



# Missouri Ethics Commission

Stacey Heislen  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## **Final Action: MEC No. 23-0021-I: Ella Jones and Friends of Ella M. Jones**

**Date: December 27, 2024**

The Missouri Ethics Commission took final consideration of the complaint filed against Ella Jones and Friends of Ella M. Jones at its June 15, 2023, meeting.

The complaint alleged Friends of Ella M. Jones failed to file a 24-hour late contribution notice as well as failure to report the contribution.

Section 130.050.3, RSMo. in part states that committees are required to report contributions over \$250 within 24 hours if received 11 days prior to an election through the day before the election.

Upon completion of the investigation, evidence does not support the complainant's allegation that the committee, Friends of Ella M. Jones, failed to file a 24-Hour Report. Documentation and interviews confirm that while a contribution check was mailed to the committee, Friends of Ella M. Jones, the contribution check was not received until April 12, 2023, and was immediately returned to the contributor.

Section 130.011(12)(i)b, RSMo, states that a contribution does not include "an offer or tender of a contribution which is expressly and unconditionally rejected and returned to the donor within ten business days after receipt or transmitted to the state treasurer."

Therefore, the Commission finds no reasonable grounds to support one or more violations of Chapter 130, RSMo., and dismissed.

Stacey Heislen  
Executive Director