

BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER OF
POLITICAL PRACTICES

In the Matter of Richard A. Little's Complaint Against Steve Bullock)))	SUMMARY OF FACTS, STATEMENT OF FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION
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Bozeman resident Richard A. Little ("Little") submitted a complaint on September 24, 2012, alleging candidate for Governor Steve Bullock ("Bullock") violated Montana law through expending campaign funds with eleven checks signed by persons other than the Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer of the campaign. Commissioner James W. Murry recused himself pursuant to §13-37-111, MCA, and the undersigned was appointed Deputy Commissioner for purposes of resolving this complaint.

For the reasons noted below, the Deputy Commissioner finds there is sufficient evidence to conclude the Bullock Campaign violated Montana Administrative Rule 44.10.503 through expenditure of funds with checks signed by persons other than the appointed campaign treasurer or duly authorized deputy treasurer.

SUMMARY OF FACTS

Joseph P. Mazurek was originally identified as Treasurer for the Bullock for Governor Campaign. On September 9, 2011, Patty Mazurek and Kevin O'Brien were listed as Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer, respectively. The Bullock Campaign

admitted that some checks were signed by persons other than the individuals who were campaign treasurer or deputy treasurer at the time the checks were written.

Campaign expenditures were reviewed for the four month period prior to appointment of Kevin O'Brien as deputy treasurer. Investigation indicated checks totaling \$15,472.15 were written on the Friends of Steve Bullock Campaign account by individuals other than the campaign treasurer or deputy treasurer appointed at the time the checks were written.

STATEMENT OF FINDINGS

The Administrative Rules of the Commissioner of Political Practices include the following:

44.10.503 DEPOSITS AND EXPENDITURES, ONLY BY CAMPAIGN TREASURER, THROUGH DEPOSITORY (1) No contribution received or expenditure made by a candidate or political committee shall be deposited or expended except by the appointed campaign treasurer or duly authorized deputy treasurer through the designated primary or secondary depository.

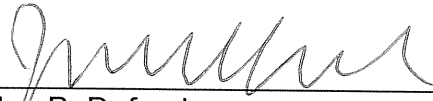
Investigation indicates the Bullock Campaign violated the administrative rule. The Bullock campaign has not disputed that some campaign expenditures were made by individuals other than the appointed campaign treasurer or deputy treasurer at the time the expenditures were made.

CONCLUSION

There is sufficient evidence to conclude the Bullock Campaign violated Administrative Rule 44.10.503 through expenditures totaling \$15,472.15 paid by checks

written by individuals who were not the appointed campaign treasurer or duly authorized deputy treasurer at the time the checks were written.

DATED this 25th day of October, 2012.



Jay P. Dufrechou
Deputy Commissioner of Political Practices