

State of Nebraska

Accountability and Disclosure Commission

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Synopsis Case #19-11

Action Taken on June 5, 2020

Respondent: Friends of Jeffrey Parris and Jeffrey Parris

The Respondents are Jeffery Parris, a 2018 candidate for Legislature, and Friends of Jeffery Parris, his candidate committee. The Respondents were required to file a Post General Election Campaign Statement on or before January 15, 2019. They failed to do so in violation of §49-1459(1)(c) of the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act. The Executive Director of the Commission commenced a Preliminary Investigation on May 8, 2019 alleging a failure to file a failure to file a Post General Election Campaign Statement in of violation of §49-1459(1)(c). A hearing was held on March 4, 2020 before Hearing Officer Karen Flowers. The Respondents did not appear. Thereafter, Hearing Officer Flowers submitted her recommended Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law. On June 5, 2020, the Commission, with eight Commissioners concurring, no Commissioners dissenting and no Commissioners abstaining entered Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and an order by which:

Violation: The Commission found that the Respondents failed to file a Post General Election Campaign Statement on or before January 15, 2019 in violation of §49-1459(1)(c) of the NPADA.

Civil Penalty: \$2,000.00

Other: The Respondents are required to cease and desist from further violations; file the required statement; and pay the costs of the action. In addition, a civil penalty of \$750.00 is assessed by operation of law.

Attorney for the Commission: Neil B. Danberg

Synopsis Prepared by: Frank Daley
Executive Director
Nebraska Accountability & Disclosure Commission
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BEFORE THE NEBRASKA ACCOUNTABILITY AND DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF)
)
)
 Friends of Jeffrey Parris) Case No. 19-11
 and Jeffrey Parris) Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law
) and Order

Statement of Case

A hearing in the above entitled matter was held on March 4, 2020 before Hearing Officer Karen Flowers. The allegation is that Friends of Jeffrey Parris and Jeffrey Parris failed to file a Post General Election Campaign Statement in violation of §49-1459 of the NPADA. Appearing on behalf of the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission (hereinafter the Commission) was Neil Danberg. Though properly served, there was no appearance by or on behalf of Jeffrey Parris or Friends of Jeffrey Parris. Evidence was presented and the matter was submitted. Thereafter, the Hearing Officer submitted recommended findings of fact and conclusions of law.

Findings of Fact

In 2017 and 2018 Jeffrey Parris was a candidate for Legislature in District 14. On September 12, 2017 he filed a Statement of Organization of a Political Committee with the Commission. The Committee, Friends for Jeffrey Parris, designated 8718 Bayberry Rd, La Vista as its address for all correspondence with the NADC and provided that Derek Selders of 202 East 7th St. Papillion was its Treasurer. (Ex1). Under The Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act, specifically Neb. Rev. Stat. §49-1459, a Campaign Committee is required to file two pre-election campaign statements and one post- election campaign statement. The responsibility for these filings rests with the candidate and the candidate is personally liable for all late filing fees, civil penalties, and interest that may result from the failure to make such filings in a timely manner. Neb. Rev. Stat. §49-1447(b).

The election was held on November 6, 2018 and Parris lost. (Ex.3). Per the Accountability and Disclosure Act, the Committee was to file its post-election campaign statement no later than January 15, 2019. It failed to do so.

Despite repeated efforts by the Commission to obtain a post-election campaign statement, to date, one has not been received. (Exs. 5a-c).

Conclusions of Law

Jeffery Parris is in violation of the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Act, specifically, Neb. Rev. Stat. §49-1459(1)(c).

Order

Wherefore, with 8 Commissioners concurring and no Commissioners dissenting or abstaining, the Commission adopts the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth

above and finds that Jeffery Parris failed to file a Post General Election Campaign Statement in violation of §49-1459(1)(c) of the NPADA.

Wherefore, with 8 Commissioners concurring and no Commissioners dissenting or abstaining,, the Commission orders that Jeffrey Parris: a) cease and desist from the violation; b) be assessed a civil penalty of \$2,000.00; c) pay the costs of the hearing; and d) be directed and required to file a Post General Election Campaign Statement covering the period of October 23, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

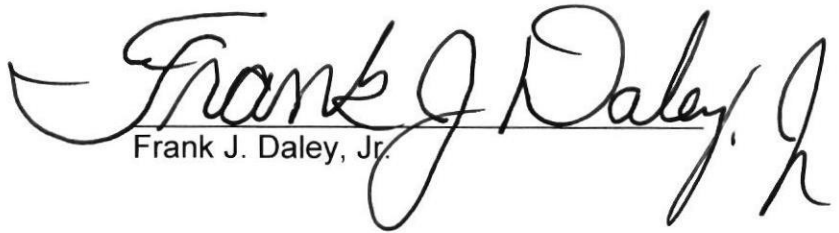
Dated this 5th day of June, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. E. E.', with a horizontal line underneath it.

Matthew M. Enenbach, Chairman
Nebraska Accountability and
Disclosure Commission

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

A copy of this Order was sent by certified U.S. Mail, postage prepaid on this 5th day of June 2020, to the following person and campaign committee at the following addresses: Jeffrey Parris and Friends for Jeffrey Parris, 8718 Bayberry Road, La Vista, NE 68128


Frank J. Daley, Jr.