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May 30, 2024

Commissioner of Political Practices  
1209 8th Avenue  
PO Box 202401  
Helena, MT 59620-2401

Dear Commissioner Gallus,

This letter is in response to your May 29th letter requesting additional information prior to making your determination as to whether you will proceed with a full investigation or dismiss the Complaint of Ms. Hogan.

Details of my time spent practicing law under the Student Practice Rule

My academic transcript indicates I completed three (3) credit hours in my clinical program working for ASUM Legal Services during the 2019 autumn semester and three (3) credit hours in the same clinical program during the 2020 spring semester. Per the *UM School of Law Student Handbook*, Part XII, Section E, Subsection 8 (p.35), "... students must satisfy 52 hours per credit hour in their clinical or field placement." Thus, I spent Three Hundred Twelve (312) hours engaged in the practice of law at ASUM Legal Services over a period of approximately nine (9) months.

At ASUM Legal Services I represented multiple clients – meeting with the client, communicating with opposing counsel, requesting and reviewing evidence, researching legal issues, drafting and filing motions, negotiating, drafting, and executing plea agreements, and presenting arguments in court. In earning my six (6) credit hours of clinical work at ASUM Legal Services, I met all obligations to my clients, and performed the legal work assigned by my supervisor in a competent and timely manner. See *UM School of Law Student Handbook*, Part XII, Section E, Subsection 4 (p.35).

During my time practicing law at ASUM Legal Services, I made appearances in Missoula County District Court and Missoula Municipal Court. Additionally, I engaged in the practice of law on cases in Missoula County Justice Court and Ravalli County District Court. I engaged in the practice of law at ASUM Legal Services from approximately August 26, 2019 to approximately May 8, 2020.

Lou Villamez was my supervising attorney during my time spent at ASUM Legal Services. Mr. Villamez has since retired and can be reached at 406.391.0136. Ryan Aikin, the current Director of Legal Services, can be reached at 406.243.6213.

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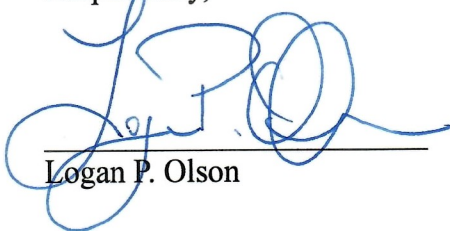
Other assertions made by Ms. Hogan

To address the other assertions made by Ms. Hogan is difficult at this time, as she has thus far failed to provide enough specificity for me to determine what other statute or rule she is alleging I have violated. None of her remaining assertions describe the violation of a statute or rule. Ms. Hogan asserts that it is “possibly unlawful” to employ a campaign treasurer who is also working for Knudsen’s campaign. My campaign treasurer, Ms. Katie Wenetta of Burnt Timber Consulting, is an experienced professional who deals with matters in the industry of government administration. I assume Ms. Wenetta is employed by more than one political candidate at any given time, and I trust in her professionalism as my campaign treasurer. I am unaware of what other personal or professional activities Ms. Wenetta engages in outside of my campaign. At the time of this writing, Ms. Hogan has failed to articulate how this dubious connection is “unlawful” and I have failed to identify what law or rule would be violated by the same.

Ms. Hogan asserts I am “not a legitimate, good faith candidate for Attorney General” but otherwise fails to explain how she arrives at this conclusion, or how it relates to the violation of any statute or rule. I have not accepted promises or other consideration of any kind from Attorney General Knudsen or his campaign, I have accurately reported my campaign finances, and I have employed a competent campaign treasurer. I have demonstrated that I meet the requirements to run for the office of Attorney General, and if I win the upcoming primary and general elections, I intend to serve as Montana’s next Attorney General.

In light of this additional information, I respectfully renew my request that Ms. Hogan’s Complaint be dismissed.

Respectfully,



Logan P. Olson