



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20463

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of)	
)	
MA4Trump)	MUR 7591R
Dianna Ploss)	
)	

**STATEMENT OF REASONS OF CHAIRMAN ALLEN J. DICKERSON, VICE CHAIR
STEVEN T. WALTHER, COMMISSIONER SHANA M. BROUSSARD,
COMMISSIONER SEAN J. COOKSEY, COMMISSIONER JAMES E. "TREY"
TRAINOR, III, AND COMMISSIONER ELLEN L. WEINTRAUB**

This matter involves allegations that the organization MA4Trump, which held itself out as being founded and operated by Boston area radio host Dianna Ploss, solicited and spent funds for various events supporting the re-election of President Donald J. Trump in 2020 but failed to register and report as a political committee.¹ The Complaint also alleges that MA4Trump improperly held itself out as an authorized candidate committee by using Trump's name, and that it failed to use the required disclaimer in a newspaper advertisement.²

The information presently available indicates that MA4Trump's events were not particularly well attended and that the group's spending was relatively minimal.³ In addition, there is no record of the group being active beyond the 2020 election.⁴ In light of these circumstances, as well as the many other matters on our docket, we concluded that it would not be an efficient use of the Commission's resources to investigate or otherwise continue to pursue this matter. Accordingly, we voted to exercise prosecutorial discretion and dismiss this matter pursuant to *Heckler v. Chaney*, 470 U.S. 821 (1985).⁵

¹ MUR 7591, Compl. at 1 (Apr. 3, 2019).

² *Id.*

³ As identified in the First General Counsel's Report ("FGCR"), MA4Trump's Facebook page, which has been shut down and is no longer accessible, contained an "Events" page showing multiple past events. FGCR at 5-6. MA4TRUMP FACEBOOK PAGE, formerly available at <https://www.facebook.com/MA4Trump/> (last visited Dec. 17, 2019). MA4Trump was identified as the host of five events in 2019; the event pages showed that RSVPs for these five MA4Trump events ranged from 13 to 78 people. The event pages also reported ticket prices for some of the events set at \$30 (Apr. 26, 2019) and \$35 (Jan. 27, 2019).

⁴ Screen captures at The Internet Archive show that Ploss's website no longer carried references to MA4Trump as of February 25, 2021. *See, e.g.* THE INTERNET ARCHIVE/WAYBACK MACHINE /DIANNA PLOSS WEBSITE, <http://web.archive.org/web/20210225014328/https://diannaploss.com/> (last visited Apr. 18, 2022).

⁵ Certification, MUR 7591R (MA4Trump, *et al.*) (Mar. 22, 2022) (recording the Commission's vote to dismiss the allegations pursuant to *Heckler v. Chaney* and close the file).

April 21, 2022

Date



Allen J. Dickerson
Chairman

April 20, 2022

Date



Steven T. Walther
Vice Chair

April 20, 2022

Date



Shana M. Broussard
Commissioner

April 22, 2022

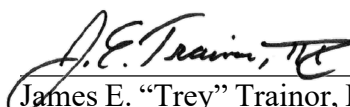
Date



Sean J. Cooksey
Commissioner

April 22, 2022

Date



James E. "Trey" Trainor, III
Commissioner

April 22, 2022

Date



Ellen L. Weintraub
Commissioner