



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

February 13, 2025

**VIA UPS DELIVERY AND ELECTRONIC MAIL**

[REDACTED]  
Jill Gerwing  
[REDACTED]

De Pere, WI 54115

RE: MUR 8324  
Tony Wied for Congress

Dear Ms. Gerwing:

This is in reference to the complaint filed with the Federal Election Commission on September 4, 2024, concerning Tony Wied 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

1 **BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION**

2  
3 **ENFORCEMENT PRIORITY SYSTEM**  
4 **DISMISSAL REPORT**

5  
6 **MUR 8324**

**Respondent:** Tony Wied for Congress and Bradley  
Crate in his official capacity as  
treasurer

10 **Complaint Receipt Date:** Sept. 4, 2024

11 **Response Date:** Nov. 20, 2024



15 **Alleged Statutory/  
16 Regulatory Violations:**

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

18 The Complaint alleges that Tony Wied for Congress and Bradley Crate in his official  
19 capacity as treasurer (the “Committee”),<sup>1</sup> the principal campaign committee of Tony Wied, a  
20 candidate for Wisconsin’s 8th Congressional District in the 2024 election cycle,<sup>2</sup> distributed signs  
21 “throughout northeastern Wisconsin” without adequate disclaimers, providing the locations of five  
22 specific signs, in violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the “Act”).<sup>3</sup>  
23 The Complaint includes an image of one such sign which states that “Trump Endorsed Tony Wied  
24 U.S. Congress” without any disclaimers.<sup>4</sup>

25 In Response, the Committee states that the signs at issue were distributed with proper  
26 disclaimers and later modified by “a small number of supporters”; after the primary election, those  
27 supporters removed the bottom portion of the sign which referenced the date of the primary election

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<sup>1</sup> Tony Wied for Congress, Amended Statement of Organization at 2 (Apr. 11, 2024), <https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/273/202404119627525273/202404119627525273.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> Tony Wied, Amended Statement of Candidacy at 1 (May 15, 2024), <https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/672/202405159646003672/202405159646003672.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> Compl. at 1 (Sept. 4, 2024).

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

1 but also included the disclaimer.<sup>5</sup> The Committee states that when it became aware of the modified  
2 signs it took steps to affix a proper disclaimer to the modified signs, but that the “limited number of  
3 signs identified by the Complaint certainly were signs that the Committee did not observe, which  
4 were likely located in areas with a low population.”<sup>6</sup> The Committee requests that the Commission  
5 dismiss the Complaint.<sup>7</sup>

6 Based on its experience and expertise, the Commission has established an Enforcement  
7 Priority System using formal, pre-determined scoring criteria to allocate agency resources and  
8 assess whether particular matters warrant further administrative enforcement proceedings. These  
9 criteria include (1) the gravity of the alleged violation, taking into account both the type of activity  
10 and the amount in violation; (2) the apparent impact the alleged violation may have had on the  
11 electoral process; (3) the complexity of the legal issues raised in the matter; and (4) recent trends in  
12 potential violations and other developments in the law. This matter is rated as low priority for  
13 Commission action after application of these pre-established criteria. Given that low rating and the  
14 unlikelihood that the general public would have been confused as to whether the Committee paid for  
15 the communications at issue that contained identifying information, as well as the apparent low  
16 amount at issue, we recommend that the Commission dismiss the Complaint, consistent with the  
17 Commission’s prosecutorial discretion to determine the proper ordering of its priorities and use of  
18 agency resources.<sup>8</sup> We also recommend that the Commission close the file effective 30 days from  
19 the date the certification of this vote is signed (or on the next business day after the 30th day, if the  
20 30th day falls on a weekend or holiday) and send the appropriate letters.

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<sup>5</sup> Resp. at 2 (Nov. 20, 2024).

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> *Heckler v. Chaney*, 470 U.S. 821, 831-32 (1985).

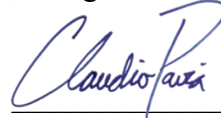
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EPS Dismissal Report  
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Lisa J. Stevenson  
Acting General Counsel

12/12/2024

Date

BY:



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