



## Missouri Ethics Commission

Elizabeth L. Ziegler  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### **Final Actions:**

**MEC No. 20-0036-I – Laura L. Loyacono, Committee to Elect Laura Loyacono**  
**MEC No. 20-0037-I – People for Public Schools; Charles Morgan, Treasurer; Laura Loyacono, Deputy Treasurer**

**Date: August 3, 2020**

At its August 3, 2020 meeting, the Missouri Ethics Commission took final consideration of the complaint filed against Laura L. Loyacono, Committee to Elect Laura Loyacono, and People for Public Schools.

The complaint that was filed with the Commission alleged a violation of Missouri campaign finance disclosure law because Laura Loyacono, a candidate for the Missouri General Assembly was also serving as the deputy treasurer of People for Public Schools, a continuing committee (PAC).

People for Public Schools is a continuing committee (PAC), registered with the Commission on January 17, 2019. Ms. Loyacono serves as the Deputy Treasurer. The Statement of Committee Organization contains no designation regarding support or opposition of any particular candidate or ballot measure.

Committee to Elect Laura Loyacono was registered as a candidate committee with the Commission on July 8, 2019. Ms. Loyacono officially filed as a candidate for State Representative - District 36 on February 25, 2020.

Section 130.011(9), RSMo, defines a “Candidate committee”, as a committee which shall be formed by a candidate to receive contributions or make expenditures in behalf of the person’s candidacy. Further, it limits a candidate for elective office to only one candidate committee for each elective office sought, “which is controlled directly by the candidate for the purpose of making expenditures.”

Section 130.011(10), RSMo, defines a “Continuing committee”, as “a committee of continuing existence which is not formed, controlled or directed by a candidate, and is a committee other than a candidate committee or campaign committee, whose primary or incidental purpose is to receive contributions or make expenditures to influence or attempt to influence the action of voters whether or not a particular candidate or candidates or a particular ballot measure or measures to be supported or opposed has been determined at the time the committee is required to file any statement or report pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.”

The investigation determined that there was no violation of campaign finance disclosure law solely because Ms. Loyacono, a candidate, was also serving as the deputy treasurer of a continuing committee (PAC). There was no evidence that People for Public Schools was operating as a second candidate committee, and People for Public Schools did not make any contributions to or expenditures in support of Ms. Loyacono. The evidence also showed that Ms. Loyacono was serving as deputy treasurer of the PAC in the event the treasurer was unable for any reason to perform his duties, and that she had not engaged in financial activities on behalf of the PAC.

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