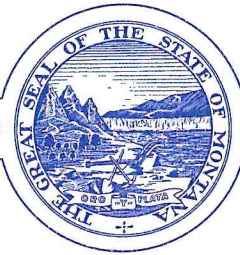


COMMISSIONER OF  
POLITICAL PRACTICES



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](http://www.politicalpractices.mt.gov)

June 10, 2026

DeAnna Milmine  
3880 Karla Dr.  
Helena, MT 59602

Subject: Complaint received May 22, 2026; Milmine v. A Handful of Friends Who Care, COPP-2026-  
CFP-019

DeAnna,

This letter acknowledges receipt of the formal Campaign Finance and Practices (CFP) Complaint you submitted, originally received by this office on May 22, 2026. The complaint alleges violations of Montana election law under my jurisdiction as Commissioner of Political Practices, and generally conforms to the basic requirements of 44.11.106 ARM. Although ARM 44.11.106 does require an address be provided for the named respondent, declining to accept a complaint when an address is not readily available would be a disservice to Montanans. COPP has previously accepted complaints where a potential respondent can be located even if contact information is not provided in the submitted complaint, and here agency staff were able to locate contact information for an individual associated with the organization named as the respondent. Consequently, I will accept the complaint as filed and provide an opportunity for the organization to provide a response through the individual identified.

Pursuant to the established process, a letter and copy of the complaint will be sent to the named respondent or their representative/s, requesting that they provide a written response to this office and retain pertinent records pending further investigation of this matter. Mont. Code Ann. (MCA) § 13-37-132.

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. MCA § 13-35-111. 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 found to have occurred and prosecution is determined to be justified, this matter will be referred to the local county attorney. MCA § 13-35-124. 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. MCA § 13-35-128.

Regards,

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

Chris J. Gallus  
Commissioner of Political Practices