



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
Washington, DC

February 7, 2025

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL AND UPS

[REDACTED]
Samuel Manley

[REDACTED]
Greer, SC 29650

RE: MUR 8241
William Timmons for Congress, *et al.*

Dear Mr. Manley:

On January 8, 2025, the Federal Election Commission reviewed the allegations in your complaint received April 15, 2024, and, on the basis of the information provided in the complaint and response, decided to exercise its prosecutorial discretion to dismiss the allegations as to William Timmons and William Timmons for Congress. Accordingly, on January 8, 2025, the Commission voted to close the file in this matter effective February 7, 2025.

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), 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 within 60 days of the dismissal, which became effective today. *See* 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(8).

Sincerely,

Lisa J. Stevenson
Acting General Counsel

Wanda D. Brown

BY: Wanda D. Brown
Assistant General Counsel

Enclosure
General Counsel's Report

1 **BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION**

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3 **ENFORCEMENT PRIORITY SYSTEM**
4 **DISMISSAL REPORT**

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6 **MUR:** 8241

Respondents: William Timmons for Congress and
Lisa Lisker in her official capacity as
treasurer
William Timmons

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12 **Complaint Receipt Date:** April 15, 2024
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15 **Alleged Statutory/**
16 **Regulatory Violations:**

52 U.S.C. § 30120(a), (c)
11 C.F.R. § 110.11

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19 The Complaint alleges that William Timmons for Congress and Lisa Lisker in her official
20 capacity as treasurer (the “Committee”), the principal campaign committee for Congressman
21 William Timmons, a 2024 candidate for South Carolina’s 4th Congressional District, sent public
22 communications in the form of text messages without required disclaimers, in violation of the
23 Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the “Act”).¹ The Complaint identifies the
24 Committee as the source of these text messages by linking them, through a common phone number,
25 to a prior text message containing a hyperlink to a fundraising web page bearing a Committee
26 disclaimer.² The Committee filed a Response stating that the text messages were “perfectly legal”
27 and compliant with the Commission’s disclaimer rules as applied to small digital advertisements.³

28 Based on its experience and expertise, the Commission has established an Enforcement
29 Priority System using formal, pre-determined scoring criteria to allocate agency resources and
30 assess whether particular matters warrant further administrative enforcement proceedings. These

¹ Compl. at 1 (Apr. 15, 2024).

² *Id.*, Ex. 1 at 2-3 (showing a text message containing a hyperlink to a WinRed page supporting the Committee).

³ Resp. at 1 (July 15, 2024).

MUR 8241 (William Timmons for Congress, *et al.*)
EPS Dismissal Report
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1 criteria include (1) the gravity of the alleged violation, taking into account both the type of activity
2 and the amount in violation; (2) the apparent impact the alleged violation may have had on the
3 electoral process; (3) the complexity of the legal issues raised in the matter; and (4) recent trends in
4 potential violations and other developments in the law. This matter is rated as low priority for
5 Commission action after application of these pre-established criteria. Given that low rating, and
6 low apparent dollar amount at issue, we recommend that the Commission dismiss the Complaint
7 consistent with the Commission's prosecutorial discretion to determine the proper ordering of its
8 priorities and use of agency resources.⁴ We also recommend that the Commission close the file
9 effective 30 days from the date the certification of its vote is signed (or on the next business day
10 after the 30th day, if the 30th day falls on a weekend or holiday) and send the appropriate letters.

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17 December 11, 2024
18 Date

Lisa J. Stevenson
Acting General Counsel

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BY:



Claudio J. Pavia
Deputy Associate General Counsel

Wanda D. Brown

Wanda D. Brown
Assistant General Counsel

Jacob P. Tully

Jacob P. Tully
Attorney

⁴ *Heckler v. Chaney*, 470 U.S. 821, 831-32 (1985).