## COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES



## STATE OF MONTANA

JAMES W "JIM" MURRY COMMISSIONER TELEPHONE (406) 444-2942 FAX (406) 444-1643 1205 Eighth Avenue PO BOX 202401 HELENA, MONTANA 59620-2401 www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

April 30, 2012

Evan Paul Jordan 15725 N. Park Drive Frenchtown, MT 59834

Re:

Complaint against Frenchtown Conservative Coalition

Dear Mr. Jordan:

You recently filed a complaint with this office alleging that Frenchtown Conservative Coalition violated Montana campaign finance and practices laws by not filing as a political committee, not identifying its treasurer, and not providing requisite "Paid for By" disclaimers on a recent mailer.

For registration and reporting requirements, a political committee in this instance would consist of a combination of *two or more* individuals who make a contribution or expenditure to support or oppose a candidate. (See § 13-1-101(22), Mont. Code Ann. for the complete definition of a political committee.)

After an investigation it was determined that the Frenchtown Conservative Coalition mailer was the work of one person, acting alone – spending his or her own funds to pay for the mailer at issue. Applying the analysis set forth in this office's decisions in the matters of Olsen v. Vallance and Wittich v. Campbell (both decided November 17, 2009), I have found that there was no violation of the campaign finances and practices statutes.

Accordingly, I am dismissing your complaint.

Sincerely, Mus 1

Jámes W. Murry Commissioner