

## Cook, Scott

---

**From:** Brooke Winters <wintzfive@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2026 5:20 PM  
**To:** Cook, Scott  
**Cc:** wintersm1216@gmail.com; Gallus, Chris J.; Hendricksen-Scott, Shelley  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: New Attribution Complaint Received by COPP- Lovick v. Winters, COPP-2026-CFP-002

Hello Scott -

I have corrected the attribution on the 7 yard signs I had out. I sent photographic evidence of this correction from my [wintersm1216@gmail.com](mailto:wintersm1216@gmail.com) e-mail account.

I have corrected the attribution on my web page. I sent photographic evidence of this correction from my [wintersm1216@gmail.com](mailto:wintersm1216@gmail.com) e-mail account.

I have signed a modified contract with Lamar billboards this afternoon to have the attribution corrected on my 1 existing billboard. I have copied you on my e-mail exchange with Justin Burkholder to make this correction ASAP.

Justin said he will get me the modified design for approval tomorrow. I have also made sure that my 2 billboard, going up 4/27/26 will have the correct attribution. I will send you photographic evidence when the existing billboard is complete.

Please let me know if you need any additional information. Mark Winters

On Apr 13, 2026, at 11:20 AM, Cook, Scott <[SCook3@mt.gov](mailto:SCook3@mt.gov)> wrote:

Mark/Brooke,

Please see the attached copy of *Lovick v. Winters*, COPP-2026-CFP-002, a formal Campaign Finance and Practices (CFP) Complaint submitted to COPP and initially accepted by Montana Commissioner of Political Practices Chris Gallus. A letter from Commissioner Gallus generally outlining the attribution complaint process is also attached. Due to the expedited nature of the attribution complaint process, a copy of this complaint will be posted to COPP's agency website before the end of the day today (April 13, 2026). While hard copies of these material can be sent to you via U.S. Mail upon request, I am initially providing via email message due to the expedited nature of the attribution complaint process.

As indicated in the Commissioner's letter, the allegation that certain campaign material financed by your campaign fail to include the full "paid for by" attribution statement required under MCA [13-35-225 \[mca.legmt.gov\]](https://leg.mt.gov/legstat/statutes-codes/xref/title29/mca/35/225) (a statement of "paid for by" followed by the candidate/campaign's full name and address) appears merited. The full required attribution statement will need to be added to all materials that do not already include it within two business days, pursuant to 13-35-225(5) and (6). Please note that a failure to bring material "into compliance as required...is subject to a civil penalty pursuant to 13-37-218, MCA", under MCA 13-35-225(6)(b).

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly with questions about attribution requirements generally or the attribution complaint process established in MCA 13-35-225(5) and (6). I am available via telephone at (406) 444-4627 or email at [scook3@mt.gov](mailto:scook3@mt.gov).

Scott Cook  
Compliance Specialist 3/Public Records Officer  
Office of the Commissioner of Political Practices  
(406) 444-4627  
[SCook3@mt.gov](mailto:SCook3@mt.gov)

Election Materials Not To Be Anonymous -- Notice -- Penalty

**13-35-225. Election materials not to be anonymous -- notice -- penalty.** (1) All election communications, electioneering communications, and independent expenditures must clearly and conspicuously include the attribution "paid for by" followed by the name and address of the person who made or financed the expenditure for the communication. The attribution must contain:

(a) for election communications or electioneering communications financed by a candidate or a candidate's campaign finances, the name and the address of the candidate or the candidate's campaign;

(b) for election communications, electioneering communications, or independent expenditures financed by a political committee or a joint fundraising committee, the name of the committee, the name of the committee treasurer, deputy treasurer, secretary, vice chairperson, or chairperson, as designated pursuant to **13-37-201** [[mca.legmt.gov](http://mca.legmt.gov)](2)(b), and the address of the committee or the named committee officer; and

(c) for election communications, electioneering communications, or independent expenditures financed by a political committee that is a corporation or a union, the name of the corporation or union, its chief executive officer or equivalent, and the address of the principal place of business.

(2) Communications in a partisan election financed by a candidate, a political committee organized on the candidate's behalf, or a joint fundraising committee with a participant who is a candidate or a political committee organized on the candidate's behalf must state the candidate's party affiliation or include the party symbol.

(3) If a document or other article of advertising is too small for the requirements of subsections (1) and (2) to be conveniently included, the candidate responsible for the material or the person financing the communication shall file a copy of the article with the commissioner of political practices, together with the required information or statement, at the time of its public distribution.

(4) If information required in subsections (1) and (2) is omitted or not printed or if the information required by subsection (3) is not filed with the commissioner, upon discovery of or notification about the omission, the candidate responsible for the material or the person financing the communication shall:

(a) file notification of the omission with the commissioner of political practices within 2 business days of the discovery or notification;

(b) bring the material into compliance with subsections (1) and (2) or file the information required by subsection (3) with the commissioner; and

(c) withdraw any noncompliant communication from circulation as soon as reasonably possible.

(5) Whenever the commissioner receives a complaint alleging any violation of subsections (1) and (2), the commissioner shall as soon as practicable assess the merits of the complaint.

(6) (a) If the commissioner determines that the complaint has merit, the commissioner shall notify the complainant and the candidate or political committee of the commissioner's determination.

The notice must state that the candidate or political committee shall bring the material into compliance as required under this section:

(i) within 2 business days after receiving the notification if the notification occurs more than 7 days prior to an election; or

(ii) within 24 hours after receiving the notification if the notification occurs 7 days or less prior to an election.

(b) When notifying the candidate or campaign committee under subsection (6)(a), the commissioner shall include a statement that if the candidate, political committee, or joint fundraising committee fails to bring the material into compliance as required under this section, the candidate, political committee, or joint fundraising committee is subject to a civil penalty pursuant to [13-37-128 \[mca.legmt.gov\]](#).

<Lovick v. Winters.pdf><Respondent letter (Winters).pdf>

## Cook, Scott

---

**From:** Mark Winters <wintersm1216@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2026 2:01 PM  
**To:** Justin Burkholder; Cook, Scott  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Mark Winters Billboard Correction Needed ASAP

Hello Justin. As I said in my voicemail. I have been informed by the COPP that my attribution on my billboard is inadequate. I need to add my campaign address.

Behind the "Paid for by Mark Winters" I need to add "P.O. Box 19, Black Eagle, MT, 59414". Can you please determine what options I have to address the current billboard and ensure my 2nd billboard is correct. Please give me a call as soon as you can and/or send me an email with options. Thanks Mark Winters

## Cook, Scott

---

**From:** Mark Winters <wintersm1216@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2026 2:14 PM  
**To:** Cook, Scott  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Winters Web Page Corrected.  
**Attachments:** 20260413\_140357.jpg

Hello Scott - corrected webpage attribution picture. Mark

EDIT

*I am very proud to say that I have been en*

*From the MSSA endorsement letter. "You  
in your Primary Election contest to represe  
you to the voters of your election district in  
hunting are important. Those voters in Mo  
will certainly the best of the Primary Electio*

*Paid for by Mark Winters, PO Box 19, Black Eagle, MT, 59414*

## Cook, Scott

---

**From:** Mark Winters <wintersm1216@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2026 4:29 PM  
**To:** Cook, Scott  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Winters Yard Signs Correctef  
**Attachments:** 20260413\_155656.jpg

All yard signs are corrected. Mark

Winters

Senate Dist

A Kennedy

montanaw

paid for by Mark Winters

P.O. Box 19 Black Eagle, MT 59414