

BEFORE THE ALASKA PUBLIC OFFICES COMMISSION

Alaskans for Better Elections, Inc.,)
)
 Complainant,)
)
 v.) **APOC Case No. 23-07-CD**
)
 Alaskans for Honest Elections, Wellspring)
 Ministries, Wellspring Fellowship of Alaska,)
 Mikaela Emswiler, and Top Fundraising)
 Solutions, LLC,)
)
 Respondents.)
 _____)

ORDER DENYING EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION

Complainant Alaskans for Better Elections filed a complaint and a Request to Expedite Consideration in this matter on December 4, 2023. The Complaint alleges that the Respondents have failed to comply with registration and disclosure requirements to APOC in connection with Alaskans for Honest Elections’ signature gathering effort for ballot initiative 22AKHE. The Request to Expedite was heard at a special meeting of the Alaska Public Offices Commission on December 6, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. Complainant and Respondents participated in the hearing through their respective counsel. Art Mathias and Phillip Izon testified under oath on limited subjects raised by counsel and the Commissioners.

The Commission will expedite consideration of a complaint where “there is reasonable cause to believe that a violation has occurred or will occur,” and where “the alleged violation, if not immediately restrained, could materially affect the outcome of an election or other impending event” or “whether the alleged violation could cause

irreparable harm that penalties could not adequately remedy.”¹

The Commission concludes that the violations alleged in this case do not warrant expedited consideration. Rather, the matter would benefit from a full investigation and report from Staff. The Commission’s next regular meeting, currently scheduled for January, will be rescheduled for February and this matter heard at that time.

Order Alaskans for Honest Elections stated under oath at the hearing that the organization will continue in existence until this matter and other related matters have been resolved. The Commission orders Alaskans for Honest Elections to honor that agreement.

Dated: December 6, 2023.

BY ORDER OF THE ALASKA PUBLIC OFFICES COMMISSION²

Certificate of Service: I hereby certify that on this date, I served, by EMAIL ONLY a true and correct copy of the foregoing in this proceeding on the following:	
Kevin Clarkson Law Offices of Kevin Clarkson kclarkson@gci.net Samuel Gottstein Cashion Gilmore & Lindemuth sam@cashiongilmore.com Scott Kendall Cashion Gilmore & Lindemuth scott@cashiongilmore.com	And: Heather Hebdon Executive Director Alaska Public Offices Commission heather.hebdon@alaska.gov

/s/Katherine Demarest 12/6/23
Date

¹ AS 15.13.380(c); 2 AAC 50.888.

² Commissioners Rick Stillie, Suzanne Hancock, Dan LaSota, Eric Feige, and Lanette Blodgett participated. The decision was made on a 5-0 vote.