

April 14, 2025

## VIA UPS DELIVERY AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

David Prutzman 7619 144th Street Ct Puyallup, WA 98375

RE: MUR 8350

Culp for Congress

Dear Mr. Prutzman:

This is in reference to the complaint filed with the Federal Election Commission on November 20, 2024, concerning Culp 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 April 14, 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  ENFORCEMENT PRIORITY SYSTEM  DISMISSAL REPORT			
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5 6 7 8 9	MUR 8350	Respondent:	Culp for Congress and Elizabeth Curtis in her official capacity as treasurer	
10 11 12 13 14	Complaint Receipt Date: Response Date:	Nov. 20, 2024 Dec. 12, 2024		
15 16 17	Alleged Statutory/ Regulatory Violations:		52 U.S.C. § 30104(b) 11 C.F.R. § 104.3(a)(3)(vii)	
18	The Complaint alleg	ges that Culp for Congress and E	lizabeth Curtis in her official capacity as	
19	treasurer (the "Committee"), the principal campaign committee of Loren Culp, 1 2022 candidate for			
20	Washington's 4th Congressional District, <sup>2</sup> failed to disclose debt totaling \$4,854.45 to a vendor, in			
21	violation of the Federal Elec	ction Campaign Act of 1971, as	amended. <sup>3</sup> The Complaint alleges that	
22	the Committee contracted with a vendor for printing services, received four invoices for work			
23	performed, did not pay the	vendor, and failed to disclose the	e total of the unpaid invoices as an	
24	outstanding debt. <sup>4</sup>			
25	In Response, the Co	mmittee states that it was unawa	are of the claimed debt and believed that	
26	it had fully compensated the vendor for services performed and that the invoices were sent to the			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Culp for Congress, Amended Statement of Organization at 2 (Oct. 13, 2021), <a href="https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/232/202110139467243232/202110139467243232.pdf">https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/232/202110139467243232.pdf</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Loren Culp, Statement of Candidacy at 1 (Apr. 21, 2021), <a href="https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/506/202104219445">https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/506/202104219445</a> 123506/202104219445123506.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Compl. at 1 (Nov. 20, 2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> *Id*.

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- 1 Committee in error.<sup>5</sup> The Commission approved the Committees termination request in December
- of 2022, approximately two years before the Complaint was filed.<sup>6</sup>

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 on the electoral process; (3) the complexity of the legal issues raised in the matter; and (4) recent trends in potential violations and other developments in the law. This matter is rated as low priority for Commission action after application of these pre-established criteria. Given that low rating and low apparent dollar amount at issue we recommend that the Commission dismiss the Complaint, consistent with the Commission's prosecutorial discretion to determine the proper ordering of its priorities and use of agency resources.<sup>7</sup> We also recommend that the Commission close the file effective 30 days from the date the 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Resp. at 1 (Dec. 12, 2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Culp for Congress, Termination Approval 2022 at 1 (Dec. 6, 2022), <a href="https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/623/2022">https://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/623/2022</a> 12060300162623/202212060300162623.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> *Heckler v. Chaney*, 470 U.S. 821, 831-32 (1985).

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Lisa J. Stevenson Acting General Counsel

BY:

Claudio J. Pavia

Deputy Associate General Counsel

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Gordon King
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