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By OGC/CELA at 9:50 am, Aug 08, 2023

From: [Clayton Burrous](#)
To: [CELA](#)
Cc: [Jamie Dickinson](#); [John Planty](#)
Subject: Response to FEC Complaint Against Grand Strand Brewing Company | MUR 8006
Date: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 9:42:28 AM

To Whom it May Concern in the General Counsel's Office-

We received your letter regarding a potential violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 by Grand Strand Brewing Company (MUR 8006). The complaint suggests Grand Strand Brewing offered free goods and services for Russel Fry to host a campaign event on Thursday, August 5, 2021.

On Friday, July 23, 2021 a representative from Russel Fry's team called Grand Strand Brewing asking if they could host an event on Thursday, August 5th for approximately 75 people. We were told all guests would be on their own tab, and they would simply need to use a portion of the brewery for campaign material. There was no catering nor special pricing provided to anyone on Russel Fry's team or any guests who came to the brewery to hear his announcement.

We host groups like this regularly without a private event rental fee, but rather reserve portions of the brewery in exchange for the business their guests will bring. This event was no exception. In no way, shape, or form were we acting as a donor or supporter for the campaign. We were simply taking advantage of the opportunity to have an additional 75 people visit the brewery that day and the subsequent revenue they would generate by buying food and drink.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Clayton

