



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

February 13, 2025

VIA UPS DELIVERY AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

[REDACTED]
Christopher G. Britt
[REDACTED]
Spokane, WA 99203

RE: MUR 8291
Dansel for Congress

Dear Mr. Britt:

This is in reference to the complaint filed with the Federal Election Commission on July 22, 2024, concerning Dansel for Congress. Based on that complaint, and after considering the circumstances of this matter and information provided in response to the complaint, the Commission determined to dismiss this matter and close the file effective February 13, 2025.

The General Counsel's Report, which more fully explains the basis for the Commission's decision, is enclosed. 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).

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

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

ENFORCEMENT PRIORITY SYSTEM

DISMISSAL REPORT

MUR 8291

Respondent: Dansel for Congress and Tyrus Rickard in his official capacity as treasurer

Complaint Receipt Date: July 22, 2024

Response Receipt Date: Aug. 8, 2024



**Alleged Statutory/
Regulatory Violations:**

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

The Complaint alleges that Dansel for Congress and Tyrus Rickard in his official capacity as treasurer (the “Committee”), the principal campaign committee of Brian Dansel,¹ a candidate for Washington’s 5th Congressional District in the 2024 election cycle,² disseminated signs without proper disclaimers, in violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the “Act”).³ The Complaint attaches a picture of an example sign that included the words, “paid for by Dansel for Congress,” but that were allegedly in small type which was “difficult to read and easy to overlook,” and not contained in a printed box.⁴ In Response, the Committee acknowledges that the disclaimer was not proper and states that the violation was likely due to a printing error affecting approximately two dozen signs.⁵

¹ Dansel for Congress, Statement of Organization at 2 (Oct. 31, 2024), <https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/855/202410319719907855/202410319719907855.pdf>.

² Brian Dansel, Statement of Candidacy at 1 (Feb. 21, 2024), <https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/391/202402219622159391/202402219622159391.pdf>.

³ Compl. at 1 (July 22, 2024).

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ Resp. at 1 (Aug. 8, 2024). During the 2024 election cycle, as of the date of this Report, the Committee disclosed a single disbursement with a description including the word “sign” in the amount of \$4,550.33. Dansel for Congress, Filtered Disbursements, FEC.GOV, https://www.fec.gov/data/disbursements/?data_type=processed&

1 Based on its experience and expertise, the Commission has established an Enforcement
2 Priority System using formal, pre-determined scoring criteria to allocate agency resources and
3 assess whether particular matters warrant further administrative enforcement proceedings. These
4 criteria include (1) the gravity of the alleged violation, taking into account both the type of activity
5 and the amount in violation; (2) the apparent impact the alleged violation may have had on the
6 electoral process; (3) the complexity of the legal issues raised in the matter; and (4) recent trends in
7 potential violations and other developments in the law. This matter is rated as low priority for
8 Commission action after application of these pre-established criteria. Given that low rating, low
9 apparent dollar amount at issue, and the unlikelihood that the general public would have been
10 confused as to whether the Committee paid for the signs at issue that contained a partial disclaimer,
11 we recommend that the Commission dismiss the Complaint, consistent with the Commission's
12 prosecutorial discretion to determine the proper ordering of its priorities and use of agency
13 resources.⁶ We also recommend that the Commission close the file effective 30 days from the date
14 the certification of this vote is signed (or on the next business day after the 30th day, if the 30th day
15 falls on a weekend or holiday) and send the appropriate letters.

[committee_id=C00870600&two_year_transaction_period=2024&disbursement_description=sign](#) (last visited Nov. 27, 2024).

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

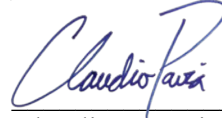
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EPS Dismissal Report
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Lisa J. Stevenson
Acting General Counsel

12/12/2024

Date

BY:



Claudio J. Pavia
Deputy Associate General Counsel

Wanda D. Brown

Wanda D. Brown
Assistant General Counsel

Gordon King

Gordon King
Attorney