

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN & POLITICAL FINANCE

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January 11, 2017

Representative Tricia Farley-Bouvier
113 Oliver Avenue
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Re: Disclosure; CPF 16-106

Dear Representative Farley-Bouvier:

This office has completed its review of a complaint we received concerning the Committee to Elect Tricia Farley Bouvier (the "Committee"). The complaint alleged that the Committee did not accurately disclose expenditures for newspaper advertisements that were published prior to the primary election on September 8, 2016. For the reasons stated below, there is no reason to believe the Committee did not comply with M.G.L. c. 55, the Massachusetts campaign finance law.

On or about August 24, 2016, the Committee contacted the Berkshire Eagle newspaper regarding the design and purchase of a newspaper wrap and post-it supporting your re-election campaign. Based upon that meeting, the Berkshire Eagle provided the Committee with an estimate of \$1,500 to design, print, and publish a newspaper wrap and a post-it on or before the September 8 primary. On August 24, 2016, the Committee wrote a check to the Berkshire Eagle in the amount of \$900 as a deposit for the advertisements; on August 29, 2016, the Committee paid the balance of \$650. The Committee provided OCPF with an account statement from the newspaper, which confirmed that the newspaper posted all payments and charges to the Committee's account on or after September 4, 2016.

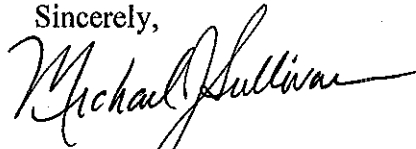
M.G.L. c. 55, § 18 requires all candidates and committees to file complete and accurate campaign finance reports disclosing all contributions received, expenditures made, and liabilities incurred during the relevant reporting period. Pursuant to Section 18, the Committee's pre-primary report, due on August 31, 2016, reflected all activity from January 1, 2016 through August 21, 2016. The pre-election report, due on October 31, 2016, reflected all activity from August 22, 2016 through October 21, 2016. The payments to the Berkshire Eagle on August 24, 2016 and August 29, 2016 were appropriately reflected on the Committee's pre-election report, which was timely filed with OCPF on October 28, 2016. In addition, because the Committee did not incur a liability for advertisements in the Berkshire Eagle during the pre-primary reporting period (January 1, 2016 through August 21, 2016), the Committee was not required to report any such liability in its 2016 pre-primary report.



Based upon our review of Committee records, including copies of checks and invoices, OCPF has determined that the Committee complied with the campaign finance law. Accordingly, this office has determined that this matter may be closed at this time.

In accordance with the opinion of the Supervisor of Public Records, this letter is a matter of public record. A copy is being provided to the person(s) who brought this matter to our attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael J. Sullivan". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Michael J. Sullivan
Director

MJS/mc