

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20463

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MEMORANDUM

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TO: The Commission

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FROM: Lisa J. Stevenson

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> Charles Kitcher CK BY:

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Associate General Counsel for Enforcement

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Mark Allen MA by CC

Acting General Counsel

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Assistant General Counsel

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Cerissa Cafasso

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Attorney

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SUBJECT: MUR 7355 (Unknown Respondent)

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RE:

Notification of Respondent

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On October 4, 2019, the Commission found reason to believe that Unknown Respondent violated 52 U.S.C. § 30120(a) and 11 C.F.R. § 110.11 by failing to include disclaimers on a billboard expressly advocating a federal candidate's election, and 52 U.S.C § 30104(c) and 11 C.F.R. § 109.10 by failing to report an independent expenditure. The Office of the General Counsel began an investigation to identify Unknown Respondent.

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Based on our investigative findings to date, the Unknown Respondent is Ahern Ad, LLC. The company leased a mobile solar generator ("MSG") that had an electronic billboard attached. Ahern Ad itself developed and displayed advertisements on the MSG that read "Nevada / Dean Heller / U.S. Senate" over a number of rotating backgrounds and which formed the basis of the complaint in this matter.² As such, consistent with previous Commission practice in complaintgenerated matters involving initially unknown respondents, we intend to notify Ahern Ad, LLC, about the allegations made in the Complaint and offer the company an opportunity to respond.³

See Certification (Oct. 8, 2019), MUR 7355 (Unknown Respondent).

² See Compl., Ex. A.

See, e.g., MUR 6838 (Aossey); MUR 6642 (Kauffman).