

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C.

March 1, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Michael Glackin Friends of Mike Glackin

Hazlet, NJ 07730

RE: MUR 8051 Kiley for Congress

Dear Mr. Glackin:

On August 16, 2022, the Federal Election Commission notified Friends of Mike Glackin (the "Committee") and you, as treasurer, of a complaint alleging violations of certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act.") A copy of the complaint was forwarded to you at that time.

Upon further review of the allegations contained in the complaint, and information supplied by you, the Commission, on February 14, 2024, voted to dismiss this matter. The General Counsel's Report, which more fully explains the Commission's decision, is enclosed for your information.

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).

Sincerely,

Lisa J. Stevenson Acting General Counsel

Wanda D. Brown

BY: Wanda D. Brown Assistant General Counsel

Enclosure General Counsel's Report

1	BEFORE THI	E FEDERAL ELECTIO	N COMMISSION
2 3 4	ENFORCEMENT PRIORITY SYSTEM DISMISSAL REPORT		
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	MUR: 8051	Respondents:	Kiley for Congress and Ronald Gravino in his official capacity as Treasurer Anita Greenberg-Belli for Council Friends of Cole for Council Friends of Mike Glackin Friends of Ross Licitra Friends of Sue Kiley for Commissioner
15 16 17 18 19 20			Koch for Council O'Scanlon for Senate Owen Henry for Mayor Scharfenberger for Assembly Senator Kyrillos Committee
20 21 22 23 24	Complaint Receipt Date: August Last Response Date: October 31,	-	
25 26 27 28 29	Alleged Statutory/ Regulatory Violations:	5 1	52 U.S.C. § 30116(a) 52 U.S.C. § 30125(e)(1) 1 C.F.R. § 110.3(d) 1 C.F.R. § 300.61
30	The Complaint alleges that Kiley for Congress and Ronald Gravino in his official capacity		
31	as treasurer (the "Federal Committe	ee"), the principle campaig	gn committee of Susan Kiley, a 2022
32	candidate in New Jersey's 6th Congressional District, received a prohibited contribution in the		
33	amount of \$1,000 from Friends of S	Sue Kiley (the "State Com	mittee"), Kiley's state committee for
34	her campaign for county commission	oner in Monmouth County	y, New Jersey, in violation of the
35	Federal Election Campaign Act of	1971, as amended (the "A	ct"). ¹ The Federal Committee

Compl. at 1 (Aug. 11, 2022).

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1	disclosed the \$1,000 contribution from the State Committee on its 2022 April Quarterly Report. ²
2	The Complaint attaches a Request for Additional Information ("RFAI") that the Reports Analysis
3	Division ("RAD") sent to the Federal Committee regarding the apparent impermissible contribution
4	from the State Committee to the Federal Committee. ³ The RFAI also lists possible prohibited
5	contributions that the Federal Committee received from nine other state committees — Anita
6	Greenberg-Belli for Council (\$500), Friends of Cole for Council (\$100), Friends of Mike Glackin
7	(\$1,000), Friends of Ross Licitra for Commissioner (\$500), Koch for Council (\$100), O'Scanlon for
8	Senate (\$1,000), Owen Henry for Mayor (\$300), Scharfenberger for Assembly (\$1,000), and
9	Senator Kyrillos Committee (\$500). ⁴ These additional contributions were also reported on the
10	Federal Committee's 2022 April Quarterly Report. ⁵
11	In response, the Federal Committee states that it is "now aware" of the prohibition against a
12	candidate's state committee from contributing to the candidate's federal committee, and upon
13	receiving notification of the Complaint made a refund of the prohibited contribution. ⁶ The State
14	Committee also states that it is also "now aware" of the prohibition against such a contribution, and
15	confirms that it received a refund of the prohibited contribution. ⁷ The Federal Committee disclosed
16	making a refund of a contribution to the State Committee on its 2022 October Quarterly Report, ⁸

² Kiley for Congress, 2022 April Quarterly Report at 40 (Apr. 13, 2022), <u>https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/</u> <u>612/202204139496090612/202204139496090612.pdf</u>.

³ Kiley for Congress, RFAI at 1 (May 31, 2022), <u>https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/432/202205310300144432/</u> 202205310300144432.pdf.

