



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

Matthew Black

Mapleton, UT 84664

**JUN 23 2015**

RE: MUR 6850  
Matthew Black

Dear Mr. Black:

On July 3, 2014, the Federal Election Commission notified you of a complaint alleging violations of certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). A copy of the complaint was forwarded to you at that time.

The Commission, on June 17, 2015, voted to dismiss the allegations as they pertain to you. The Factual and Legal Analysis, which more fully explains the Commission's decision, is enclosed for your information.

You are advised that the confidentiality provisions of 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(12)(A) remain in effect, and that this matter is still open with respect to other respondents. The Commission will notify you when the entire file has been closed.

If you have any questions, please contact Michael Columbo, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1341.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Peter G. Blumberg", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Peter G. Blumberg  
Assistant General Counsel

Enclosure  
Factual and Legal Analysis

1                                   **FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION**

2                                   **FACTUAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

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4   RESPONDENT:       Matthew Black

MUR: 6850

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6   **I.       INTRODUCTION**

7           This matter was generated by a complaint filed with the Federal Election Commission by  
8   Maryann Martindale on behalf of the Alliance for a Better Utah. *See* 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(1).  
9   Count I of the Complaint alleged that Jeremy Johnson made contributions in the names of others  
10   in June of 2010 to Friends of Mike Lee, the principal campaign committee of Mike Lee for Sen.  
11   Mike Lee's 2010 campaign, in the names of straw donors, including Matthew Black. Compl.  
12   at 1-2.

13   **II.      ANALYSIS**

14           The Complaint alleged that Matthew Black served as a straw donor for Johnson's  
15   contributions in the names of others. Compl. at 2. The Act and Commission regulations prohibit  
16   making a contribution in the name of another or knowingly permitting one's name to be used to  
17   effect the making of such a contribution, 52 U.S.C. § 30122, including knowingly helping or  
18   assisting any person in making a contribution in the name of another, 11 C.F.R. § 110.4(b).

19           The presently available record evidence indicates that Matthew Black's only participation  
20   in the alleged straw donor scheme was to allow his name to be used for Johnson's contributions.  
21   There is no evidence that he played a role in organizing or executing the reimbursements.

22           Accordingly, the Commission dismisses the allegations against Matthew Black in the  
23   exercise of its prosecutorial discretion, as it has previously done in similar circumstances. *See*  
24   *Heckler v. Chaney*, 470 U.S. 821 (1985); *see, e.g.*, Certification, MUR 6054 (Venice Nissan, *et*

MUR 6850 (Matthew Black)  
Factual and Legal Analysis  
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1 *al.*) (Aug. 24, 2010) (taking no action and closing the file as to employee respondents who  
2 merely served as straw donors).

3 **III. CONCLUSION**

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5 Therefore, based on the currently available information, the Commission dismisses the  
6 allegation that Matthew Black violated 52 U.S.C. § 30122.