

Cook, Scott

From: Steve Gist <giststeve@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2023 10:06 AM
To: Cook, Scott
Subject: [EXTERNAL] COPP-2023-CFP-007 WTF 406 v Gist
Attachments: copp.pdf; Cascade County Response to COPP.pdf

Good morning Scott,
Please share with Commissioner Gallus. Attached is my response to the complaint. It details my timeline in Cascade County.
Thank you,
Steve

Representative Steve Gist
406-231-4050
giststeve@gmail.com
339 1st ST N
Cascade, MT. 59421



MONTANA VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION

Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required. If you do not provide all of the required information, your application to register to vote will not be complete. UNDER FEDERAL AND/OR STATE LAW ALL ELECTORS MUST PRESENT ID WHEN VOTING. Please type or print clearly using black or blue ink. COMPLETE FORM AND SUBMIT TO COUNTY ELECTION OFFICE.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

NOTE: VOTER REGISTRATION REQUIRES U.S. CITIZENSHIP

1 Check all that apply: New Registration Name Change Address Change Signature Update Other

2 Are you a citizen of the United States?* Yes No
Will you be at least 18 years of age on or before the next election?* Yes No
Will you be a Montana resident for at least 30 days before the next election?* Yes No
*If you checked "No" in response to any of these questions, do not complete this form.

1028618

3 Last Name* Gist First Name* Steven Middle Name C Suffix (Jr., Sr., Etc.)

4 Date of Birth* [redacted] month day year Contact Phone Number [redacted] Email Address gistfire@yahoo.com

5 Select one of the following and provide the required information*
 I have a Montana Driver's License or Montana ID and that number is [redacted]
 I do not have a Montana Driver's License or MT ID card. The last 4 digits of my SSN are _____
 I do not have a Montana Driver's License or MT ID card, or a Social Security Number. I have attached a copy of a photo ID that shows my name, or acceptable ID that shows my name and current address (paycheck stub; utility bill; bank statement; or government document).
ID numbers provided above are kept confidential and are not available for public inspection.

6 Montana Residence Address* 339 1st Stn City* Cascade County* Cascade Zip Code* 59421

7 Mailing Address (required if differs from residence address) City Cascade State Mont. Zip Code 59421

8 If applicable, check one of the following:
 Military Domestic (or military spouse or dependent) – only if on active duty and will be absent from place of registration
 Military Overseas (or overseas military spouse or dependent) U.S. Citizen Overseas

PREVIOUS REGISTRATION INFORMATION – will be used to provide cancellation information to former jurisdiction
REQUIRED IF NAME CHANGED OR IF PREVIOUSLY REGISTERED TO VOTE IN ANOTHER MT COUNTY OR IN ANOTHER STATE

9 Previous City, County and State Whitefish, MT Residence Address of Previous Registration 101 Mallard Loop Previous Registration Name Steven C. Gist

RECEIVE YOUR BALLOT IN THE MAIL

Yes, I request an absentee ballot to be mailed to me for all elections in which I am eligible to vote as long as I reside at the address listed on this application. I understand that in order to continue to receive an absentee ballot, I must complete, sign, and return an address confirmation notice mailed to me by the county election office in January of each even-numbered year.

If your mailing address differs during certain times of the year please add the seasonal mailing address information in this space, or contact your county election office. Seasonal mailing address for the period of

____/____/____ through ____/____/____ Seasonal Mailing Address:

APPLICANT AFFIRMATION

I affirm under penalty of perjury that the information on this application is true, that I am a citizen of the United States, that I will be at least 18 years old on or before the next election, that I will have been a resident of Montana for at least 30 days prior to the next election, and that I am not serving a felony conviction in a penal institution nor have been found to be of unsound mind by a court. I understand that if I have given false information on this application, I may be subject to a fine or imprisonment, or both, under federal and/or state law.

Signature* Steven C. Gist Date* 12-17-19

THE AFFIRMATION ON THIS APPLICATION FOR VOTER REGISTRATION MUST BE SIGNED BY THE APPLICANT – FAILURE TO DO SO WILL PREVENT APPLICATION FROM BEING PROCESSED.

For county use only
Date _____ Senate _____ House _____ Precinct / Split _____ Ward _____ School _____



Steve Gist for Montana House District 25



Oct 14, 2022 · 🌐

So there is a group out there that has been spreading false information. As usual they just make up stuff. So here are the facts.

1) They are saying I vote in Flathead County.

This is false. In the past, I have voted in the Flathead. I switched back to Cascade County in early 2020.

2) They say I live in a rental property that I own. That too is false. I have NO rental properties. We have owned our house in Cascade since 2008. As many of you know, in the past, I have worked out of town in the winter months, then in the late spring, Summer, and early fall months worked running our business in Cascade.

3) My wife and I do own a house in the Flathead, one that she owned before we were married.

4) Since the mid 80's there have only been a couple years that I have not either rented or owned property in Cascade County.

5) Our Wildland fire business is structured to run out of multiple locations.

6) They imply that COPP rules are being violated. This too is false.

