



MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION

P.O. Box 1370
Jefferson City, MO 65102
www.mec.mo.gov
(573) 751-2020 / (800) 392-8660

James Klahr
Executive Director

August 8, 2016

Les Dills
2408 Pebble Beach
Overland, MO 63114

Re: MEC No. 16-0057-I

Dear Mr. Dills:

At its August 5, 2016 meeting, the Missouri Ethics Commission considered the complaint filed against you. The Commission reviewed the allegations that, while running for election as alderman in April 2016, you failed to file a Statement of Committee Organization, did not report contributions received to support your candidacy, and ran political ads in a local newspaper with an incorrect Paid for By Disclosure.

Staff review of the complaint determined that you did not receive the contributions alleged in the complaint. While you spent \$120 in paying for newspaper ads, that expenditure does not meet the threshold requiring you to form a committee and file a Statement of Committee Organization (see Sec. 130.016.6, RSMo).

The paid for by in the newspaper ads stated "Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Les Dills." Since you paid for the ads but did not have a committee, the paid for by should have stated "Paid for by Les Dills" (see Sec. 130.031.8(1), RSMo). In the course of staff review, the newspaper owner indicated that, while he routinely checks with the purchaser regarding the accuracy of the ad, he did not check with you on this occasion. As a result, the paper ran the same ad it ran during your previous campaign for office, thereby leading the public to believe you had a committee for the 2016 election when you in fact did not.

From the facts presented, the Commission finds no reasonable grounds exist to support a violation of Chapter 130, RSMo, and is dismissing the complaint. The Commission reminds you that, if you place an order for campaign materials in the future, including purchasing newspaper ads, that you confirm that the paid for by information is correct at the time you place the order.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Klahr".

James Klahr
Executive Director