

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20463

March 23, 2021

1 2 3 TO: The Commission 4 5 Lisa J. Stevenson FROM: 6 **Acting General Counsel** 7 Charles Kitcher $\mathcal{CK}^{\mathsf{by}}$ SG 8 9 Acting Associate General Counsel for Enforcement 10 Jin Lee 11 Acting Assistant General Counsel 12 13 Claudio J. Pavia C/Acting Assistant General Counsel 14 15 16 17 Saurav Ghosh S Attorney 18 19 Laura Conley LC 20 21 Attorney 22 23 **SUBJECT:** MUR 7271 (Chalupa, *et al.*) 24 25 RE: Office of General Counsel's Notice to the Commission Following the Submission of Probable Cause Briefs 26 27

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On January 13, 2021, the Office of General Counsel ("OGC") notified counsel for Alexandra Chalupa and Chalupa & Associates, LLC ("Respondents") that it was prepared to recommend that the Commission find probable cause to believe that Respondents violated 52 U.S.C. § 30121(a)(2) and 11 C.F.R. § 110.20(g) by knowingly soliciting an in-kind contribution from a foreign national. 1 OGC's notification included a General Counsel's Brief setting forth the factual and legal basis for the recommendation. On March 15, 2021, Respondents submitted a Reply Brief.

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Pursuant to the Agency Procedure Following the Submission of Probable Cause Briefs by the Office of General Counsel, 76 Fed. Reg. 63,570 (Oct. 13, 2011), OGC is hereby notifying the Commission that it intends to proceed with the recommendation to find probable cause to believe that Respondents violated the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, based on the

Email from Sauray Ghosh, FEC, to Amanda La Forge, Sandler Reiff Lamb Rosenstein & Birkenstock, P.C., Counsel for Chalupa and Chalupa & Associates, LLC (Jan. 13, 2021).

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factual and legal analysis set forth in the General Counsel's Brief. A copy of this Notice is being provided to Respondents at the same time that it is circulated to the Commission.

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For the reasons set forth in the General Counsel's Brief, the Commission should proceed with finding probable cause to believe that Respondents knowingly solicited an in-kind contribution from a foreign national.

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RECOMMENDATION:

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Find probable cause to believe that Alexandra Chalupa and Chalupa & Associates, LLC, violated 52 U.S.C. § 30121(a)(2) and 11 C.F.R. § 110.20(g) by knowingly soliciting an in-kind contribution from a foreign national.