

Commissioner of Political Practices 1209 Eighth Avenue Post Office Box 202401 Helena, MT 59620-2401 Phone: 406-444-2942 Fax : 406-444-1643 www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

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Campaign Finance and Practices

Complaint Form (08/17)

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

Person bringing complaint (Complainant):

Complete Name

Danielle Tribble, Montana Republican Party

Complete Mailing Address

P.O. Box 935 Helena, MT 59624

Phone Numbers:

Work

406-924-3840

Home

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

Complete Name

BEN AIKE for Montana Attorney General

Complete Mailing Address

P.O. Box 1104 Helena, MT 59624

Phone Numbers:

Work

406-461-2492

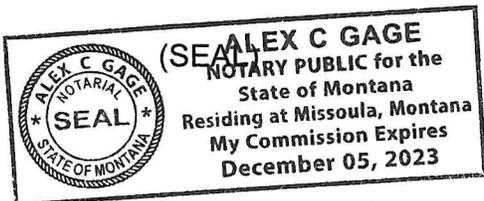
Home

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 Missoula

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



Signature of Complainant

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10th day of October, 2023.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

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.

Please see attached document.

Complaints must be:

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

Ben Alke Complaint

Background

On October 5, 2023 Democrat candidate Ben Alke filed a c5 report covering the period 7/25/23 to 9/30/23. According to news reports, Mr. Alke held a fundraising event in Helena on 9/27/23 but listed no associated expenses on his c5 report. According to his c5 report, Mr. Alke held a fundraising event in on 9/28/23 but listed no associated expenses on his c5 report. On or about 9/27/23, Mr. Alke released a promotional video to his campaign YouTube page but listed no associated expenses on his c5 report. Furthermore, Mr. Alke lists no in-kind contributions or debts that could cover these expenses.

Curiously, Mr. Alke's c5 only listed 3 expenditures for the entire 3 months he has been a candidate, additional investigation by the Commissioner will likely yield other violations committed by Mr. Alke.

Violations

1. 13-37-225 – Helena Event Expenses. By failing to report the expenses associated with his 9/27/2023 Helena event, Mr. Alke has violated this section.
2. 13-37-225 – Helena Travel Expenses. By failing to report the travel expenses associated with his 9/27/2023 trip from Bozeman to Helena, Mr. Alke has violated this section.
3. 13-37-225 – Bozeman Event Expenses. By failing to report the expenses associated with his 9/28/2023 Bozeman fundraising event, Mr. Alke has violated this section.
4. 13-37-225 – Video Production Expenses. By failing to report the expenses associated with filming and producing his campaign launch video, Mr. Alke has violated this section.
5. 13-37-231 – By committing the aforementioned violations, Mr. Alke has violated this section.

News reports about 9/27 event

<https://montanafreepress.org/2023/10/02/bozeman-attorney-ben-alke-launches-campaign-montana-attorney-general/>

Link to Video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hqns8QoZyoI>