



**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.

Complaint filed against candidate for House District 55, Representative Brad Barker.

I respectfully request that the Commissioner of Political Practices investigate the following violations, including but not limited to:

**Violation 1. Illegal use of AI.**

Representative Brad Barker posted a digital flyer about Representative Nelly Nicol (see attachment) that included an AI rendering of her. The person in the rendering had a similar appearance but was intended to make her look unappealing. As per MCA 13-35-802, a disclaimer is legally required when using AI generated content, deep fakes, and synthetic media. This disclaimer is missing, making the digital flyer illegal.

Note: Representative Barker is a legislator who voted for this bill and knew it existed leaving no excuse to not comply with the law nor give every appearance he wished to be transparent in trying to follow the law.

**Violation 2. Unregistered Committee (or PAC)**

“Committee to Elect Brad Barker” is not found in Cers (see attachment), thus an unregistered committee.

Representative Barker’s disclaimer states “Paid for by The Committee to Elect Brad Barker, R, Box 1242, Red Lodge, MT 59068”. This is the name of his own personal campaign committee or PAC. Also violating reporting of any money received or paid through this unregistered PAC and not having a registered treasurer. (MCA below)

**Violation 3. Coordination with Committee (or PAC)**

Due to Violation 2 above, the illegally unregistered Committee is in coordination with Representative Barker and blatantly shares the same PO Box 1242, Red Lodge, MT 59068 with Representative Barker’s campaign for House District 55. (MCA below)

**Violation 4. Failure to report in-kind contribution to Troy Charbonneau for HD 53**

If the assumption is made that Representative Barker used his donor’s money from his personal campaign for this digital flyer, then any money spent from a candidate’s campaign should be reported. Representative Barker did not report an in-kind donation of spending, thus leaving Troy Charbonneau for HD 53 illegally not reporting the in-kind donation. Disclaimer says “Paid for by The Committee to Elect Brad Barker, R, Box 1242, Red Lodge, MT 59068”. Again, No Committee to Elect Brad Barker was found searching Cers. Appearance of a paid advertisement. (MCA below)

**Complaints must be:**

- **signed**
- **notarized**
- **delivered in person or by mail.**

Listed are some, but not all, of the laws potentially violated according to this complaint:

A political committee must file a Statement of Organization (Form C-2) with the COPP within 5 days of becoming a political committee (MCA 13-37-201)

All registered political committees must file periodic campaign finance reports, even if activity is low, unless they qualify for specific exceptions MCA 13-37-226, MCA 13-37-228

PACs and corporations may make independent expenditures but must comply with disclosure and attribution laws ARM 44.11.602

Political committees are required to designate a campaign treasurer, MCA 13-37-201

Non-compliance with registration and reporting can lead to investigations by the COPP and referrals to a county attorney for civil prosecution MCA 13-37-124, MCA 13-37-128

Also referring to Title 13, Elections Chapter 35 Election and Campaign Practices and Criminal Provisions

I appreciate political practices helping clarify these issues and looking into Representative Barker and by proxy, candidate Troy Charbenou for House District 53's reporting.

# Campaign Registration View

» Statement of Candidate (C1 or C1-A)

## Candidate Information

Candidate Full Name: Barker, Brad

Mailing Address: PO Box 1242 Red Lodge, MT 59088

Home Phone: (406) 426-1034

Campaign Email Address: brad@bradbarker.com

Election Year: 2026

Office Sought: House District No. 55

Political Party: Republican

Date Filed: 06/08/2025

D1 Received Date: 02/17/2026

Reporting Status:

Bank Full Name: Yellowstone Bank

Physical Address:  
Alternate Phone:

Candidate Type: State District  
Resident County: Carbon  
Current Status: Amended  
Amended Date: 02/16/2026  
C116 Received Date:

Bank Address: 3010 3rd Avenue North Billings, MT 59101

## Campaign Treasurer Information

Treasurer Full Name: Barker, Brad

Mailing Address: PO Box 1242 Red Lodge, MT 59088

Home Phone: (406) 426-1034

Home or Personal Email Address: brad@bradbarker.com

Physical Address:  
Alternate Phone:

## Deputy Treasurer Information

Deputy Treasurer Full Name: Osborn, Jeremy

Mailing Address: PO Box 1242 Red Lodge, MT 59088

Home Phone:

Home or Personal Email Address: montanacompliance@gmail.com

Physical Address:  
Alternate Phone:

# Public Access Search Results

» Search results for candidates and committees.

Candidates Committees

Candidate list

Display 5 records

<input type="checkbox"/>	Candidate Name	Year	Status	C-3	Address	Campaign	Office	County
<input type="checkbox"/>	Barber, Brad	2026	Amended	Yes	PO Box 1242, Red Lodge, MT 59068	State District	House District No. 55	Carbon

Search:

Welcome

**Warning!** No records match the search criteria entered.

### Public Access Search » Search for candidates and committees.

- Candidate Search
- Committee Search
- Contribution Search
- Expenditure Search
- How to Search CERS**

Committee Name

Election Year

Committee Type

**Warning!** No records match the search criteria entered.

## Public Access Search » Search for candidates and committees.

- Candidate Search
- Committee Search
- Contribution Search
- Expenditure Search
- How to Search CERS**

Search Type

Contributor

Entity or Last Name

First Name

Contribution Amount

Election Year



Representative Brad Barker

All Photos Reels Events Mentions



Representative Brad Barker

1d · 🌐

Despite having a primary race of her own i... See more

# Your tax dollars ... her family business

Rep. Nelly Nicol • HD 53 • BILLINGS



## THE FAMILY BUSINESS

Nicol works for her father's company, **Victory Insurance**—a workers' comp insurer.

She's **communications director** & sits on their **board of directors**.

## What Nelly's been doing in the legislature:



### HB 277: DEFUNDING HER FATHER'S REGULATOR

**\$2.7 MILLION** fine proposed against Victory Insurance.  
Introduced bill to **DEFUND** the regulator to **protect her** father's company



### HB 678: REWRITING LAW TO ERASE COURT LOSS

✓ **HER FAMILY'S COMPANY LOST IN COURT.**  
✓ **WROTE LAW** to **OVERTURN** the ruling

**PUBLIC OFFICE HOLDERS SHOULD SERVE YOU.**

**FIRE THE SELF-SERVING FREEDOM CAUCUS,  
AND VOTE FOR REAL REPUBLICANS LIKE TROY  
CHARBONNEAU FOR HD 53 ON JUNE 2nd**

Paid for by Committee to Elect Brad Barker, R, Box 1242, Red Lodge, MT 59068

👍 24

🗨️ 19

👍 3

