

UNSTAMPED

OCT 3 2006

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COMMISSIONER OF
POLITICAL PRACTICES

OCT 3 2006

October 3, 2006

COPY

Dulcy L. Hubbert, Program Supervisor
Commissioner of Political Practices
1205 8th Ave
P.O. Box 202401
Helena, MT 59620-2401

Dulcie,

I spoke with you on October 3 regarding an ad I ran in our local newspaper. I received a call from a citizen stating that I did not display my party affiliation on this piece. The party affiliation is indeed located next to the disclaimer.

Via our phone conversation, you indicated that the ad is in compliance with state law. Upon discussing this with our campaign treasurer, he asked that I submit this to you to get a definitive ruling in writing, in the event that someone else calls this piece into question. Upon your review, if you feel the party designation is not adequate, we will stamp the remaining pieces (about 7,000) with a "D" and in a size you deem adequate.

You may email your response to me at: bcdc@digisys.net.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

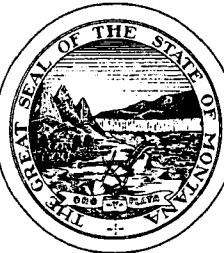
Sincerely,

Doug Cordier

Doug Cordier, Candidate
House District #3
1930 Tamarack Lane
Columbia Falls, MT 59912
406-892-3991

*Det
4th
D-1
10/3/06*

COMMISSIONER OF
POLITICAL PRACTICES



STATE OF MONTANA

DENNIS UNSWORTH
COMMISSIONER
TELEPHONE (406) 444-2942
FAX (406) 444-1643

1205 EIGHTH AVENUE
PO BOX 202401
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-2401
www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

COPY

October 5, 2006

M. Dean Jellison
116 Crestline Avenue
Kalispell MT 59901

Subject: Your complaint against Douglas Cordier; October 3, 2006

Mr. Jellison, you are correct that Montana law requires a candidate to state their party affiliation or include the party symbol on campaign communications. The requirement is found in MCA § 13-35-225(2) Election materials not to be anonymous.

I have in front of me the advertisement for Cordier for H.D. #3 provided as part of your complaint. It clearly shows the Democrat symbol as part of the "paid for by..." attribution. It's small, but legible, and placed where it's fairly easy to find (bottom of the page and set apart from other copy.)

Based on the information presented, Cordier for H.D. #3 is not in violation of the statute. If there has been some misunderstanding, please let me know right away. Otherwise, this complaint will be dismissed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Unsworth".

Dennis Unsworth
Commissioner of Political Practices

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POLITICAL PRACTICES

M. Dean Jellison
116 Crestline Ave.
Kalispell MT 59901
406-752-4966

OCT 3 9 45 AM '06

October 2, 2006

POSTMARKED

OCT 2 2006

COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES
P. O. Box 202401
Helena MT 50620-3401

Re: Cordier Complaint

Enclosed herewith is a complaint regarding a failure to identify party affiliation in campaign material. This may seem like a minor infraction but I believe that it was a deliberate violation committed with the belief that nothing of consequence would happen.

I called Mr. Cordier to inquire about the omission and received the distinct impression that he could care less. When I mentioned that the omission was a violation of a statute he said he would have to call the commissioner as if that would end the matter. I had been told that he is trying to avoid any party affiliation in all of his campaign efforts and I now believe that to be true.

I have been active in political campaigns for many years. We have always tried to comply with the legal requirements. When someone has violated the law, I have complained in the belief that if we ignore the small violations, we invite bigger violations.

Sincerely,


M. Dean Jellison

THE STATE OF MONTANA

COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES
1205 Eighth Avenue
Post Office Box 202401
Helena, MT 59620-2401
TELEPHONE: 406-444-2942
FAX NUMBER: 406-444-1643

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OCT 02 2006

CAMPAIN FINANCE AND PRACTICES

COMPLAINT FORM (97/91)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIVED
COMMISSIONER OF
POLITICAL PRACTICES

OCT 3 9 45 AM '76

HAND DELIVERED

CERTIFIED MAIL

SIGNED/NOTARIZED

TYPE OR PRINT IN INK ALL INFORMATION ON THIS FORM EXCEPT FOR VERIFICATION SIGNATURE

PERSON BRINGING COMPLAINT (COMPLAINANT):

COMPLETE NAME M. Dean Tellison

COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS 116 Crestline Ave.

Kalispell MT 59901

TELEPHONE NUMBERS: **WORK** Retired **HOME** 406-752-4966

PERSON OR ORGANIZATION AGAINST WHOM COMPLAINT IS BROUGHT (RESPONDENT):

COMPLETE NAME Douglas Cordier

COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS 1930 Tamarack Lane

Columbia Falls MT 59912

TELEPHONE NUMBERS: WORK _____ **HOME** 406-892-3991

PLEASE COMPLETE THE SECOND PAGE OF THIS FORM AND DESCRIBE IN DETAIL THE FACTS OF THE ALLEGED VIOLATION.

STATE OF MONTANA, COUNTY OF FLATHEAD

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

(SEAL)

Signature of Complainant

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2nd day of
October , 2006 .

Marsha A Barron
Notary Public Marsha A Barron

My Commission Expires: 3 - 2 - 2007

CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PRACTICES
COMPLAINT - Cordier

PAGE 2

Douglas Cordier is a Democrat candidate for House District 3 which is in the area of Columbia Falls, Flathead County. He prepared and caused to be distributed with the September 28, 2006, edition of the Hungry Horse News a four page insert promoting his candidacy. Nowhere in the four pages is there a mention of the Democrat Party or an image of a party symbol. Hungry Horse News is the newspaper published in Columbia Falls.

Complainant is informed and believes that Cordier has been warned about his failure to comply with the law in earlier material and has not heeded the warnings, indicating that this instance is not a mere oversight.

Sec. 13-35-225 MCA is violated by the above conduct in that the material fails to "state the candidate's party affiliation or include the party symbol". Sec. 13-35-103 MCA provides that such a violation is a misdemeanor. Sec. 13-35-107 MCA provides that a court may void an election affected by a violation.

Attached is an original sample of the ad in question.

