

Cook, Scott

From: Faith <faithautumnmt@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 15, 2025 3:05 PM
To: Cook, Scott
Cc: annalese@forwardmontana.org; Gallus, Chris J.; Hendricksen-Scott, Shelley
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: New Attribution Complaint Received by COPP- Nakamura v Forward Montana or Vote No on WARD, COPP-2025-CFP-007
Attachments: Copy of FAQ WARD Draft (1).pdf; Gmail - Disclaimer.pdf

Scott and Commissioner Gallus,

Thank you for bringing this to our attention. Attached is the updated informational page. I am also including the relevant email exchange of this matter.

This was printed at a Forward Montana office for the 9/30 event, and all Forward Montana organizers have access to this informational page. All organizers have received a new version of this informational sheet with the attribution. I also had a meeting with Forward Montana's new Executive Director and all staff will be reminded of the attribution laws.

Thank you for all of your hard work.

On Tue, Oct 14, 2025 at 12:49 PM Cook, Scott <SCook3@mt.gov> wrote:

Faith,

Please see the attached copy of *Nakamura v. Forward Montana or Vote No on WARD*, COPP-2025-CFP-007, 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 before the end of the day today (October 14, 2025).

As indicated in the Commissioner's letter, the allegation that certain campaign material financed by the Forward Montana and/or Vote No on WARD incidental political committees fail to include the "paid for by" attribution statement required under MCA [13-35-225 \[archive.legmt.gov\]](#) appears merited. The full required attribution statement will need to be added to all materials (COPP would request this attribution statement, as well as specific information relating to the quantity distributed and date or date/s of distribution, be provided in writing for any material previously distributed without attribution) 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).

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 available via telephone at (406) 444-4627 or email at scook3@mt.gov.

Scott Cook

Compliance Specialist 3/Public Records Officer

Office of the Commissioner of Political Practices

(406) 444-4627

SCook3@mt.gov



Who is Forward Montana?

Forward Montana is the state's largest youth voter engagement non-profit organization, building power with and for young people. We register and educate voters, train young organizers, and advocate on issues that matter the most, like housing. Our housing vision is grounded in **affordability, sustainability, and resiliency**.



Who/What is WARD?

WARD is a ballot initiative that proposes changing the City of Bozeman's municipal code. It would effectively stop most housing projects by requiring developments of 3+ units to either:

- Set aside 33% of homes at unrealistic affordable rates (economically impossible without significant subsidies), OR
- Have to bring their own water rights (a costly, years-long process)

This initiative is misleading, and would threaten both affordable housing and water in Bozeman and the surrounding area.



Why do we Oppose WARD?

WARD undermines our vision. WARD:

- **Restricts Supply:** Developers unable to meet the impossible affordability and water right requirements will choose to build elsewhere, once again leaving Bozeman with a shortage of housing and driving workers out.
- **Raises Prices:** Without steady building, Bozeman will continue to be in a boom-and-bust housing cycle. Bozeman's current 12% vacancy rate suggests an oversupply, and a drop of 6.4% in rent price correlated with it. If we do not plan for the future and do not keep up building, Bozeman's housing market is expected to absorb this oversupply and leave us back to the inflated prices seen in 2020-2022.
- **Drives Sprawl:** Growth will be pushed into the county, leading to longer car commutes, loss of open spaces, less efficiency in water use, and septic systems that degrade water quality.
- **Misleads Voters:** WARD claims to create affordable housing and conserve water in Bozeman, but ignores solutions to the real drivers of high costs and does nothing to conserve water.

Bozeman needs flexible, science-based solutions, not rigid, blanket policies. **WARD hurts affordability, sustainability, and our shared quality of life.**

So what can I do?

- **Vote NO on WARD** in November
- Support candidates who oppose WARD
- Talk with friends, neighbors, and coworkers about WARD's real impact on our community
- Volunteer with the VOTE NO on WARD campaign by connecting with Forward MT
- Stay engaged in city development planning



Disclaimer

6 messages

Faith <faithautumnmt@gmail.com> Wed, Oct 15, 2025 at 9:58 AM
To: "dara@forwardmontana.org" <dara@forwardmontana.org>
Cc: Alice Boyer <alice@forwardmontana.org>

Hi Dara! Could you please add a disclaimer to this content and send it back ASAP? This is time sensitive and I need this today.

Thank you!

 **index_delayed_ui.pdf**
544K

Dara Deines <dara@forwardmontana.org> Wed, Oct 15, 2025 at 11:25 AM
To: Faith <faithautumnmt@gmail.com>
Cc: Alice Boyer <alice@forwardmontana.org>

Here you go, let me know if this works!

Dara
[Quoted text hidden]

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Dara Deines
She/Her | Communication Manager
o: (406) 542-8683
c: (406) 939-3864
e: dara@forwardmontana.org
w: forwardmontana.org



 **WARD FAQ.pdf**
136K

Faith <faithautumnmt@gmail.com> Wed, Oct 15, 2025 at 11:52 AM
To: Dara Deines <dara@forwardmontana.org>
Cc: Alice Boyer <alice@forwardmontana.org>

Thank you! I think it needs to be in a box.
[Quoted text hidden]

Dara Deines <dara@forwardmontana.org> Wed, Oct 15, 2025 at 11:56 AM
To: Faith <faithautumnmt@gmail.com>

Okay give me a minute to do it again. There's not a lot of space to work with...
[Quoted text hidden]

Dara Deines <dara@forwardmontana.org> Wed, Oct 15, 2025 at 12:38 PM
To: Faith <faithautumnmt@gmail.com>
Cc: Alice Boyer <alice@forwardmontana.org>

Sorry I keep forgetting to reply all, does this count as a box?

[Quoted text hidden]

 **Copy of FAQ WARD Draft (1).pdf**
200K

Faith <faithautumnmt@gmail.com>
To: Dara Deines <dara@forwardmontana.org>
Cc: Alice Boyer <alice@forwardmontana.org>

Wed, Oct 15, 2025 at 2:53 PM

I think so! I'll submit this to COPP and let ya know if they request something else

[Quoted text hidden]