

Digitally signed  
by Kathryn Ross  
Date: 2017.08.24  
16:05:26 -04'00'

*Kathryn Ross*

**From:** Brent E. Shelley, O.D.  
**To:** CELA  
**Cc:** Merrie Lee Soules  
**Subject:** Re: MUR 7217 -missing complaint  
**Date:** Thursday, August 24, 2017 1:06:46 PM

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Dear "CELA":

Attached you will find my original response to inquired that is dated February 28, 2017. I hope you will find it satisfactory. Likewise I am forwarding to you my original email with the date stamp on it so that you may review your inbox or filters and find the original.

I reassert that I at no time knew that I was potentially in violation of any law, statute or rule. I was asked to provide travel services for Ms. Soules and did so with all good intentions. I have never violated the law; I have had a couple speeding tickets in the past, but otherwise I have never, ever been in trouble with the law, and I find this accusation quite disturbing. I sincerely ask that the FEC find me not guilty and exonerate me of any and all possible charges.

Cordially,

**Brent E. Shelley, O.D.**  
Diplomate, American Board of Optometry  
Daddy, Mudder and Marine

*"I cannot do all the good things in the World, but the World needs all the good things I can do."*

1804440001  
5171644915

February 28, 2017

Las Cruces, NM 88007

Federal Election Commission  
Office of Complaints Examination and Legal Administration  
Attn: Kathryn Ross, Paralegal  
999 E Street NW  
Washington, DC 20436

**VIA EMAIL**

**RE: MUR #7217**

Dear Ms. Ross:

My name is Brent Edward Shelley, and I am writing to you today regarding MUR#7217. I am the pilot in question and would like to address all concerns clearly, concisely and efficiently so that your investigation may proceed in the manner that you deem necessary. I am a private pilot and a member of the Aero Flight Club of Las Cruces, NM. Our flight club leases the aircraft in question from Mr. Newton and his corporation. The travel that I provided Ms. Soules was a personal flight and in no way was it any form of gift from Aero Newton, Inc.

In my capacity as a private pilot, I provided Ms. Soules and her associates travel throughout the state. When I was asked by Ms. Soules to provide these services, I made it very clear that I am a private pilot without a commercial rating. What this means is that I cannot financially gain from any services that I provide her or her campaign. I am solely a private pilot looking to increase my pilotage hours so that I may in fact gain additional pilot ratings.

I freely and readily admit that I know absolutely nothing about campaign finance reporting requirements, finance contribution limits, etc. I am simply an aircraft enthusiast and was only trying to become a better pilot with increased flight time. When I read the complaint I was aghast, and while I have not seen the photo, the fact that my picture was reportedly taken makes me feel violated, if not stalked. Your letter states that all correspondence and documentation must be preserved. Please be advised that I did get a new cell phone in January and do not have any text messages from previous to the purchase of that phone.

I am asking that Aero Newton, Aero Flight Club of Las Cruces, and myself please be removed from any investigation to FEC filing requirements. I have little doubt that this incident will result in an amendment to our club's operating agreement regarding the transport of political candidates. I sincerely never meant to do anything that was unethical. I am not a candidate, and I have no political ambitions. I am simply a man that loves to fly.

Sincerely and Respectfully,  
Brent E Shelley, OD  
**DIGITALLY SIGNED: BES**

Copy to:

Aero Newton, Inc.  
Aero Flight Club of Las Cruces  
Merrie Lee Soules

1904446177