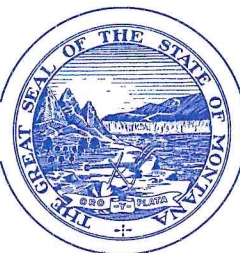


COMMISSIONER OF
POLITICAL PRACTICES



STATE OF MONTANA

CHRIS J. GALLUS
COMMISSIONER
TELEPHONE (406) 444-2942
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1209 EIGHTH AVENUE
PO BOX 202401
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-2401
www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

October 30, 2023

Unknown
P.O. Box 614
West Yellowstone, MT 59758

Subject: Complaint received October 30, 2023; *Burke v. Unknown 1, COPP-2023-CFP-020*

The enclosed complaint alleges a violation of Montana election law. The complaint is accepted as conforming to the requirements of 44.11.106 ARM, the administrative rule regarding campaign complaints.

Upon review, I have determined that the allegation that certain material failed to include the 'paid for by' attribution message is merited, as the specific election communication mentioned in this complaint does not include required attribution, Mont. Code Ann. (MCA) §13-35-225(1). You will need to add full attribution messaging to all copies of this communication remaining in your possession and provide photographic notice to COPP showing this addition- distribution of any unattributed copies of the communication must be halted until the full 'paid for by' attribution message is added. For any copies of this communication that have already been publicly distributed without inclusion of the full attribution message, COPP would require a written statement that includes a picture of the communication, the full 'paid for by' attribution message required under MCA §13-35-225(1), the quantity of unattributed communications distributed, and the date or dates unattributed copies of the communication were distributed.

This attribution response needs to be provided to COPP within 2 business days of receipt of this letter, as provided for under MCA §13-35-225(6)(a)(i). Failure to bring "material into compliance as required...is subject to a civil penalty pursuant to 13-37-218, MCA", MCA §13-35-225(6)(b). Any response you provide is a public record that COPP posts on our website, per MCA §13-37-132.

COPP would also request additional information about the sources of financing and amount expended for this communication. Specifically, please provide the name or names of all persons who financed the communication, as well as the total amount expended to finance and distribute it. This information may appropriately be provided in the same time and manner as the attribution response requested above.

If you did not engage in the activity relating to this complaint, I would appreciate having any additional information you can provide as to potential parties involved. It is in everyone's best interest to immediately resolve the situation in the manner described above, and COPP will work with you, or other parties, to get this accomplished.

Thank you for your immediate attention and consideration of this urgent matter.

Regards,

/s/ Chris J. Gallus

Chris J. Gallus
Commissioner of Political Practices