

Commissioner of Political Practices  
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### Campaign Finance and Practices

### Complaint Form (10/09)

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

#### Person bringing complaint (Complainant):

Complete Name Ruth Caron Cooper  
Complete Mailing Address PO Box 123  
LIVINGSTON MT 59047  
Phone Numbers: Work 406 589-7129 Home 406 222-5151

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

Complete Name Montana Conservation Voters  
Complete Mailing Address PO Box 63  
Billings, MT 59103  
Phone Numbers: Work 406 254-1593 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 park

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



My Commission Expires:

[Signature]  
Signature of Complainant

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30 day of March, 2016.

[Signature]  
Notary Public



3/30/16

Ruth Caron Cooper (Caron Cooper)  
Complaint against Montana Conservation Voters.

13-35-207. Deceptive election practices

On 2/19/16 I registered for the Montana Conservation Voters Campaign school 2/26-28 in Bozeman. Online payment of \$35 fee to MCV to attend. I have attached email correspondence. There is no indication of any other fee.

On Sunday 2/28/16, just as the class was ending early afternoon, MCV employee Shelbe Dantic told participants that we would need to fill out our COPP filings showing an in-kind donation from the PAC employees that were present that weekend.

I do not want to take any PAC funds, and had no prior notice that attending this event meant reporting such.

In a communication from Clayton Elliot, ED of MCV:

"That leaves us two choices moving forward, either your campaign can pay for the full cost of the training which is \$225.84 (your \$35 of previous contribution will go towards that), or you will be listed on our PAC's reporting filing as a candidate that we gave an in-kind contribution towards in the way of candidate training,

I did not solicit a campaign contribution from any PAC, and I don't believe a PAC can force one on me. I believed I was paying my own way.

I will not use money that my campaign supporters have entrusted with me to pay off the four PACs involved.

Caron Cooper, PhD  
PO Box 123  
Liv MT 59047