

April 4, 2025

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

info@teamkennedy.com compliance@vlpc.com lorenzo@hollowaylawllc.com contact@hollowaylawllc.com

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.

Los Angeles, CA 90049

RE: MUR 8323

Team Kennedy, et al.

Dear Mr. Kennedy,

On October 9, 2024, the Federal Election Commission notified you 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 in response, on March 5, 2025, the Commission voted to dismiss this matter and close the file effective April 4, 2025. 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 today. *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 THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION				
2 3 4	ENFORCEMENT PRIORITY SYSTEM DISMISSAL REPORT				
5 6 7 8 9 10 11	MUR: 8323 Res	spondents:	Team Kennedy and Ellie Cox in her official capacity as treasurer IMPG Advocates, Inc. Paul A. Rossi		
11 12 13 14 15	Complaint Receipt Date: October 2, 2024 Response Dates: October 24, 2024; Decem	ber 4, 2024			
16 17 18 19 20	Alleged Statutory and Regulatory Violations:		§§ 30104; 30116(a)(1)(A), (f); 30118(a) § 104.3; 114.2		
21	The Complaint alleges that Team Ker	nnedy and E	Ellie Cox in her official capacity as		
22	treasurer, the principal campaign committee	for 2024 pro	esidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy,		
23	Jr., (the "Committee"), 1 violated the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the				
24	"Act"), by knowingly accepting and failing to report excessive and/or prohibited corporate in-				
25	kind contributions in the form of unpaid legal and communication services from Paul A. Rossi				
26	and IMPG Advocates, Inc. ("IMPG") or else	, if these ser	rvices were not in-kind contributions,		
27	failing to report the debt incurred by not paying for those services. ²				
28	In response, the Committee denies th	e allegation	s and states that because Rossi never		
29	billed the campaign for his services (despite	the Commit	ttee entering a payment agreement with		
30	Rossi and reaching out to him several times	to encourage	e him to send a bill), ³ his services fall		

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² Compl. at 2-3, 11-15 (Oct. 2, 2024).

Team Kennedy Resp., Ex. 3 ¶¶ 7-8 (Declaration of Robyn Ross) (Oct. 24, 2024).

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- 1 within the volunteer services exemption, and therefore his services do not constitute a
- 2 contribution. In support, the Committee argues that its agreement with Rossi provides that
- 3 Rossi can volunteer without the value of the work being considered a donation.⁵ The Committee
- 4 also asserts that because Rossi's services were for ballot access litigation, they were not provided
- 5 for the purpose of influencing a federal election and for that reason do not constitute a
- 6 contribution within the meaning of the Act. Finally, the Committee argues that because it
- 7 contracted with Rossi individually rather IMPG, even if the legal services did amount to a
- 8 contribution, it would not have knowingly accepted a corporate contribution or loan.⁷

In a separate response, Rossi and IMPG indicate that Rossi now intends to remit an invoice to the Committee for his services at the conclusion of the representation in accordance with his normal billing procedure.⁸ Rossi argues that because counsel can volunteer their time to presidential candidates, he was not required to remit an invoice for payment to the Committee at all, and the Committee was not required to report a debt until receiving an invoice.⁹

Based on its experience and expertise, the Commission has established an Enforcement Priority System using formal, pre-determined scoring criteria to allocate agency resources and assess whether particular matters warrant further administrative enforcement proceedings. These criteria include (1) the gravity of the alleged violation, taking into account both the type of activity and the amount in violation; (2) the apparent impact the alleged violation may have had

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Id. at 2-3.

⁵ *Id.* at 2; *id.*, Ex. 2 at 10 (Team Kennedy Consultant Agreement).

⁶ *Id.* at 3-4.

⁷ *Id.* at 4-5.

Rossi Resp. at 1-2, ¶¶ 8-9 (Dec. 4, 2024). Neither the Complaint nor the Responses provide adequate information to determine the value of the legal and other services that Rossi provided to the Committee.

⁹ *Id.* ¶¶ 10-12.

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- 1 on the electoral process; (3) the complexity of the legal issues raised in the matter; and (4) recent
- 2 trends in potential violations and other developments in the law. This matter is rated as a low
- 3 priority for Commission action after application of these pre-established criteria. Given that low
- 4 rating, we recommend that the Commission dismiss the Complaint consistent with the
- 5 Commission's prosecutorial discretion to determine the proper ordering of its priorities and use
- 6 of agency resources. 10 We also recommend that the Commission close the file effective 30 days
- 7 from the date the certification of this vote is signed (or on the next business day after the 30th
- 8 day, if the 30th day falls on a weekend or holiday), and send the appropriate letters.

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	February 25, 2025 Date	BY:	Lisa J. Stevenson Acting General Counsel Lawlio Lawlio Claudio J. Pavia Deputy Associate General Counsel Mark Shonkwiler Assistant General Counsel Kenneth Daines Kenneth C. Daines
2425			Kenneth C. Daines Attorney

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