



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

December 6, 2024

VIA UPS SIGNATURE REQUESTED

Billie R. Goins, Jr.



Mount Airy, NC 27030

RE: MUR 8233

Surry County Republican Executive
Committee

Dear Mr. Goins,

On November 6, 2024, the Federal Election Commission reviewed the allegations in your complaint dated March 25, 2024, and, on the basis of the information provided in your complaint and information provided by the respondent, determined to exercise its prosecutorial discretion to dismiss the allegations contained in the Complaint. Accordingly, the Commission voted to close the file in this matter effective December 6, 2024.

Documents related to the case will be placed on the public record today. *See* Disclosure of Certain Documents in Enforcement and Other Matters, 81 Fed. Reg. 50,702 (Aug. 2, 2016). A copy of the General Counsel's Report, which more fully explains the Commission's decision, is enclosed for your information.

The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, allows a complainant to seek judicial review of the Commission's dismissal of this action within 60 days of the dismissal, which became effective today. *See* 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(8).

If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Fortkiewicz, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1169.

Sincerely,

Lisa J. Stevenson
Acting General Counsel

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Aaron Rabinowitz".

BY: Aaron Rabinowitz
Assistant General Counsel

Enclosure
General Counsel's Report

1 same partial disclaimer.⁴ Finally, the Complaint states the Committee should have registered
2 with the Commission based on this activity.⁵

3 The Response states that the mailer and palm card were created by volunteers and
4 acknowledges that they lacked proper disclaimers.⁶ The Response states that it spent \$4,418.53
5 on these communications.⁷ Finally, the Response states that the Committee “pledge[s] not to
6 make these erroneous mistakes again” and requests that the Commission dismiss the Complaint.⁸

7 Based on its experience and expertise, the Commission has established an Enforcement
8 Priority System using formal, pre-determined scoring criteria to allocate agency resources and
9 assess whether particular matters warrant further administrative enforcement proceedings. These
10 criteria include (1) the gravity of the alleged violation, taking into account both the type of
11 activity and the amount in violation; (2) the apparent impact the alleged violation may have had
12 on the electoral process; (3) the complexity of the legal issues raised in the matter; and (4) recent
13 trends in potential violations and other developments in the law. This matter is rated as low
14 priority for Commission action after application of these pre-established criteria. Given that low
15 rating, the low apparent dollar amount at issue, and the low likelihood that recipients of the
16 mailer would have been confused as to who had sent it, we recommend that the Commission
17 dismiss the Complaint consistent with the Commission’s prosecutorial discretion to determine
18 the proper ordering of its priorities and use of agency resources.⁹ We also recommend that the

⁴ *Id.* at 4-5, Attach. 2.

⁵ *Id.* at 7.

⁶ Resp. at 1-2 (Apr. 17, 2024).

⁷ *Id.* at 1.

⁸ *Id.* at 2.

⁹ *Heckler v. Chaney*, 470 U.S. 821, 831-32 (1985).

1 Commission close the file as to all Respondents effective 30 days from the date the certification
2 of this vote is signed (or on the next business day after the 30th day, if the 30th day falls on a
3 weekend or holiday) and send the appropriate letters.

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Lisa J. Stevenson
Acting General Counsel

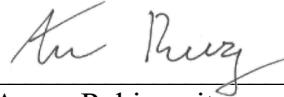
10/24/2024

Date

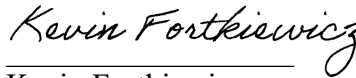
BY:



Claudio J. Pavia
Deputy Associate General Counsel
for Enforcement



Aaron Rabinowitz
Assistant General Counsel



Kevin Fortkiewicz
Attorney