additional information relating to this matter, which you provided that same day. Upon review, the signed and sworn complaint when combined with the additional information provided does appear to allege a potential violation of Montana election law under my jurisdiction as Commissioner of Political Practices. It also appears to conform to the basic requirements of 44.11.106 ARM. Consequently, I will accept the complaint as filed.

Pursuant to the established process, a letter and copy of the proper complaint is being sent to the named respondent, requesting that they provide a written response to this office and retain pertinent records pending further investigation of this matter.

I will review any additional materials relevant to this complaint for any deficiencies pursuant to 44.11.106 ARM, law, and prior relevant COPP rulings, and reserve the right to dismiss the complaint upon this initial inquiry. If this occurs, I will notify you and provide a basis for the dismissal. Alternatively, upon this further review, I may determine that a formal investigation is warranted. If an investigation is conducted, a summary of facts and statement of findings will be prepared, and a copy will be sent to you. This generally involves a more extensive and time-consuming process, during which you may contact us for a status update. If violations are determined during this process, they are typically referred to the local county attorney. The local county attorney then determines whether they will prosecute the matter or refer it back to me. If returned to me, I will either work with the responding party to settle the matter or prosecute it within their local jurisdiction in district court.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris J. Gallus".

Chris J. Gallus
Commissioner of Political Practices