

COMMISSIONER OF
POLITICAL PRACTICES



STATE OF MONTANA

DAVID B. GALLIK
COMMISSIONER
TELEPHONE (406) 444-2942
FAX (406) 444-1643

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

October 24, 2011

Craig G. Robinson
PO Box 153
Saco, MT 59261

Subject: Complaint received October 24, 2011

Mr. Robinson, I've reviewed the complaint you filed against Howard Pippin, You allege that Pippin is going door to door handing residents a letter that includes false and misleading statements.

44.10.307(3)(a), Administrative Rules of Montana, states that no investigation is required if a complaint is too indefinite or does not contain sufficient information to enable a determination that it states a potential violation of a particular statute or rule under my jurisdiction. I am therefore dismissing your complaint.

If you still have concerns, you do have the opportunity to file another complaint. However, as noted above I'm not able to accept jurisdiction over a complaint that fails to meet the sufficiency requirements of 44.10.307, ARM. I have enclosed the Montana Code Annotated Title 13 Chapters 35 and 37 and the applicable Administrative Rules that fall under our jurisdiction. Also enclosed is a complaint procedure handout which you may find helpful. If you have any additional procedural questions, I'm happy to assist.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David B. Gallik".

David B. Gallik
Commissioner of Political Practices

Dave and Mary –

Attached is the second complaint received this morning. I believe it too must be declined for failure to cite the statute and/or rule alleged to have been violated. This campaign practices complaint refers to activities the complainant describes as “unethical and slanderous.” This has not been filed as an ethics complaint, and the commissioner does not have jurisdiction to address allegations of slander. Your thoughts?

Julie