⁴ *Id.*, Attach. 1.

⁵ Kiley for Congress, 2022 April Quarterly Report at 38-41 (Apr. 13, 2022).

⁶ Kiley for Congress Resp. at 1 (Aug. 29, 2022).

⁷ Friends of Sue Kiley Resp. at 1 (Sept. 20, 2022).

⁸ Kiley for Congress, 2022 October Quarterly Report at 83 (Oct. 21, 2022), <u>https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/</u> 162/202210219541476162/202210219541476162.pdf.

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1	and the State Committee disclosed receiving the refund from the Federal Committee on its 2022
2	October Quarterly Report. ⁹ The Response also attaches a copy of the refund check to the State
3	Committee. ¹⁰ Regarding the eight additional contributions from various other state committees, the
4	Federal Committee states that it obtained affidavits from the committees to confirm that each has
5	received sufficient funds subject to the limitations and prohibitions of the Act in order to make the
6	contribution. ¹¹ The Federal Committee includes eight affidavits in its Response (from each state
7	committee other than O'Scanlon for Senate). ¹² Five of the state committees, including Anita
8	Greenberg-Belli for Council, O'Scanlon for Senate, Owen Henry for Mayor, Scharfenberger for
9	Assembly, and Senator Kyrillos Committee submitted Responses stating that their contribution to
10	the Federal Committee consisted of funds subject to the limitations and prohibitions of the Act. ¹³
11	Friends of Cole and Koch for Council submitted Responses but do not directly address whether they
12	employed a reasonable accounting method to ensure that funds subject to the limitations and
13	prohibitions of the Act were used to make the contributions to the Federal Committee. ¹⁴ Friends of
14	Mike Glackin and Friends of Ross Licitra did not submit responses.
15	Based on its experience and expertise, the Commission has established an Enforcement
16	Priority System using formal, pre-determined scoring criteria to allocate agency resources and

⁹ NEW JERSEY ELECTION LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION, Friends of Sue Kiley for Commissioner, 2022 October Quarterly Report at 4 (Oct. 6, 2022), <u>https://www.njelecefilesearch.com/SearchCandidateReports</u> (linking directly to the report is not possible; search for "Kiley, Susan M.," click on the linked name which appears in the row for "Primary 2024," and click the PDF icon in the row for "10/06/2022, RQ-2022").

¹⁰ Kiley for Congress Resp., Attach. 9.

¹¹ Kiley for Congress Resp. at 1.

¹² *Id.*, Attach. 1-8.

¹³ Anita Greenberg-Belli for Council Resp. at 1 (Oct. 31, 2022); O'Scanlon for Senate Resp. at 1 (Aug. 30, 2022); Owen Henry for Mayor Resp. at 1 (Aug. 31, 2022); Scharfenberger for Assembly Resp. at 1 (Aug. 31, 2022); Senator Kyrillos Committee Resp. at 1 (Aug. 31, 2022).

¹⁴ Friends of Cole Resp. at 1 (Aug. 25, 2022); Koch for Council Resp. at 1 (Aug. 19, 2022).

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assess whether particular matters warrant further administrative enforcement proceedings. These 1 2 criteria include (1) the gravity of the alleged violation, taking into account both the type of activity 3 and the amount in violation; (2) the apparent impact the alleged violation may have had on the 4 electoral process; (3) the complexity of the legal issues raised in the matter; and (4) recent trends in 5 potential violations and other developments in the law. This matter is rated as low priority for 6 Commission action after application of these pre-established criteria. Given that low rating and 7 apparent low dollar amount at issue we recommend that the Commission dismiss the Complaint, 8 consistent with the Commission's prosecutorial discretion to determine the proper ordering of its priorities and use of agency resources.¹⁵ We also recommend that the Commission close the file 9 10 and send the appropriate letters. 11 12 Lisa J. Stevenson Acting General Counsel 13 14 15 16 17 Charles Kitcher 18 Associate General Counsel 19 20 February 2, 2024 21 BY: Date 22 Claudio J. Pavia 23 Deputy Associate General Counsel 24 25 Wanda Brown 26 27 Wanda D. Brown Assistant General Counsel 28 29 30 Pordon King 31 Gordon King 32 33 Attorney

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