Several of the Facebook profiles they use are masked, no full name, basically a shadowed profile to hide who they are. It's not really a surprise to me that they do this. But, that's the way they lash out by calling names and attempting to spread disinformation.

Have a good night everyone 😊

 Boost this post to reach up to 745 more people if you spend \$10.

Boost post

Steve Gist Timeline and history in Cascade County:

- 1985-1989—Lived in Great Falls, worked for Bicsack Ambulance and Mercy Flight
- 1990-2000—lived in both Great Falls and Cascade, and owned an Ambulance company with my business partner, Tom Rosmiller
- 2001-2002—Worked in a machine shop in Sun River and lived in Simms, while also attending college at Great Falls College of Technology and University of Great Falls. I also worked shifts in Great Falls for Mercy Flight and the Great Falls Deaconess/Benefis Hospital Emergency Room during this time.
- 2003–2006—Continued to live in Simms until my house was sold and went through a divorce, it was final in (2006) Started a wildland fire contracting business based out of Simms in 2003 and also drove truck for my neighbor that also lived in Simms. Late 2005-2006 worked for Great Falls Emergency Service.
- Early 2006—moved to Great Falls apartment, when my house was sold in late 2005 and my family had moved to Flathead County.
- 2007–2008—moved to a house in Cascade, renting a room and space for my equipment from a friend. I also maintained an apartment in Flathead County so I could see my children regularly, and work shifts at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish without having to rent motel rooms. I worked per diem, meaning I did not have a fixed schedule, but filled in as needed. (bought 349 1st ST N (shop) in 2007; bought 339 1st ST N (house) in 2008 Cascade properties)
- 2008 We purchased the house in Cascade, where I had been living, from my friend, as well as the property next door, where our shop is currently located. The addresses are 339 1st St. N, and 349 1st St. N., both in Cascade. I married Virginia (Ginny), who owned a home in Whitefish and worked for the Whitefish Schools. She had owned the house since 1994, and my name was recently added to the title for estate planning purposes..
- 2008–2020—I lived in Cascade pretty much full time from late April-late October or early November, going to Whitefish a few days a month in the spring and fall. I stayed in Whitefish a week at a time, November-April, working at the hospital, and coming back to Cascade between stretches of shifts. Again, I was working per diem, so did not have a fixed schedule and just filled in as needed. My last shift in Whitefish at the NVH was during COVID and I was limited in my ability to travel between the counties while I was working at the hospital in the spring of 2020. During most of this time I was likely registered to vote in the Flathead, but I do not know when that was the case exactly. During this time, I went back and forth according to work schedules. My children and grandchildren lived in the Flathead and my wife worked there and did not have the flexibility during the school year to be the traveler.
- Late 2019-present My main residence is in Cascade. I am registered to vote here, and have been since 2019. My wife's main residence is Whitefish. She still works there off and on, and several of our children and grandchildren are there now. She does the majority of the traveling back and forth now. We have also recently purchased an additional piece of property in Cascade. (We currently pay taxes on 3 pieces of property in Cascade county.)

We use the Whitefish address for most of our business mail because that is where Ginny spends most of her time. It is just easier to receive our bills and important mail where she can manage things more easily. She handles the vast majority of our business paperwork. Our address of record is the Whitefish address for the LLC. We use a bank in Cascade for our business, and always have. She travels with a bin as a portable office for many things, but there needs to be an address that receives mail that is secure and is checked frequently.

Additionally, our business plan was originally for us to operate out of multiple locations, before running for office was on the horizon. In addition to running wildland firetrucks we do some training, and some equipment procurement and sales. We run the equipment primarily out of the Great Falls area now, but will also be dispatching some of our trucks out of Helena this year, although we do not have any permanent residence there. We have several trucks that were licensed in Cascade County and a few that are licensed in Flathead County. Some have permanent plates and by law, we do not need to get new plates if that is the case. The LLC owns most of the equipment.

We opened the campaign account at First Interstate Bank in Whitefish, because that is where I happened to be when I needed to get that opened. They have branches all over the state, so it did not matter where it was opened. Again, since my wife handles the paperwork, it was easier to get it done there at the time it needed to be done.

My close ties to the Great Falls area and Cascade county go back a very long ways, in excess of 35 years. The few years I registered to vote in the Flathead were for the reason that I was usually over there in the fall of the year and would be starting back, working the seasonal part time job in the ER. Even during the winter months, I would still continue to travel back and forth to Cascade to work in the shop, building or repairing equipment. My wife and I do maintain two different home addresses. As we talk to others, we are finding that while unusual, it is not as unusual as you might think when people who had separate lives, families, jobs and homes, marry later in life. My wife now does a lot of the traveling back and forth across the mountains between Whitefish and Cascade. I still travel back to Whitefish to see my kids and grandkids when time allows.

I hope this answers and clears up any issues on where I live, taxes issues, and voter registration issues that the WTF 406 group has expressed. If there is any further documentation required, please let me know.

I have included a copy of my change of address for voting in Cascade County from 2019 and my response on Facebook last fall when I came became aware of their accusations on their website and my facebook page.