

1 **BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION**

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

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6 **MUR:** 8275

**Respondents:** Hamilton County Republican Party  
John Carter for Congress and Todd  
Meredith in his official capacity as  
treasurer

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11 **Complaint Receipt Date:** June 13, 2024

12 **Response Receipt Dates:** June 28, 2024; July 3, 2024

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16 **Alleged Statutory/**

17 **Regulatory Violations:**

52 U.S.C. §§ 30104(b), 30116(a)(2)(A), (d)(4), (f)  
11 C.F.R. §§ 104.3(a), (b), 104.13, 109.32, 109.37

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19 The Complaint alleges that the Hamilton County Republic Party, a local party committee in  
20 Texas (the “County Party”), made, and John Carter for Congress and Todd Meredith in his official  
21 capacity as treasurer, the principal campaign committee of Representative John Carter,<sup>1</sup> a candidate  
22 for Texas’s 31st Congressional District in the 2024 election cycle (the “Carter Committee”)<sup>2</sup> and  
23 other unidentified committees, knowingly accepted and failed to disclose excessive in-kind  
24 contributions of \$6,000, or alternately that the County Party made a coordinated party expenditure  
25 of the same amount during a primary election supporting Carter and apparently the other  
26 unidentified committees,<sup>3</sup> in violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended  
27 (the “Act”).

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<sup>1</sup> John Carter for Congress, Statement of Organization at 2 (Aug. 27, 2024), <https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/583/202408279675287583/202408279675287583.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> Rep. John Carter, Statement of Candidacy at 1 (Nov. 10, 2022), <https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/998/202211109546748998/202211109546748998.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> Compl. at 1-2 (June 13, 2024).

1           The Complainant, a candidate for Texas’s 31st Congressional District in the 2024 election  
2 cycle, states that he was denied an opportunity to speak at a County Party “candidate fair” on  
3 February 5, 2024, whereas four other primary candidates, including Carter, spoke at the event,  
4 constituting in-kind contributions from the County Party to the speakers or a prohibited coordinated  
5 party expenditure during a primary election, with an approximate value of \$6,000.<sup>4</sup>

6           In Response, the County Party and Carter Committee each state that no money was spent by  
7 the County Party to hold its meeting on February 5, 2024, and argue that the Commission should  
8 dismiss the Complaint.<sup>5</sup>

9           Based on its experience and expertise, the Commission has established an Enforcement  
10 Priority System using formal, pre-determined scoring criteria to allocate agency resources and  
11 assess whether particular matters warrant further administrative enforcement proceedings. These  
12 criteria include (1) the gravity of the alleged violation, taking into account both the type of activity  
13 and the amount in violation; (2) the apparent impact the alleged violation may have had on the  
14 electoral process; (3) the complexity of the legal issues raised in the matter; and (4) recent trends in  
15 potential violations and other developments in the law. This matter is rated as low priority for  
16 Commission action after application of these pre-established criteria. Given that low rating and low  
17 apparent dollar amount at issue we recommend that the Commission dismiss the Complaint,  
18 consistent with the Commission’s prosecutorial discretion to determine the proper ordering of its  
19 priorities and use of agency resources.<sup>6</sup> We also recommend that the Commission close the file

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<sup>4</sup> *Id.* at 1-2.

<sup>5</sup> County Party Resp. at 3 (June 28, 2024); Carter Committee Resp. at 2 (July 3, 2024).

<sup>6</sup> *Heckler v. Chaney*, 470 U.S. 821, 831-32 (1985).

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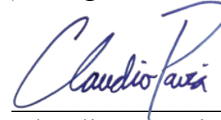
effective 30 days from the date of certification of this vote is signed (or on the next business day  
after the 30th day, if the 30th day falls on a weekend or holiday) and send the appropriate letters.

November 20, 2024

Date

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BY:



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