



Missouri Ethics Commission

Stacey Heislen
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Final Action: MEC No. 24-0070-I (D), Van Rhodes

Date: August 5, 2024

The Missouri Ethics Commission took final consideration of the complaint filed against Van Rhodes, at its August 5, 2024, meeting.

The complaint alleged that Mr. Rhodes failed to include a proper Paid for by disclosure on campaign materials. Mr. Rhodes was a candidate for Eastern District Commissioner in Butler County, Missouri, in the August 6, 2024, election.

Pursuant § 130.031.8(2), RSMo., “Any person publishing, circulating, or distributing any printed matter relative to any candidate for public office or any ballot measure shall on the face of the printed matter identify in a clear and conspicuous manner the person who paid for the printed matter with the words "Paid for by" followed by the proper identification of the sponsor pursuant to this section. For the purposes of this section, "printed matter" shall be defined to include any pamphlet, circular, handbill, sample ballot, advertisement, including advertisements in any newspaper or other periodical, sign, including signs for display on motor vehicles, or other imprinted or lettered material.”

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- (2) In regard to any printed matter paid for by a committee, it shall be sufficient identification to print the name of the committee as required to be registered by subsection 5 of section 130.021 and the name and title of the committee treasurer who was serving when the printed matter was paid for.

Upon completion of the investigation, evidence shows that, a proper Paid for by disclosure stating “Paid for by committee to elect Van Rodes, Treasurer Paula Rhodes” appeared on campaign materials.

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

Stacey Heislen
Interim Executive Director