

Commissioner of Political Practices:

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Commissioner of  
Political Practices  
2024 APR 12  
AM 9:46  
RECEIVED

(08/17)

Campaign Finance and

HAND DELIVERED SIGNED/NOTARIZED

Practices Complaint Form

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

Person bringing complaint (Complainant):

Complete Name: Aaron J Leas

Complete Mailing Address: PO Box 722  
East Helena, MT 59635.

Phone Numbers: Work: (406)240-3000 Home: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Complete Name: Janet Armstrong

Complete Mailing Address: 511 Hillsdale St Helena, MT 59601

Phone Numbers: Work: (406) 461-5459 Home: \_\_\_\_\_

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

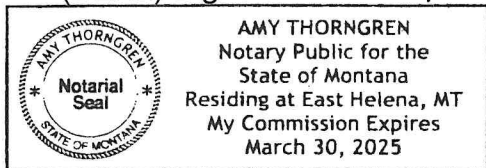
Verification by oath or affirmation

State of Montana, County of Leiws and Clark

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

[Signature]

(SEAL) Signature of Complainant



Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2024.

[Signature]  
Notary Public

**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.

**Janet Armstrong, incumbent for Helena School District 01 School Board Trustee, has not filed her campaign with the Commissioner of Political Practices, as prescribed by Montana Law 13-37-201, and pursuant to completely missing the filing deadline to file as a printed candidate or a write-in candidate. The newspaper has printed this Trustee as winning by acclamation, however there is no designation in the law to make that possible. All candidates must file for office, incumbent or otherwise, on or before filing deadlines, to all appropriate offices. Janet Armstrong should not be allowed onto the Helena School Board Ballot this year, as she has violated the LAW and there should be no exceptions. No one is above the law.**

- **Complaints must be:**
- **signed**
- **notarized**
- **delivered in person or by mail.**

# 7 legislative candidates disqualified from Montana ballot

Published 9:59 AM MDT, March 20, 2018

HELENA, Mont. (AP) — Six state House candidates and a Senate candidate have been disqualified from this year's elections because they failed to submit business disclosure statements.

Four Republican were disqualified as House candidates: Richard Fife II of Butte, Michael Bruner of Butte, Suzzann Nordwick of Butte and Berthold Stumberg of East Helena.

Their removal leaves no challengers to the Democratic candidates for the four House seats. One, House District 74, is an open seat.

Montana law requires all candidates to turn in disclosure statements to the commissioner of political practices within five days of filing for office.

Commissioner Jeff Mangan notified Secretary of State Corey Stapleton Monday of the delinquent filers.

Libertarian House candidate Ron Vandevender of Cascade was removed, as was Libertarian Senate candidate Carol Kent of Missoula.

One Democrat, House candidate Riley Wisler of Billings, was also removed.



## Politics

Montana politics, elections and legislative news

# Nine candidates disqualified from Montana's primary election ballot

Montana Public Radio | By John Hooks

Published March 21, 2024 at 9:36 AM MDT

Updated March 21, 2024 at 1:32 PM MDT



LISTEN • 0:42

Nine candidates have been disqualified from Montana's June primary ballot for failing to file required campaign finance documents.

Two State Auditor candidates— Steve Gunderson and Keith Brownfield, Al Dunlap, a candidate for the Public Service Commission District 4, Christian Daniel Takesenemy (Senate District 21), Colleen Schmeling (House District 51), Lui Salina (House District 25), Joshua Rosales (House District 21), Annie Leatherbarrow (House District 24), and Kenneth Allen (House District 86) have their names removed from the ballot.

Montana law requires candidates to file documents on campaign finance information and business interests within five days of filing for office.

Commissioner of Political Practices Chris Gallus notified the Secretary of State's office Wednesday. A spokesperson for the Secretary of State confirmed to MTPR the office had received the list and would remove the candidates ahead of certifying the primary ballot.

MTPR

Jazz Sessions

Corrected: March 21, 2024 at 1:32 PM MDT

*A previous version of this article incorrectly reported the number of disqualified candidates. According to Montana's Commissioner of Political Practices, Barbara Starmer (House District 95), Delaney Malmsten (House District 94), and Ryan Darling (House District 99) filed the required paperwork before the March 20 deadline and will appear on the primary ballot.*

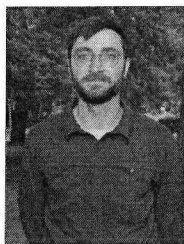


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MONTANA NEWS

2024 ELECTIONS



## John Hooks

John joined the Montana Public Radio team in August 2022. Born and raised in Helena, he graduated from the University of Montana's School of Media Arts and created the Montana history podcast Land Grab. John can be contacted at [john.hooks@umt.edu](mailto:john.hooks@umt.edu)

See stories by John Hooks

MTPR  
Jazz Sessions

# Montana Code Annotated 2023

## TITLE 13. ELECTIONS

### CHAPTER 37. CONTROL OF CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

#### Part 2. Campaign Finance

## Campaign Treasurer

**13-37-201. Campaign treasurer.** (1) Except as provided in 13-37-206, each candidate, each political committee, and each joint fundraising committee shall appoint one campaign treasurer and certify the full name and complete address of the campaign treasurer pursuant to this section.

(2) (a) A candidate shall file the certification within 5 days after becoming a candidate.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (2)(c), a political committee and a joint fundraising committee shall file the certification, which must include an organizational statement and the name and address of all officers, if any, within 5 days after it makes an expenditure or authorizes another person to make an expenditure on its behalf, whichever occurs first. A joint fundraising committee shall also provide a list of participants with the certification.

(c) A political committee that is seeking to place a ballot issue before the electors shall file the certification, including the information required in subsection (2)(b), within 5 days after the proposed issue is submitted to the secretary of state under 13-27-214.

(3) The certification of a candidate, political committee, or joint fundraising committee must be filed with the commissioner.

**History:** En. 23-4781 by Sec. 6, Ch. 480, L. 1975; amd. Sec. 2, Ch. 23, L. 1977; R.C.M. 1947, 23-4781(1); amd. Sec. 247, Ch. 571, L. 1979; amd. Sec. 23, Ch. 591, L. 1991; amd. Sec. 122, Ch. 56, L. 2009; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 167, L. 2015; amd. Sec. 7, Ch. 259, L. 2015; amd. Sec. 6, Ch. 494, L. 2021; amd. Sec. 53, Ch. 647, L. 2023.