

Commissioner of Political Practices 1209 Eighth Avenue Post Office Box 202401 Helena, MT 59620-2401 Phone: 406-444-2942 Fax : 406-444-1643 www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

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2026 MAY 08

Commissioner of Political Practices

SIGNED/NOTARIZED

Campaign Finance and Practices

Complaint Form (08/17)

Type or print in ink all information on this form except for verification signature

Person bringing complaint (Complainant):

Complete Name Adam Forslund
Complete Mailing Address PO Box 281 Miles City, MT 59301
Phone Numbers: Work 4062198813 Home

Person or organization against whom complaint is brought (Respondent):

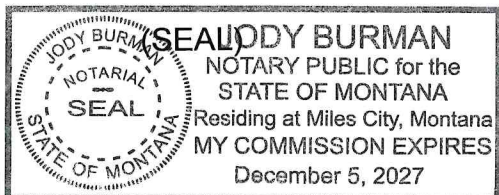
Complete Name Michael Caldwell
Complete Mailing Address PO Box 97 Miles City, MT 59301
Phone Numbers: Work 7144201974 Home

Please complete the second page of this form and describe in detail the facts of the alledged violation.

Verification by oath or affirmation

State of Montana, County of Custer

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



Signature of Complainant

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of May, 2026.

Jody Burman
Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

**Statement of facts:**

Describe in detail the alleged violation(s) and cite the statute or statutes you believe have been violated. Please attach copies of documentary evidence to support the facts alleged in your statement.

If the space provided below is insufficient, you may attach additional pages as necessary.

*See Attached.*

**Complaints must be:**

- signed
- notarized
- delivered in person or by mail.

**Issue:** Candidate Mike Caldwell violates MCA 13-35-225(1).

**Rule:** MCA 13-35-225(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.

**Application:** Candidate Caldwell's signs do not include a name and address as required by law. The signs state "Paid for by the friends of Mike Caldwell."

First, it cannot be determined if the signs would fall under MCA 13-35-225(1)(a), because the signs do not say financed by the candidate, even though the candidate's "friends" may be himself. Thus, the signs would violate 13-35-225(1)(a) for failure to state a name and address.

Second, if the signs fall under MCA 13-35-225(1)(b), because a political committee funds them due to them stating they are "Paid for by the friends of Mike Caldwell," and, because it cannot be determined who the "friends of Mike Caldwell" are, it cannot be determined what kind of committee or joint fundraising has occurred. Thus, the signs violate the law because they do not include the names of the treasurer, deputy treasurer, etc., along with the committee's address.

Third, if the signs fall under MCA 13-35-225(1)(b), because they are funded by a political committee that is a corporation or union, due to them stating they are "Paid for by the friends of Mike Caldwell." And because it cannot be determined who the "friends of Mike Caldwell" are, it cannot be determined which corporation or union is funding the signs. Thus, the signs violate the law because they do not include the names of the treasurer, deputy treasurer, etc., along with the committee's address.

**Conclusion:** The signs violate MCA 13-35-225(1)(a)-(c), because the signs do not state a name and address for the "Friends of Mike Caldwell."

**MIKE**

**CALDWELL**

**GUSTER COUNTY ATTORNEY**

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PAID FOR BY THE FRIENDS OF MIKE CALDWELL

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