August 9, 2016

Rick Stream
Friends of Rick Stream
1229 Lockett Lane
Kirkwood MO 63122

Re: MEC No. 16-0068-I

Dear Mr. Stream:

At its August 5, 2016 meeting, the Missouri Ethics Commission considered the complaint filed against you. The Commission reviewed the allegation that you failed to properly amend your candidate committee, Friends of Rick Stream, to a debt service committee and then terminate after you were unsuccessful in the November 2014 election for St. Louis County Executive.

Staff review of the complaint determined that, in April 2014, you filed an Amended Statement of Committee Organization indicating that you were running for St. Louis County Executive in the August 2014 primary election. After the November 2014 election and while you were still serving in office as a state representative, staff notified your committee that, pursuant to a previous Commission opinion (95.09.146), the committee could not receive new contributions until (and if) a particular office is declared for the new election cycle. In compliance with this notice, you filed an Amended Statement of Committee Organization in January 2015, declaring the office sought as State Senate – District 15.

Section 130.037, RSMo, sets out the options for a committee which has outstanding obligations in excess of moneys on hand. While that committee may convert to a debt service committee, it is not required to do so. In this instance, you chose not to convert to a debt service committee but instead filed an Amended Statement of Committee Organization declaring for a new office. Chapter 130, RSMo, allows a committee to amend in this manner in lieu of converting the committee to a debt service committee.

From the facts presented, the Commission finds no reasonable grounds exist to support a violation of Chapter 130, RSMo, and is dismissing the complaint.

Sincerely,

James Klahr
Executive Director