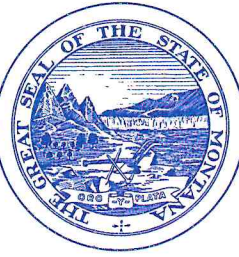


COMMISSIONER OF  
POLITICAL PRACTICES



STATE OF MONTANA

CHRIS J. GALLUS  
COMMISSIONER  
TELEPHONE (406) 444-2942  
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1209 EIGHTH AVENUE  
PO BOX 202401  
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-2401  
[www.politicalpractices.mt.gov](http://www.politicalpractices.mt.gov)

May 29, 2024

Jake Eaton  
P.O. Box 81274  
Billings, MT 59108

Re: *Hogan v. Knudsen*, COPP-2024-CFP-017

Dear Mr. Eaton,

Upon review of the above-named complaint and the response you submitted on behalf of Attorney General Knudsen, I want to make you aware that I request Ms. Hogan provide me additional information, which is an authority I have under 44.11.106(4), ARM. I also made Ms. Hogan aware of an additional option that is available to her to request a declaratory ruling. This option is also available to you and to Mr. Olson as it relates to his matter. I also requested that Mr. Olson provide additional information you and other parties. You may request a formal under 44.11.106(4), ARM. You were copied on the letters to Ms. Hogan and Mr. Olson, but they are attached here as well.

A declaratory ruling as allowed by 44.11.102(1). A formal declaratory ruling from COPP is appropriate when "doubt exists as to how a statute or rule administered by an agency affects the party's legal rights." 1.3.226 ARM. Such a ruling is only binding "between the agency and the petitioner" and is a "final agency decision subject to judicial review." 1.3.229 ARM.

The requirements to request a declaratory ruling are provided in 1.3.227 ARM. Upon consideration of this matter, if you wish to request a declaratory ruling, please do so before 12:00 (Noon) on May 31, 2024.

Regards,

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

Chris J. Gallus  
Commissioner of Political Practices

Cc: Shiela Hogan, Complainant  
Logan Olson, Additional Respondent