

## **FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION** Washington, DC 20463

February 25, 2021

## VIA EMAIL

Scott Rediger, Treasurer
Matt Innis for U.S. Senate, Inc.
3434 O Street
Lincoln, NE 68510
Compliance@complianceconsultingva.com

RE: MUR 7711

Dear Mr. Rediger:

On March 5, 2020, the Federal Election Commission ("Commission") notified you of a complaint alleging violations of certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the "Act"). On February 17, 2021, based upon the information contained in the complaint and information provided by respondents, the Commission decided to dismiss allegations that Matt Innis for U.S. Senate, Inc. and you in your official capacity as treasurer violated provisions of the Act. The Commission then closed its file in this matter. A copy of the General Counsel's Report, which more fully explains the basis for the Commission's decision, is enclosed.

Documents related to the case will be placed on the public record within 30 days. *See Disclosure of Certain Documents in Enforcement and Other Matters*, 81 Fed. Reg. 50,702 (Aug. 2, 2016). If you have any questions, please contact Kristina Portner, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Jeff S. Jordan

Assistant General Counsel

Enclosure:

General Counsel's Report

MUR771100017

## BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

## ENFORCEMENT PRIORITY SYSTEM DISMISSAL REPORT

MUR: 7711 Respondents: Matt Innis for U.S. Senate, Inc.

and Scott Rediger, as Treasurer

Complaint Receipt Date: March 2, 2020 ("Committee")

Response Date: April 14, 2020

**EPS Rating:** 

Alleged Statutory 52 U.S.C. § 30104(b)(5)(A), (8) Regulatory Violations: 11 C.F.R. §§ 104.3(b)(4), 104.11

The Complaint alleges that the Committee failed to report \$457 in disbursements for Facebook advertisements between August 2019 and December 2019. The Response asserts that its vendor has charged the Committee for digital media services, including the Facebook ads, and that the debt is reported on its disclosure reports as printing because the majority of the invoice is for printing expenses. <sup>2</sup>

Based on its experience and expertise, the Commission has established an Enforcement Priority System using formal, pre-determined scoring criteria to allocate agency resources and assess whether particular matters warrant further administrative enforcement proceedings. These criteria include (1) the gravity of the alleged violation, taking into account both the type of activity and the amount in violation; (2) the apparent impact the alleged violation may have had on the electoral process; (3) the complexity of the legal issues raised in the matter; and (4) recent trends in potential violations and other developments in the law. This matter is rated as low priority for Commission action after application of these pre-established criteria. Given that low rating, and the

Compl. at 1-2 (Mar. 2, 2020).

Resp. at 1 (Apr. 14, 2020). The Committee notes that the \$457 disbursement to Facebook for digital content represents 1.87% of its total costs (*i.e.*, \$24,381.16) incurred to its vendor, Transformation Marketing. *Id.* at 1-2

MUR771100018

EPS Dismissal Report—MUR 7711 (Matt Innis for U.S. Senate, Inc., *et al.*) Page 2 of 2

modest amount at issue, we recommend that the Commission dismiss the Complaint consistent with the Commission's prosecutorial discretion to determine the proper ordering of its priorities and use of agency resources. *Heckler v. Chaney*, 470 U.S. 821, 831-32 (1985). We also recommend that the Commission close the file as to all respondents and send the appropriate letters.

Lisa J. Stevenson Acting General Counsel

Charles Kitcher

Acting Associate General Counsel

08.10.20

Date

BY:

Stephen Gura

Deputy Associate General Counsel

Jeff S. Jordan

**Assistant General Counsel** 

Kristina M. Portner

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Attorney