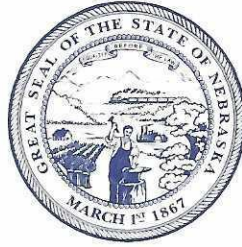


State of Nebraska

Accountability and Disclosure Commission

P.O. BOX 95086
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509
nadc.nebraska.gov



Centre Terrace, 1225 L St. #400
Phone (402) 471-2522
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Synopsis Case #26-01

Action Taken on March 13, 2026

Respondent: The Better Together Committee

The Respondent is the Better Together Committee, a Nebraska Ballot Question Committee. The NADC initiated an investigation into whether a brochure had been sent by the Committee which incorrectly identified the name and address of the Committee and suggested that public funds had been expended for a campaign purpose.

The Preliminary Investigation undertaken by the NADC revealed that in support of and prior to the vote on the ballot question, a two-sided mailing was sent to residents of Buffalo County. On one side of the mailing there was a letter signed by the Respondent and the Chief of Police of Kearney. The letter urged voters to vote for the ballot question. Above the letter was what appeared to be the identity of the sender of the brochure, which was: "Buffalo County/City of Kearney Law Enforcement Center". No street address was listed for the Law Enforcement Center. The other side of the mailing included reasons to support the ballot question and dates relevant to the vote on the ballot question.

The Preliminary Investigation further revealed that the Respondent was responsible for the preparation, mailing and distribution of the brochure in question. In particular, the identity of the sender, which should have been the name and address of the Respondent, was, as noted above, incorrectly listed as the Law Enforcement Center in violation of Section 49-1474.01 of the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act.

The parties then entered into a Settlement Agreement, by the terms of which the Respondent noted that it had not intended to violate the Nebraska Political

Accountability and Disclosure Act as alleged, but the Respondent accepted a violation of § 49-1474.01 of the Nebraska Statutes, and agreed to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$2,000.00

The Commission adopted the Settlement Agreement with seven (7) Commissioners concurring, no Commissioners dissenting, and no Commissioners abstaining.

Violation: Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, the Commission found that there was sufficient evidence to support a violation of Section 49-1474.01 of the Nebraska Statutes and imposed a civil penalty in the amount of \$2,000.00.

Civil Penalty: \$2,000.00

Attorney for the Commission: Neil B. Danberg

Synopsis Prepared by: Scott Danigole, Executive Director

Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission

P.O. Box 95086, Lincoln, NE 68509 (402)-471-2522


BEFORE THE NEBRASKA ACCOUNTABILITY AND DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF: CASE No. 26-01 SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR v BETTER TOGETHER COMMITTEE

- 1) Parties: The parties to this Settlement Agreement (hereinafter "Agreement") are the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission, hereafter referred to as the "Commission" and the "Better Together Committee," a ballot question committee, hereafter referred to as the "Respondent."
- 2) Jurisdiction: The Respondent acknowledges that the Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to the terms of Nebraska Statutes 49-1401 et seq., known as the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act ("NPADA").
- 3) Intention: The parties hereby agree and intend that this Agreement shall constitute a waiver of any further proceedings in this matter, thereby resolving the matter without further delay and expense to the parties.
- 4) The Alleged Violations: In its Notice of Preliminary Investigation in this case, the Commission has alleged that the Respondent, during calendar year 2025 allegedly advocated a ballot question in a mailer sent to residents of Buffalo County with a return address suggesting that the mailer was sent at public expense by the Buffalo County/City of Kearney Law Enforcement Center, but the mailer was inaccurate since it failed to state that it was being sent by the Respondent, which had paid for the production and mailing of the mailer, and it failed to provide a street address in violation of Section 49-1474.01 of the NPADA.
- 5) Stipulation: The Respondent and the Commission stipulate and agree that at the time of the alleged violations, the Respondent was a ballot question committee as defined in the NPADA.
- 6) The Alleged Violations, Agreement: The Respondent states that it was not their intent to violate the NPADA as alleged, but the Respondent agrees and stipulates that there is sufficient evidence to support the Commission's findings of a violation of Section 49-1474.01 of the NPADA, as stated in the Notice of Preliminary Investigation in this matter, and as described in Paragraph 4, above. The Respondent further agrees that it will not contest the Commission's Order in this case.
- 7) Civil Penalty and Agreement: The parties have agreed that, in view of the Respondent's willingness to resolve this matter and accept the finding of the Commission in this case, the Commission will impose a civil penalty in this matter not to exceed \$2,000.00.

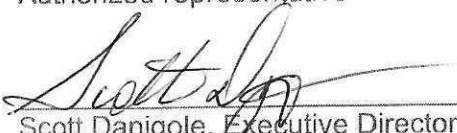
- 8) The Commission must approve this Agreement in order for it to be effective: The parties agree that for this Agreement to become effective, the Commission must approve it and enter an Order according to the terms of the Agreement.
- 9) Effective Date of Agreement: This Agreement shall not be binding upon the parties until the date it is approved by the Commission and the Commission issues an Order in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. The date of the Order shall be deemed its effective date. If this Agreement is not approved by the Commission, this Agreement shall be void and may not be used in this or any other proceeding. The parties acknowledge that this Agreement and any subsequent Order shall be announced at an open public meeting of the Commission. The parties further acknowledge that, upon adoption, this Agreement, the Order, and the Commission's file pertaining to this matter shall become open and public.
- 10) Right to Address the Commission: The Respondent has a right to address the Commission on the matter of the approval of this Settlement Agreement.
- 11) Advice of Counsel: The Respondent acknowledges that he has had an opportunity to seek the advice of an attorney concerning this Agreement.



Better Together Committee, by an
Authorized representative

MARCH 4 2026

Date



Scott Danigole, Executive Director
Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission

3-13-2026

Date