



MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION

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Elizabeth L. Ziegler
Executive Director

Final Action: MEC No. 20-0029-I, Rick Walter and Rick Walter for Sheriff

Date: 7/16/2020

The Missouri Ethics Commission took final consideration of the complaint filed against Rick Walter and Rick Walter for Sheriff at its July 16, 2020 meeting.

The complaint that was filed with the Commission alleged that Walter used an inaccurate “paid for by” disclosure on one style of campaign sign and failed to include a “paid for by” disclosure on a second style of campaign sign.

Section 130.031.8, RSMo, requires that campaign signs contain the words “Paid for by” followed by the proper identification of the candidate, committee, or person who paid for the signs. Printed matter paid for by a committee must include “the name and title of the committee treasurer who was serving when the printed matter was paid for.”

The investigation undertaken by the MEC found that the campaign signs with the allegedly inaccurate “paid for by” disclosure were being used from a prior election. Such use is allowed. The “paid for by” disclosure statement on those previous signs was correct because it contained the name of the treasurer who was serving during that prior election.

Additionally, with respect to the allegation that some campaign signs did not contain any “paid for by” disclosure statement, the MEC investigation confirmed that a sticker containing the “paid for by” disclosure was placed on those signs by the printer before they were delivered to Mr. Walter.

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

Elizabeth L. Ziegler
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