



THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20463

FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION
SECRETARIAT

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MEMORANDUM

November 28, 2006

TO: The Commission

SENSITIVE

THROUGH: Patrina M. Clark *PMC*
Staff Director

FROM: Lynn M. Fraser, Acting Director *LMF*
Alternative Dispute Resolution Office

SUBJECT: ADR 350 Montanans for Lindeen and Paul Ringling, Treasurer,
Recommendation to Dismiss

On September 22, 2006, the ADR Office received MUR 5769 from the Office of General Counsel ("OGC") to review and determine its appropriateness for ADR processing. Based on that review, we recommend that it be closed. Following the procedures approved by the Commission on March 3, 2003, this matter will be closed by the ADR Office if the Commission approves the recommendation in this Memorandum. OGC concurs in the description of this matter, and that it not be returned to OGC for further action.

ADR Case: ADR 350

Source No. MUR 5769

Respondents:
Montanans for Lindeen
Paul Ringling, Treasurer
Monica Lindeen

Respondents' Rep.:
Chris J. Gallus, Esq.

Complainant:
Montana Republican Party

Committee Name:
Montanans for Lindeen

Date Complaint Filed: 6/30/06

Committee Type: Authorized

Date Forwarded to ADRO: 9/22/06

District #/or State: MT 1st C.D.

Election – Won/Lost: Lost General

Election Cycle: 2006

Summary of Complaint: Complaint alleges that Montanans for Lindeen, Paul Ringling, Treasurer, and Monica Lindeen, ("Respondents" or the "Committee") disseminated written

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campaign materials that violate the FECA, due to inadequate disclaimers. Specifically, the complaint lists campaign banners, an issues handout, a campaign palm card, and billboards. Complainant attached three photographs of communications that do not appear to have a box around the committee's disclaimer.

Respondents' Reply: Respondents contend that the Committee's campaign communications were in compliance with the FECA. Respondents argued that the signs in the photographs submitted with the complaint, without a box around the disclaimer, were hand painted. Respondents did not understand the regulations to require a box around the disclaimer on large items that were not "printed materials." Respondents contend that boxes were added to the hand painted signs, however, so that all communications were in compliance with the spirit and the letter of the FECA.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. Dismiss ADR 350 (MUR 5769), and close the file.**
- 2. Approve the appropriate letters.**

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