



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20463

January 25, 2023

VIA ELECTRONIC AND CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

joel@reluctantcynic.com

Joel C. Corcoran
P.O. Box 15022
Portland, OR 97209

RE: MUR 7956

Dear Mr. Corcoran:

On January 11, 2023, the Federal Election Commission reviewed the allegations in your complaint received February 1, 2022, and on the basis of the information provided in the complaint, and information provided by respondents, decided to exercise its prosecutorial discretion to dismiss the allegations as to Cody for Oregon and Jefri Green in his official capacity as treasurer, and Steven Cody Reynolds in his individual capacity. Accordingly, on January 11, 2023, the Commission closed the file in this matter.

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), effective September 1, 2016. A copy of the General Counsel's Report, which more fully explains the Commission's finding, is enclosed.

The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, allows a complainant to seek judicial review of the Commission's dismissal of this action. See 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(8).

Sincerely,

Lisa J. Stevenson
Acting General Counsel

Roy Q. Lockett

BY: Roy Q. Lockett
Acting Assistant General Counsel

Enclosure
General Counsel's Report

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
ENFORCEMENT PRIORITY SYSTEM
DISMISSAL REPORT

MUR: 7956

Respondents: Cody for Oregon and Jefri Green in his
official capacity as treasurer
Steven Cody Reynolds

Complaint Receipt Date: February 1, 2022

Response Date: N/A

EPS Rating:

Alleged Statutory 52 U.S.C. §§ 30120(a)(1), (b)(1), (c)(1)
Regulatory Violations: 11 C.F.R. §§ 110.11(a)(1), (b)(1), (c)(1)-(2)

The Complaint alleges that Cody for Oregon and Jefri Green in his official capacity as treasurer (the “Committee”), the principal campaign committee of Steven Cody Reynolds, omitted and/or failed to include sufficient disclaimers and spoken approval on two television ads.¹ The ads both feature Reynolds on screen speaking directly into the camera, the URL to the Committee’s official website, the campaign logo, and the text “Paid for by Cody for Oregon.” Reynolds and the Committee did not respond to the Complaint.

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

¹ Compl. at 1 (Feb. 1, 2022). The Complaint states that the two ads are available on YouTube. *Id.* at 1; *see* Cody For Oregon - Democratic Candidate for Oregon’s 6th Congressional District (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZTYOzfuJBKM>); Cody Reynolds - Climate Change (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8h-T-uHViOw>).


Commission action after application of these pre-established criteria. Given that low rating, and the unlikeliness that the general public would have been confused as to whether the television ads were authorized by Reynolds, 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.² We also recommend that the Commission close the file as to all Respondents and send the appropriate letters.

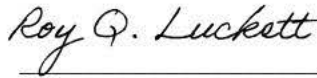
Lisa J. Stevenson
Acting General Counsel

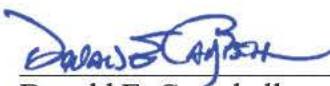
Charles Kitcher
Associate General Counsel

December 29, 2022
Date

BY:


Claudio J. Pavia
Deputy Associate General Counsel


Roy Q. Luckett
Acting Assistant General Counsel


Donald E. Campbell
Attorney

² *Heckler v. Chaney*, 470 U.S. 821, 831-32 (1985).